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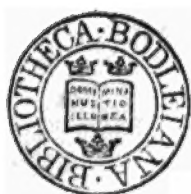
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By H. A. H. H.

MAJ. GEN. P. H. SHERIDAN.

THE
REBELLION RECORD:

A Diary of American Events,

WITH

DOCUMENTS, NARRATIVES, ILLUSTRATIVE INCIDENTS,
POETRY, ETC.

EDITED BY

FRANK MOORE,

AUTHOR OF "DIARY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION."

EIGHTH VOLUME.

WITH FOURTEEN PORTRAITS ON STEEL, AND VARIOUS MAPS AND DIAGRAMS.

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Erastus H. Smith

MAJ. GEN. W. F. SMITH.

DIARY.

NOVEMBER 1, 1868.

A PLOT to liberate the rebel prisoners in Ohio was discovered, and several parties to it were arrested. It was concerted that on a given night, which had not been definitely fixed, a sufficient number of the conspirators were to assemble in the vicinity of Camp Chase, and at a known signal were to overpower the guard, (which was far from being a strong one,) and at the same time the prisoners, who were to be apprised of what was going on, and who numbered about four thousand, were to make a rush from the inside, and thus secure their freedom. Having armed themselves with the weapons of the guard, they were then to march on Columbus, and seize the arsenal, arming themselves completely with the United States arms stored there. From thence, their next attack was to be on the Penitentiary for the release of John Morgan and his men, by whom the rebel army in Ohio was to be officered. Then the rebel campaign in Ohio was to be commenced, and the first proceeding on the part of the traitors was to be the cutting of the telegraph wires and the burning of the railroad-bridges, in order to prevent the arrival of National troops.

The parties involved in the matter were very numerous, and were to be found in almost every part of the State, some of them occupying positions under the United States and State government, which rendered it a somewhat easier task for the detectives to gain access to the nest of traitors. The leading man in the conspiracy was Charles W. H. Cathcart.

A PARTY of guerrillas, under Campbell, entered Charleston, Missouri, night before last, and after robbing the stores and private houses, retreated, carrying away with them Colonel Deal.—CHARLES R. ELLER, commanding the Mississippi Marine Brigade, died, at Bunker Hill, Illinois, on Thursday last, October twenty-nine.—JAY COOKE, the subscription agent of the United States Government,

reported the sales of over thirty-six millions of five-twenty bonds during the previous week.

—THE following official communication from Provost-Marshal General James B. Fry, to Colonel Robert Nugent, Assistant Provost-Marshal of New-York, was made public :

"The representations made by Dean Richmond and Peter Cagger, in a printed circular, dated October twenty-seventh, 1868, in respect to the action of the Provost-Marshal General, are untrue.

"It is not true that the State of New-York is charged as with a deficiency for every citizen who has paid the three hundred dollars commutation money, receiving no credit therefor. On the contrary, the State receives the same credit for a man who has paid commutation as if the drafted citizen had gone in person or furnished a substitute; and in like manner towns which had raised the money to pay their quotas receive the same credit as if actual substitutes had been furnished.

"And the President has ordered, that every citizen who has paid the three hundred dollars commutation shall receive the same credit therefor, as if he had furnished a substitute, and is exonerated from military service for the time for which he was drafted, to wit, for three years.

"As the misrepresentations of Dean Richmond and Peter Cagger have been published and circulated for electioneering purposes, it is proper that you give them immediate correction."

—THE bombardment of Fort Sumter continued without cessation. Yesterday morning, a portion of the wall fell in, burying beneath the ruins some men of the Twelfth Georgia and Twenty-fifth South-Carolina. Thirteen were buried by the falling in of the barracks on the sea-face of the Fort. Over one thousand two hundred shots were fired in twenty-four hours—the shots averaged four per minute. The firing was from two monitors—two heavy

and two light rifled guns at Fort Gregg, four ten-inch mortars at the middle battery, and four rifled guns at Fort Wagner.

November 2.—President Lincoln replied to the letter of Governor Bradford, of Maryland, on the subject of the election in that State.—W. G. SPARROW, son of the Rev. Dr. Sparrow, formerly principal of Fairfax Seminary, was arrested, on his arrival from Staunton, Virginia, with a rebel mail, containing letters of importance, and committed to the Old Capital Prison, at Washington.—A PARTY of rebel guerrillas captured two trains of cars near Mayfield, Kentucky.

—JEFFERSON DAVIS arrived at Charleston, S. C., from Savannah, and was escorted to the City Hall, where an address of welcome was made by Charles Macbeth, the Mayor of the city. Mr. Davis replied, in a speech setting forth the reasons of his visit, and urging upon the people the necessity of "harmonious coöperation with the commanding general. He who would attempt to promote his own personal ends in preference, would not take a musket and fight in the ranks, was not worthy of the confederate liberty for which we are fighting. He trusted the Yankee's desire to possess Charleston would never be gratified; but if Providence ordered otherwise, he desired for her what he wished for his own town of Vicksburgh, that the whole should be a mass of ruins. He believed that Charleston would never be taken."

November 8.—Colonel Fitzgibbon, of the Thirteenth Michigan infantry, overtook the combined forces of Cooper, Kirk, Williams, and Scott, numbering four hundred men, this morning, at Lawrenceburgh, thirty-five miles south of Columbia, Tenn. After a severe hand-to-hand fight, he defeated them with a loss on his part of three men wounded, and eight horses killed. The rebel loss was eight killed, seven wounded, and twenty-four prisoners, among them one captain and two lieutenants. General Bragg's forage-train, sent up Lookout Valley, in front of his position, was captured. The train was sent to camp. The train-guard was also captured.—*Official Report.*

—GENERAL SAXTON issued a circular to the freedmen of South-Carolina, authorizing them to locate in the lands in that department which were about to be sold by the Tax Commissioners, not exceeding twenty acres for each head of a family. The description of the land, when located, to be accompanied by the deposit of the Govern-

ment price, about one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre.

—MAJOR-GENERAL GRANGER reported, from Nashville, Tennessee, that he sent a detachment of cavalry from that place, under Colonel Shelby, to pursue Hawkins and other guerrillas. He overtook Hawkins near Piney Factory, and routed and pursued him to Centreville, where he made a stand; routed him again, and pursued him until his forces dispersed. The rebel loss was fifteen or twenty killed, and sixty-six prisoners. The Union loss was slight.—*General Thomas's Report.*

—THE battle of Bayou Grand Coteau, La., also known as the battle of Bayou Bourbeaux, was fought this day.—(*Doc. 7.*)

COLLIERSVILLE, TENN., was attacked by a body of rebels, belonging to the command of General Chalmers, who was repulsed with some loss, by the Nationals, under the command of Colonel Hatch.

November 4.—The troops belonging to the National expedition, under the command of Major-General Banks, successfully landed at Brazos de Santiago, Texas, nine miles from the mouth of the Rio Grande del Norte.—(*Doc. 6.*)

—THE bombardment of Fort Sumter continued.—JEFFERSON DAVIS visited James Island, Forts Pemberton, and Johnson, and all the rebel batteries around Charleston.

—THE rebel Generals Chalmers and Lee attacked Moscow and La Fayette, Tenn., on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, this day, at noon. They burned La Fayette, and some small bridges on the road. The Nationals repulsed them at Moscow. Colonel Hatch's cavalry followed their retreat, and forced them to another fight four miles out, and again repulsed them. Between twenty and thirty of their dead were found on the field, among them three officers. Their dead and wounded were scattered along the road. In addition, three wagon-loads were taken away. Their loss probably reached one hundred. The Union loss was three killed, forty-one wounded, and forty-one missing. Colonel Hatch, of the Second Iowa, commanding the brigade, was seriously though not dangerously wounded, a ball piercing his right lung.

November 5.—The United States transport Fulton captured the rebel blockade steamer Margaret and Jessie, this morning, at seven o'clock, when off Wilmington, N. C. The look-out at



Eng^d by A.H. Ritchie.

• GEN DANIEL E. SICKLES.

the foretop masthead made out a suspicious steamer painted entirely white, and burning soft coal, three points on the port-bow; immediately gave chase, which resulted in her altering her course several times; following her, after a short time it was discovered that she was throwing cargo overboard, which confirmed our first suspicions that she was a blockade-runner. There was also in sight a fore-and-aft-rigged gunboat, five points on our port-bow. She remained in sight for a short time, when we lost sight of her astern. At ten A.M., made a side-wheel gunboat on the port-beam, (afterward ascertained to be the *Keystone State*.) About this time we fired three shots at the chase from a twenty-pound Parrott gun, falling short of the mark. At eleven A.M., made a side-wheel gunboat, (afterward ascertained to be the *Nansemond*,) three points on the port-bow, also in pursuit. From this time until four P.M., continued in pursuit, gradually widening the space between us and the gunboats, and nearing the chase, when, after having fired fifteen shots, some of which passed entirely over the object, and others striking quite near, and after leaving our competitors far astern, the prize hove to. At this time the *Keystone State* was about ten miles astern, and the *Nansemond* about five miles. When the prize hove to, a prize crew, in charge of our first officer and the purser, was immediately sent on board, and a hawser from our stern attached to the prize—now ascertained to be the steamer *Margaret* and *Jessie*, of Charleston, from Nassau, N. P., for a confederate port. The gunboat *Nansemond* arrived alongside the prize about half an hour, and the *Keystone State* about one hour after our hawser was made fast to the prize. This steamer is a valuable vessel, of about eight hundred tons burden, and has on board an unusually valuable cargo.—*Official Report*.

—THE bombardment of Fort Sumter was kept up by slow firing from the monitors and land-batteries.

—GENERAL SANDERS, in command of a Union cavalry force, overtook a rebel regiment at Metley's Ford, on the Little Tennessee River, charged and drove them across the river, capturing forty, including four commissioned officers. Between forty and fifty were killed or drowned, and the entire regiment lost their arms. Colonel Adams, who led the charge, lost no man or material.—THE ship *Amanda* was captured and burned, when about two hundred miles from Java Head,

by the confederate steamer *Alabama*.—BROWN-VILLE, TEXAS, was occupied by the National troops, under the command of Major-General Banks, the rebels having evacuated the place, after destroying the barracks and other buildings.—(*Doc. 6.*)

November 6.—Jefferson Davis arrived at Wilmington, North-Carolina, from Charleston, South-Carolina, and was received by General Whiting, and welcomed by William A. Wright. Mr. Davis stated that he was proud to be welcomed by so large a concourse of North-Carolinians to the ancient and honored town of Wilmington, upon whose soil he hoped the foot of an invading foe might never fall. He had given Wilmington for her defence one of the best soldiers in the Confederacy—one whom he had seen tried in battle, and who had risen higher as danger accumulated.

He felt the full importance of the harbor—the only one still open for trade—and would do all that could be done for its defence. He exhorted all to do their duty, either in the field or in supporting the army and relieving the families of soldiers, and spoke of the honor of the soldier, and the disgrace of the speculator. He referred to Chickamauga and Charleston, and spoke of the noble spirit of the army and people at both places. He paid a high tribute to the soldiers from the State, and exhorted all to strive nobly for the right, predicting a future of independence, liberty, and prosperity.—A FIGHT occurred at Rogersville, Tennessee, in which the Nationals were defeated and compelled to retreat with some loss.—(*Doc. 8.*)

THE ship *Winged Racer*, from Manilla for New-York, was captured and burned by the pirate *Alabama*, off Java Head.—A PARTY of rebel guerrillas entered Blandville, Kentucky, twelve miles from Cairo, Illinois, and captured a courier together with a small mail.

—THE battle of Droop Mountain, Virginia, between the National forces under Brigadier General Averill, and the combined forces of the rebel Generals Echols and Jenkins, occurred this day, resulting in the rout of the latter with a severe loss in men and material.—(*Doc. 9.*)

November 7.—Major-General George H. Thomas issued an order complimenting the troops composing Generals Turchin's and Hazen's brigades for their skill and cool gallantry at Brown's Ferry, Georgia, and the column under Major-General Hooker, which took possession of the line from Bridgeport to the foot of Lookout

Mountain, for their brilliant success in driving the enemy from every position which they attacked. "The bayonet-charge made by the troops of General Howard, up a steep and difficult hill, over two hundred feet high, completely routing the enemy, and driving him from his barricades on its top, and the repulse by General Geary's command of greatly superior numbers, who attempted to surprise him, will rank among the most distinguished feats of arms of this war."—A SHARP fight occurred at Stevensburgh, Virginia, between General Kilpatrick's cavalry and a party of rebels, who were defeated.

—THE battles of Rappahannock Station and Kelly's Ford, Virginia, were fought this day, resulting in the retreat of the rebels across the Rappahannock River.—(Doc. 10.)

—GENERAL DUFFIE, in command of the National forces, occupied Lewisburgh, Virginia, this morning; the rebels had passed through in their retreat from General Averill, just previous to his arrival. General Duffie captured the rebel camp, tents, provisions, and one cannon, many prisoners and one hundred head of cattle.—*General Kelley's Despatch.*

November 8.—The blockade-running steamers Cornubia and Robert E. Lee, with very valuable cargoes, were captured off the New Inlet, North-Carolina. MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE, from his headquarters near Rappahannock Station, Virginia, made the following report to the General-in-Chief:

"This morning, on advancing from Kelly's Ford, it was found that the enemy had retired during the night. The morning was so smoky that it was impossible to ascertain at Rappahannock Station the position of the enemy, and it was not till the arrival of the column from Kelly's Ford that it was definitely known the position at Rappahannock Station was evacuated. The army was put in motion, and the pursuit continued by the infantry to Brandy Station, and by the cavalry beyond. Major-General Sedgwick reports officially the capture of six guns, eight battle-flags, and over one thousand five hundred prisoners.

"Major-General French took over four hundred prisoners. General Sedgwick's loss was about three hundred killed and wounded. French's about seventy. The conduct of both officers and men in each affair was most admirable."—(Doc. 10.)

—A CAVALRY fight took place at a point two miles south of Hazel River, on the road leading from Culpeper to Jefferson, Virginia, between the Nationals under the command of General Buford, and Wilson's division of Hill's rebel corps.—(Doc. 10.)

—A RECONNOISSANCE of the Chowan River, North-Carolina, to the vicinity of the mouth of the Blackwater, under the direction of Major-General Peck, was finished.

November 9.—A snow-storm prevailed in Virginia this day.—A fight between a party of guerrillas and National cavalry occurred on the Little River, in which the rebels were repulsed with a loss of fifty killed and forty captured.

—THE rebel steamer Ella and Anna, while attempting to run the blockade into Wilmington, North-Carolina, was captured by the National gunboat Nippon.—ROBERT TOOMBS delivered a speech in the Hall of the House of Representatives of Georgia, in which he denounced the officials of the rebel government, though he adhered firmly to the cause of the South. He especially deprecated the depreciation of the rebel government's currency system and impressment policy, the latter of which he affirmed "had sown the seeds of discontent broadcast over the land, and was generating hostility to the government itself."

November 10.—A successful advance was made by General Kilpatrick, of the army of the Potomac. He passed through Culpeper without seeing any rebels, and continued his march through Stevensburgh, followed by the rebel army.—THE rebel steamer Ella, while attempting to run the blockade of Wilmington, North-Carolina, was captured by the National gunboat Howqua.

—COLONEL UPTON, who commanded the brigade which last Saturday successfully charged and captured the rebels' works at Rappahannock Station, accompanied by deputations from each of the regiments participating in the assault, presented General Meade with the eight battle-flags taken at that time. Colonel Upton presented the flags in behalf of his command, naming the regiments—the Fifth and Sixth Maine, the Fifth Wisconsin, and the One Hundred and Twenty-first New-York—the latter, Colonel Upton's own. General Meade responded as follows:

"Colonel Upton, officers and men of the Sixth corps: I receive with great satisfaction the bat-



Eng^d by A.H. Ritchie.

GEN JOHN G. FOSTER.

my captured, two killed and four wounded, and some small arms and horses taken. An exciting chase of ten miles failed to overtake the fleeing rebels.

—MAJOR-GENERAL DABNEY H. MAURY, in command of the rebel forces at Mobile, Ala., sent the following to Adjutant-General Cooper, at the war department at Richmond, Va. :

"The following despatch from Tunica, Miss., was received yesterday, dated tenth instant, from Colonel Harry Maury, commanding Fifteenth cavalry regiment: 'We dashed in yesterday above Bayou Sara on a plundering party of Yankees, three hundred strong, and drove them to their iron-clads with great slaughter. We brought off their wagon-trains and twenty-five prisoners from under the broadsides of their gunboats. Only three wounded of ours.'"—Two BRIDGES and trestlework on the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad at Caligula, near Lynnville, Tenn., were destroyed by a party of rebel cavalry under the command of the partisan Roddy.—A CANNON-ADING between the rebel batteries on Lookout Mountain and the Union forces at Moccasin Point, took place to-day.

—IN THE rebel Senate, in session at Richmond, Va., Mr. Brown, of Mississippi, offered the resolution :

"Resolved, That in the present condition of the country, Congress ought, with the least practicable delay, to enact the following :

"1. To declare every white male person residing in the confederate States, and capable of bearing arms, to be in the military service of the country.

"2. To repeal all laws authorizing substitutes or granting exemptions.

"3. To authorize the President to issue his proclamation requiring all male persons claiming and receiving foreign protection to make their election within sixty days, to take up arms or quit the country.

"4. To detail from those in the military service such only as are absolutely needed in civil pursuits, having reference in making such details to competency alone.

"5. To levy a direct tax of — per cent on every kind of property, according to its value in confederate notes, including the notes themselves.

"6. To make confederate notes a legal tender in payment of debts, after the expiration of six months.

"7. To prohibit the buying and selling of gold and silver coin, or the notes on banks in the United States, or United States Treasury notes, during the war, under heavy penalties, or, in lieu thereof, to prohibit 'running the blockade' by individuals, under pain of forfeiture of the goods brought in, and imprisonment during the war.

"8. Declare these laws war measures, and make those who violate them amenable to the military courts."

—THE City Council of Richmond, Va., made an appropriation of sixty thousand dollars for the purchase of a family residence for General Robert E. Lee.

November -18.—A skirmish took place near Natchez, Miss., between company H, of the Seventy-first Illinois regiment, and a few volunteers of the Sixth Mississippi regiment of loyal colored troops, and the rebel cavalry under Adams and Mosby. The circumstances are as follows: The wagons of the above command were sent out for forage, the company just designated was detailed as an escort, and left camp at seven A.M. After proceeding about one mile and a half a small force of rebels was seen, the company halted, and a messenger was despatched to inform the commanding officer, and report for instructions. Immediately on receipt of the news, Colonel Smith took the camp-guard and proceeded out on the Washington road, came up to where the foraging party had halted, and ordered it forward. [It is necessary here to state that this road leads to a village, bearing the same name, some six miles distant from this place, and two miles out it intersects the Palestine road, both of which run quite close together for a mile or more.] Both commands marched on to the "forks," when it was decided that Captain O. H. Hitchcock, with his company, should proceed with the train toward Palestine, as was originally intended. Colonel Smith, taking the guard, followed the other road, and after marching more than a mile ordered a halt, and threw out a picket still farther on, as the rebels had been there but a few moments before. Presently a volley was heard, then another, and still another. He immediately "double-quickened" his men back, but arrived too late to participate in the engagement. Lieutenants Richards and Green, who were some distance in advance of the train, on horseback, met a squad of eight or ten cavalry coming around a bend in the road at full speed. They therefore fell back, hotly pursued by the rebels, who, when they





Eng^d by A.H. Ritchie.

GEN. JOHN G. FOSTER.

came in sight of the party immediately fled, and on meeting their comrades, they all joined and came back, and found the colored troops prepared to give them battle. Captain Hitchcock, not knowing the strength of his opposers, fell back a short distance, and the enemy rallied and charged furiously again. The rebel captain ordered Hitchcock to surrender, firing at the same time his revolver at Corporal John Heron, who dropped unhurt to his knees, and sent a ball through the miscreant's breast, which proved fatal. Rebel citizens state that the opposing force numbered fifty men, and acknowledge their loss to be one captain, sergeant, and two privates killed, and eight wounded. The Union loss was as follows:

Killed—George Diegs, company H; Lewis Taylor, company H; Peter Grant, company H; Samuel Moden, company G. Wounded—William Gallin, company B; Henry Brown, company H; Mil Beckford, company H; William Hegdon, company H; Zeno Callahan, company H; Duncan Turner, company H; John Bodly, company H.

—JOHN C. CRANE, acting quartermaster at Nashville, Tenn., in a note to Andrew Johnson, Governor of that State, says:

"The bearer, (colored,) Jane Woodall, is my house-servant. She is a slave, claimed by Christopher Woodall, a resident of Tennessee. It is said that he is disloyal, and on a previous occasion the military authorities prevented him from taking her.

"Has Mr. Woodall any right, under the President's Proclamation, and military law, to take this woman?

"It strikes me not, as we have taken possession of rebel property without compensation. Requesting your decision in the premises, I am, Governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant."

THE GOVERNOR'S RESPONSE.

"EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
NASHVILLE, TENN., November 18, 1863."

"*Respectfully returned.* If the girl referred to within is *willing* to return with Mr. Woodall, she should be allowed to go, but, if not *willing*, she will not be compelled to go with him.

"ANDREW JOHNSON,
"Military Governor."

—In accordance with an order from the War Department, Major-General John A. Logan surrendered his command of the Third division of the Seventeenth army corps. In addressing the officers and soldiers of the different brigades, he reminded them of the history the division had

made for itself—a history to be proud of; a history never to be forgotten; for it is written as with a pen of fire dipped in ink of blood on the memories and in the hearts of all. He besought them always to prove themselves as loyal in principle, as valiant in arms, as their record while under his command would show them to have been; to "remember the glorious cause you are fighting for, remember the bleaching bones of your comrades killed on the bloody fields of Donelson, Corinth, Champion Hill, and Vicksburgh, or perished by disease during the past two years of hardships and exposure—and swear by these imperishable memories never, while life remains, to prove recreant to the trust high heaven has confided to your charge." He assured them of his continued sympathy and interest in their well-being, no matter how great a distance might separate them; and closed by heartily recommending them to their future commander, his own companion in arms, and successor, Brigadier-General Leggett.

November 14.—The farmers of Warren, Franklin, and Johnson counties, N. C., having refused to pay the rebel tax in kind by delivering the government's tenth to the quartermaster-general, James A. Seddon, the Secretary of War, issued the following letter of instructions to that officer:

"It is true the law requires farmers to deliver their tenth at dépôts not more than eight miles from the place of production; but your published order requesting them for the purpose of supplying the immediate wants of the army, to deliver at the dépôts named, although at a greater distance than eight miles, and offering to pay for the transportation in excess of that distance, is so reasonable that no good citizen would refuse to comply with it.

"You will, therefore, promulgate an addition to your former order, requiring producers to deliver their quotas at the dépôts nearest to them by a specified day, and notifying them that in case of their refusal or neglect to comply therewith, the Government will provide the necessary transportation at the expense of the delinquents, and collect said expense by an immediate levy on their productions, calculating their value at the rates allowed in cases of impressment.

"If it becomes necessary to furnish transportation, the necessary teams, teamsters, etc., must be impressed as in ordinary cases.

"All persons detected in secreting articles subject to the tax, or in deceiving as to the quantity

produced by them, should be made to suffer the confiscation of all such property found belonging to them.

"The people in the counties named, and in fact nearly all the western counties of that State, have ever evinced a disposition to cavil at, and even resist the measures of the Government, and it is quite time that they, and all others similarly disposed, should be dealt by with becoming rigor. Now that our energies are taxed to the utmost to subsist our armies, it will not do to be defrauded of this much-needed tax. If necessary, force must be employed for its collection. Let striking examples be made of a few of the rogues, and I think the rest will respond promptly."

—MAJOR-GENERAL SCHOFIELD, from the headquarters of the Department of the Missouri, at St. Louis, issued an important order regarding the enlisting of colored troops.

November 15.—Conrad Posey, a brigadier-general in the rebel service, died at Charlottesville, Va., from a wound received in the fight at Bristoe Station, Va. General Posey was formerly colonel of the Forty-eighth Mississippi regiment, belonging to General Featherstone's brigade, and when the latter was transferred from the army of Virginia to the West, General Posey was commissioned to succeed him.—The firing on Fort Sumter continued steadily. From "Thursday morning last until yesterday (Saturday) at sundown, one thousand five hundred and twenty-three mortar shells and rifled shots were fired at the fort. The Union fire has ceased to be of any injury to that defence."—*Richmond Enquirer*.

—MAJOR-GENERAL S. A. HURLBUT, from his headquarters, Sixteenth army corps, at Memphis, Tenn., issued the following general order:

I. The people in the District of West-Tennessee and the northern counties of Mississippi having shown no disposition, and made no attempt to protect themselves from marauders and guerrilla bands, but having submitted themselves, without organized resistance, to the domination of these petty tyrants, and combined, in many instances, with the known enemies of the United States to procure from corrupt traders in the city of Memphis and elsewhere, supplies for the use of the public enemy, have proved themselves unworthy of the indulgence shown them by the Government.

It is therefore ordered, that the lines of pickets around the several military posts of this com-

mand, in Tennessee and Mississippi be closed, and that no goods of any description be allowed to pass out, nor any thing be brought in, except fire-wood and provisions, by any citizen, without the written order of some general officer, each of which permits, and the reason for granting the same, will be reported to these headquarters, and for the necessity of which each officer granting will be held rigidly responsible.

II. All merchants, and others doing business, will be held responsible for knowledge of the residence of the parties to whom they sell, and the sale of merchandise to persons beyond the lines of pickets will be punished with the highest rigor known to the laws of war.

III. All persons residing under the protection of the United States, and physically capable of military duty, are liable to perform the same in a country under martial law. Especially in the city of Memphis, where it is known many have fled to escape liability to military service at home, this rule will be strictly applied. In pursuance, therefore, to orders to this effect from Major-General W. T. Sherman, commanding department and army of the Tennessee, all officers commanding districts, divisions, and detached brigades of this corps, will immediately proceed to impress into the service of the United States such able-bodied persons liable to military duty as may be required to fill up the existing regiments and batteries to their maximum. Those persons so levied upon, if they enlist for three years or the war, will be entitled to the full benefits provided by the acts of Congress. If not, they will receive clothing and rations, and be borne at the foot of each company roll with remarks stating their time of service and the advances made by the Government in clothing; a certificate of which will be given them when discharged from such forced service, the question of pay or other compensation to be settled by proper authorities hereafter. They will be discharged when no further military necessity appears for their enforced service.

IV. The senior surgeons and inspectors present will constitute a Board of Inspection on the physical capacity of recruits.—*General Orders No. 157*.

—LAST evening a party of rebel cavalry crossed the Rapidan in front of Kilpatrick's line, at Morton's Ford, Va., attacked the pickets, capturing some six or eight of them, and retreated across the river again.

This morning the affair was reported to Gen-

eral Custer, who was temporarily in command of the division, when he immediately ordered a regiment of cavalry and Pennington's battery of three-inch rifled guns down to the rear, and drove them back from the ford, notwithstanding they had brass twelve-pounders. This was done in the midst of a heavy rain-storm. No serious casualties were reported to Major-General Pleasanton.

November 16.—General Burnside retreating on the advance of Longstreet, evacuated Lenoir, Tenn., but fought a battle at Campbell's Station. The fight lasted for some hours. The Federal troops retreated to the protection of their batteries, which opened upon the rebels with effect, and checked their advance. They fell back to the river; a second battle was fought in the afternoon, which continued until nightfall, Burnside remaining in possession of the ground. Loss of the rebels estimated at one thousand killed and wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, Twentieth Michigan, was killed.—*Doc. 19.*

November 17.—Nearly a hundred prisoners captured by General Averill in his engagement with the rebels in Pocahontas County, Va., arrived at Wheeling this morning, and were committed to the Athenæum. There was scarcely a whole suit of clothes in the party, and many of them were without shoes. Judging from the fact that a fall of snow was lately announced in the vicinity of where the fight took place, these shoeless rebels must have suffered terribly from the cold.

—THE schooner Joseph L. Gerity, on a voyage from Matamoras to New-York, with a cargo of cotton and six passengers, was seized by the latter, who overcame the captain and crew; and after keeping them in confinement eight days, set them adrift at sea in a small boat, in which they eventually landed on the coast of Sisal. After the crew and captain were put in the boat the captors hoisted the rebel flag and fired a salute with pistols, declaring that they would carry vessel and cargo into Honduras and sell them.

November 18.—The firing on Fort Sumter from the National batteries continued. A rebel mortar battery on Sullivan's Island shelled Gregg and the Cummings Point defences all day.—GENERAL LONGSTREET made an attack upon the Union outposts, on the Kingston road, near Knoxville, Tenn., and compelled General Sanders, in command of the forces there, to fall back to the town.—*Doc. 19.*

—GENERAL AVERILL arrived at New-Creek, Va. At or near Covington he encountered and dispersed a portion of Imboden's command on their way to reinforce Echols, and captured twenty-five prisoners in the skirmish.

—THE cavalry belonging to the Union forces under the command of Brigadier-General J. C. Sullivan, sent out from Harper's Ferry, Va., returned this day, having been up the Valley to near New-Market, fighting Gilmore's and White's commands at Mount Jackson, bringing in twenty-seven prisoners, two commissioned officers, ninety head of cattle, three four-horse teams, besides thirty tents and all the horses and equipage of the prisoners; the party was under the command of Colonel Bayard, of the Thirty-first Pennsylvania cavalry.

He destroyed a number of tents and a quantity of salt. The men helped themselves to a wagon-load of tobacco, weighing about five hundred pounds.

The Union loss was two men killed, three wounded and three missing.—*General Sullivan's Despatch.*

—CORPUS CHRISTI and Aransas Pass, Texas, were captured by the National forces under the command of Major-General Banks. Yesterday afternoon at about three o'clock, the gunboat Monongahela, with a fleet of nine vessels, transports, etc., arrived at the bar and commenced landing troops through the surf on the south point of Mustang Island. This morning at sunrise, the Thirtieth and Fourteenth Maine regiments, Thirty-fourth Iowa, Eighth Indiana, and company F, First Missouri artillery, with a part of the Twentieth Iowa volunteers, were ashore and in column *en route* up the beach toward Aransas Pass. About eleven o'clock the Monongahela opened her two hundred-pound Parrott on the enemy's battery, which was planted behind the sand-hills so as to completely cover the channel and southern point of St. Joseph's Island. In the mean time the Thirtieth and Fourteenth Maine, the two advance regiments, succeeded in getting in the rear of the works within two miles, without being discovered. The armed transport McClellan, Captain Gray, drawing less water than the Monongahela, worked up close on to the battery, soon making it untenable. They abandoned the battery, sought shelter from the sand-hills, until their flag of truce was discovered, when they were permitted to surrender without terms. Their battery con-

sisted of three twenty-four-pounders and one eight-inch sea-howitzer. The force of the garrison consisted of one company of regular artillery and two companies of drafted Texan militia, in all, about one hundred and fifty men.

November 19.—General Hampton and General Thomas L. Rosser returned to Fredericksburgh, Va., from a most successful expedition into Culpeper County. On Tuesday night last they crossed the Rapidan with detachments from Rosser's, Gordon's, and Young's brigades, all under the immediate command of General Rosser, for the purpose of ascertaining the position of the enemy on the other side. After marching all night over a desperate road, they succeeded, about daylight on Wednesday morning, in locating the pickets of the enemy. That being accomplished, General Rosser immediately ordered a charge, which was executed by his brigade in the most gallant style, driving the advance back upon the main body, which was encamped a short distance in the rear. Here the enemy had formed a line of defence; but, in defiance of a heavy fire poured into his command, General Rosser pressed forward, and soon drove the entire force (the Eighteenth Pennsylvania cavalry) through their encampment, and pursued them some miles beyond, in the direction of Stevensburgh.

The result of this gallant exploit was the capture of sixty prisoners, among them an adjutant and one lieutenant, two flags, one hundred horses and mules, a number of tents, all the wagons, baggage, etc., of the encampment. The enemy fled through the woods in every direction, many of them without having completed their toilet for the day. Having located the enemy, (the original object of the expedition,) and obtained other valuable information, the command was withdrawn, by the way of Germanna Ford, to the other side of the river, where the prisoners and other captures had been previously forwarded.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

—A DETACHMENT, composed of companies G, H, I, and K, of the Fifty-eighth regiment of Illinois infantry, with a portion of the Second Illinois cavalry, under the command of Captain Franklin B. Moore, pursued Faulkner's rebel partisans to a point on Obion River, four miles from Union City, Tennessee, where, in attempting to cross the river, the rebels were fired on, and eleven of their number killed. The Nationals captured fifty-three prisoners, a wagon-load of small-arms, thirty-three horses, and four mules. Their cas-

ualties were one man wounded and five horses shot.—LARGE and spirited meetings were held in all the wards in Boston, Mass., last night, to encourage volunteering. Committees were appointed, and the work was pursued with energy. A similar movement was made in cities and towns throughout the State.—AT GETTYSBURGH, Pa., the national cemetery, for the burial of the Union soldiers who fell in the battles fought at that place in July, 1863, was consecrated.

—A COMBINED expedition, consisting of the gun-boat Morse, commanded by Captain Charles A. Babcock, and four hundred and fifty men from the One Hundred and Forty-eighth regiment of New-York volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel George M. Guion, left Yorktown, Va., on Monday, November sixteenth, in search of a party of the rebel "Marine Brigade," reported to be on their way from Richmond to Mob Jack Bay, to commit depredations on the Northern commerce.

The Morse landed the regiment the same evening at the head-waters of East River, which at once marched across the county to Matthews Court-House, where information was obtained that the "Marines" had left the place but a few hours previously. Passing the night there, early the next morning the march was continued northward as far as Shuffletown, on the Piankatsank River. No traces of the rebels being discovered, the regiment turned about and scoured the country down to the mouth of the Piankatsank, encamping that night at Cricket Hill.

The next morning, the eighteenth, crossing in small boats to Gwynne's Island, the men were deployed across it, and the cover beaten as they advanced. About noon, near the lower end of the island, their labor was rewarded by the discovery of the entire party for which they were in search, consisting of an acting master in the rebel navy, named Webb, and fifteen men. The marines were hidden in the reeds and bushes of swamp, and offered little resistance. Each man was armed with a carbine, cutlass, and pistol of English manufacture. They had with them a twelve-pounder breech-loading brass howitzer, which, however, they had previously concealed in the woods. A sloop, with which they intended to commit depredations on passing vessels, was discovered up a creek, and burned.

They were expecting to capture a large vessel, and eventually to attack one of the mail-boats plying between Fortress Monroe and Baltimore,

from which city Webb and nearly all of his gang of pirates hailed. In the possession of Webb was found his commission as master in the rebel navy, together with a letter of instructions from Secretary Mallory, ordering him to proceed to the rivers and creeks of Eastern Virginia, organize his party, and annoy commerce as extensively as possible.

The One Hundred and Forty-eighth returned to Yorktown to-day with their prisoners, who were sent to Fort Norfolk.

November 20.—The Solicitor of the War Department, Mr. William Whiting, in a letter to a gentleman in Boston, wrote as follows :

"There are several serious difficulties in the way of continuing an exchange of prisoners. One is the bad faith of the enemy in putting into active service many thousands of paroled prisoners, captured at Vicksburgh and elsewhere, without releasing any of our soldiers held by them. But another difficulty of still graver importance is the peremptory refusal by the enemy to exchange colored soldiers and their white officers upon any terms whatever. It is well known that they have threatened to sell colored captured soldiers into slavery, and to hang their white officers.

"The Government demands that all officers and soldiers should be fairly exchanged, otherwise no more prisoners of war will be given up. The faith of the Government is pledged to these officers and troops that they shall be protected, and it cannot and will not abandon to the savage cruelty of slave-masters a single officer or soldier who has been called on to defend the flag of his country, and thus exposed to the hazards of war.

"It has been suggested that exchanges might go on until all except the colored troops and their white officers have been given up. But if this were allowed, the rebels would not only be relieved of the burden of maintaining our troops, but they would get back their own men, retaining their power over the very persons whom we are solemnly bound to rescue, and upon whom they could then, without fear of retaliation, carry into execution the inhuman cruelties they have so basely threatened.

"The President has ordered that the stern law of retaliation shall, without hesitation, be enforced, to avenge the death of the first Union soldier, of whatever color, whom the enemy shall in cold blood destroy or sell into slavery. All other questions between us may be postponed for fu-

ture settlement, but the fair exchange of colored soldiers and of their white officers will be insisted on by the Government before another rebel soldier or officer will be exchanged."

November 21.—The steamer *Welcome* was attacked this morning at Waterproof, La., by guerrillas, with cannon planted on the levee, and twelve balls and shells fired through and into the cabin and other parts of the boat, besides nearly three hundred Minié balls from the sharpshooters along the banks of the river.—Acting MASTER J. F. D. Robinson, commander of the *Satellite*, and Acting Ensign Henry Walters, who was in command of the *Reliance*, were dismissed from the Navy of the United States, for gross dereliction in the case of the capture of their vessels on the twenty-third of August, 1863. The Department of the Navy regretted "the necessity of this action in the case of Acting Ensign Walters, inasmuch as the Court report that 'during the attack he acted with bravery and to the best of his ability, and which, in some measure, relieves his want of precaution against surprise from its otherwise inexcusable character, and shows that his failure to take them proceeded more from inexperience than negligence.'"—*General Orders No. 24.*

—At Little Rock, Ark., a large Union meeting was held, at which the "restoration of State rights under the old Government" was advocated, and a great number of persons took the oath of allegiance and enrolled themselves for home defence.—ENGLISH REBEL blockade-runner steamer *Banshee*, was captured by the United States steamers *Delaware* and *Fulton*, off Wilmington, North-Carolina.

—THE steamer *Black Hawk*, when about half a mile below Red River Landing, on the Mississippi River, was fired into from the east bank of the river by a battery of ten or twelve guns, and about fifteen round shot and shell struck the boat. One shell exploded in the Texas, setting fire to and burning that part of the boat and pilot-house. As soon as the captain and officers found the boat on fire, they ran her on a sand-bar on the west side of the river, and immediately put all the passengers on shore, after which the fire was extinguished. While the boat lay aground on the sand-bar, the sharpshooters were pouring in their murderous Minié balls, of which some three hundred struck the boat in different parts of her cabin and hull. It was the guerrillas' intention to follow the boat, but the gun-

boat stationed at the mouth of Red River followed them so close, pouring in shell among them, that she drove them back, after which the gun-boat took the Black Hawk in tow, and carried her back to Red River, where she repaired sufficiently to proceed on her way. The casualties on board the boat were very severe. Mr. Samuel Fulton, a brother of the captain, was shot in the leg by a cannon-ball. His leg was afterward amputated below the knee. A colored man, by the name of Alfred Thomas, had his head blown off while lying flat down on the cable-deck. James Keller, of Louisville, belonging to the Twenty-second Kentucky volunteers, received a wound in the arm from a fragment of a shell. His arm was afterward amputated, and he soon after died. A passenger was slightly wounded in the arm.

November 22.—A scouting-party of fifty men, belonging to Colonel Higginson's regiment, First South-Carolina colored troops, was sent, under the command of Captain Bryant, Eighth Maine volunteers, and Captain Whitney, First South-Carolina colored volunteers, to release twenty-eight colored people held in pretended slavery by a man named Hayward, near Pocatigo, S.C. The expedition was successful. The captives were released and their freedom restored to them. Two rebel horse-soldiers, stationed as pickets, were regularly captured as prisoners of war. These men were members of the First South-Carolina cavalry. Their comrades, seventy-five in number, under command of a major, pursued the raiding party toward the ferry at Barnwell's Island. The negroes received them in ambush, and fired on them at twenty paces, emptying several saddles, and putting them to flight. Obtaining reinforcements and artillery, they tracked the retreating colored men with bloodhounds. The dogs dashed into the party in advance of their comrades, the rebels. One hound was shot, and left with broken legs upon the field. Five others were impaled upon the bayonets of the Union troops, and brought as trophies into their camp. The gallantry of the negroes on this occasion was manifested not merely by their brilliant bravery, but by the willingness with which they gave up the ferry-boats (in which they had crossed to the mainland) to their wounded and to the non-combatants on their return. In fording the river, two of their number were drowned. Another man, a corporal, was lost. Six of the party were wounded.

November 23.—The battle of Chattanooga, Tenn., commenced this day. At half-past twelve o'clock, Generals Granger's and Palmer's corps, supported by General Howard's, were advanced directly in front of the Union fortifications, drove in the enemy's pickets, and carried his first line of rifle-pits between Chattanooga and Carter's Creek. The Nationals captured nine commissioned officers and about one hundred enlisted men. Their loss was about one hundred and eleven men.

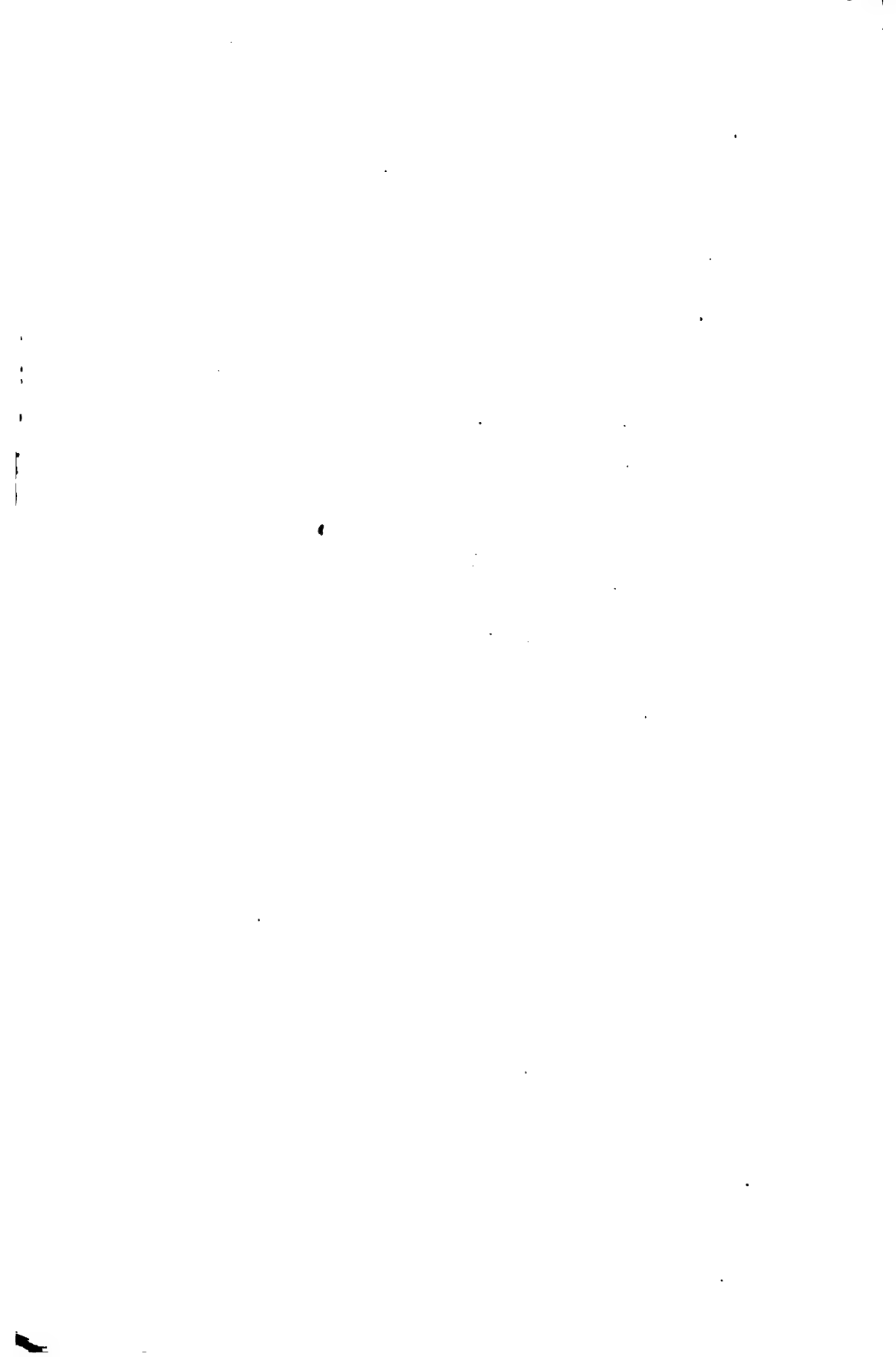
November 24.—A court of inquiry convened by order of the rebel war department to examine and report facts and circumstances attending the capture of the city of New-Orleans, in April, 1862, and the defence of the city by the rebel troops under the command of General Mansfield Lovell, gave as their opinion that General Lovell's "conduct was marked by all the coolness and self-possession due to the circumstances and his position; and that he evinced a high capacity for his command, and the clearest foresight in many of his measures for the defence of New-Orleans." —*General Orders, No. 152.*

—HERSCHEL V. JOHNSON, in a speech at Milledgeville, Georgia, used the following language: "There is no step backward. All is now involved in the struggle that is dear to man—home, society, liberty, honor, every thing—with the certainty of the most degraded fate that ever oppressed a people, if we fail. It is not recorded in history that eight millions of united people, resolved to be free, have failed. We cannot yield if we would. Yield to the Federal authorities—to vassalage and subjugation! The bleaching of the bones of one hundred thousand gallant soldiers slain in battle would be clothed in tongues of fire to curse to everlasting infamy the man who whippers yield. God is with us, because He is always with the right." He closed in counselling a firm reliance on Providence, and the cultivation of a spirit of reliance and devotion.

—THE *Richmond Examiner* of this date contained the following: "Five balls advertised, and flour one hundred and twenty-five dollars per barrel! Who prates of famine and want? Who is suffering for the necessities of life? Does not all go 'merry as a marriage bell?' If the skeleton come in, put a ball-ticket at five dollars into its bony fingers, a masquerade ball costume upon its back of bony links, and send the grim guest into the ball-room to the sound of cotillion music."



Wm. Lloyd Garrison
New York
March 1848



—THE second day of the battle of Chattanooga, Tennessee. General Hooker, in command of Geary's division of the Twelfth corps, Osterhaus's division of the Fifteenth corps, and two brigades of the Fourteenth corps, carried the north slope of Lookout Mountain with small loss, and a loss to the rebels of five or six hundred prisoners.

There was continuous fighting from twelve o'clock until after nightfall, but the National troops gallantly repulsed every attempt of the enemy to retake the position.

General Sherman crossed the Tennessee River before daylight this morning, at the mouth of South-Chickamauga, with three divisions of the Fifteenth corps, one division of the Fourteenth corps, and carried the northern extremity of Missionary Ridge.—(*Docs. 14 and 18.*)

—THE *Richmond Examiner* published the following: "While a furious invading enemy is laying waste our fair fields, demanding unconditional submission to its government, offering no terms of peace, not even hinting at negotiation for peace upon any other basis, but avowing the unanimous purpose to deprive us of all right, of all law and of all property; and while our devoted armies are in the field, with their arms in their hands and their banners flying, to defy and resist and beat back that foul invasion, we do not comprehend how any man in the Confederacy can—we do not say get 'honorable peace'—but even talk of honorable peace, save by vanquishing those invading enemies. If the political system of those invading enemies break up, by reason of reverses in war, or financial troubles; if certain States of their 'Union' remember that they have state rights, and act upon them by seceding from the Union, and offering us a peace, so far as they are concerned, it will be well; that will aid us materially in the one single task we have to achieve—the task of defeating and destroying the military power of our enemies. But reasonable confederates would be at a loss to know how we can contribute to that happy state of things, except by continued and successful resistance in arms. Our sole policy and cunningest diplomacy is fighting; our most insinuating negotiator is the confederate army in line of battle.

"Now we perceive, that just as Congress is about to meet, certain newspapers of the Confederacy are preparing the way for discussions in that body about some other method of obtain-

ing peace. The other method suggested, in so far as we can comprehend it, consists in the several States of the Confederacy taking the matter out of the hands of the confederate government, ignoring the government and the army, and all that army has done and suffered for the independence of the Confederacy, and then making peace, each State for itself, as best it can. There would be an honorable peace!"

"We are sorry to have to mention that such an idea has shown itself. It was believed that it was confined to about two newspapers, both of Raleigh, North-Carolina. But something very similar is to be found in two other newspapers of Atlanta. As it is extremely essential that the time of this Congress should not be diverted for one instant from the business of carrying on the war by any vain palaver about peace, peace, when there is no peace, we reluctantly advert to the disagreeable circumstance in order that the small distracting element may be disposed of and made innocuous the more speedily."

—GOVERNOR VANCE, in a message to the Legislature of North-Carolina, said: "We know, at last, precisely what we would get by submission, and therein has our enemy done us good service—abolition of slavery, confiscation of property, and territorial vassalage.

"These are the terms to win us back. Now, when our brothers bleed and mothers and little ones cry for bread, we can point them back to the brick-kilns of Egypt—thanks to Mr. Seward—plainly in view, and show them the beautiful clusters of Eschol which grow in the land of independence, whither we go to possess them. And we can remind them, too, how the pillar of fire and the cloud, the vouchsafed guidon of Jehovah, went ever before the hungering multitude, leading away, with apparent cruelty, from the fullness of servitude. With such a prospect before them, people will, as heretofore, come firmly up to the full measure of their duty if their trusted servants do not fail them. They will not crucify afresh their own sons, slain in their behalf, or put their gallant shades to open shame, by stopping short of full and complete national independence."

November 25.—An expedition composed of details from the First North-Carolina volunteers, Twelfth New-York cavalry, and the Twenty fourth New-York battery, under command of Captain George W. Graham, First North-Carolina volunteers, (Captain R. R. West, Twelfth

New-York cavalry, having generously waived his rank, in deference to Captain Graham's familiarity with the country to be traversed,) attacked a camp of rebels near Greenville, North-Carolina, and after a brief and gallant contest, more than fifty prisoners, a hundred stand of arms, and a considerable amount of subsistence and quartermaster's stores fell into the hands of the Nationals, while but one of their men was fatally wounded.

It was an affair in which the sterner virtues of the soldier, patience and fortitude, were equally exhibited with gallantry and daring, but twenty-four hours having been occupied in all, and a march of nearly seventy miles having been performed.—*General Peck's Order.*

—THE battle of Chattanooga, Tennessee, closed this day. Missionary Ridge was carried completely by the National troops, and the rebels routed, so that they fled in the night.—(*Docs. 14 and 18.*)

November 26.—At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a meeting of the United States Christian Commission was held, in behalf of the National prisoners at Richmond. Bishop Potter of Pennsylvania presided, and addresses were made by Governor Brough, of Ohio, Major Boles, late from Libby Prison, G. H. Stuart, President of the Christian Commission, and others.—An engagement took place at Warm Springs, North-Carolina. "It shows," says a rebel correspondent, "that it was a very gallant affair on the part of our men. Lieutenant-Colonel Bryson, of the Twenty-fifth North-Carolina troops, with a detachment of eighty men, crossed the French Broad, and was joined that night by twenty militia, under Major Haywood. Proceeding on the march, and arriving at the enemy's outpost at daylight, he was found in line of battle, having already discovered the plan. Although numbering about four hundred, the Yankees were charged and driven from the field. They came up the second time with the same result. A third time they were reënforced, perceiving which, Colonel Bryson gave the order to fall back, which was done in good order. In a hand-to-hand encounter, Sergeant Collins rushed forward and sacrificed his life to save Colonel Bryson's. The enemy's loss was thirty killed and wounded."—*THANKSGIVING DAY* in all the loyal States.

—THE Union army under the command of Major-General Meade, advanced, crossing the

Rapidan at several points. General Lee, commanding the rebel forces, noticing the movement, issued the following general order: "The enemy is again advancing upon our capital, and the country once more looks to this army for its protection. Under the blessings of God, your valor has repelled every previous attempt, and, invoking the continuance of his favor, we cheerfully commit to him the issue of the coming contest.

"A cruel enemy seeks to reduce our fathers and our mothers, our wives and our children to abject slavery; to strip them of their property and drive them from their homes. Upon you these helpless ones rely to avert these terrible calamities, and to secure to them the blessings of liberty and safety. Your past history gives them the assurance that their trust will not be in vain. Let every man remember that all he holds dear depends upon the faithful discharge of his duty, and resolve to fight, and, if need be, to die, in defence of a cause so sacred and worthy the name won by this army on so many bloody fields."—(*Doc. 15.*)

November 27.—A delegation of Cherokees, headed by Captain Smith Christy, acting Chief, and including Thomas Pegg, a leading Indian, and William P. Ross, with Rev. J. B. Jones as interpreter, went in state to pay their respects to General McNeil, the district commander at Fort Smith, Ark., by order of an act of their National Council. The act recited the sufferings, and asked additional protection to the nation and authority to raise an Indian cavalry regiment. After the presentation of their credentials, Chief Christy arose and said that their national council had instructed them to call and pay their respects to the Commanding General, express their confidence in his ability and bravery, and to state the condition and wants of their suffering people. He then recapitulated the contents of the documents they were preparing to present. The greatest annoyance was from roving banditti, who desolated their homes and murdered their people. Their lives and those of their families were not safe away from the military fort. They desired stringent measures to change this state of things. They wished carried into successful practice a plan of Colonel Phillips, to form districts allotted for settlement, which should be adequately protected in order that the families camped in the vicinity of Fort Gibson might remove to more comfortable homes. From their present condition of suffering and disease, they thought the

patriotic acts and sacrifices of their nation had not been sufficiently appreciated.

General McNeil replied that it gave him very great pleasure to receive this token of respect of the Cherokee nation. Among the responsibilities of the command to which he had been assigned, there was none greater than his duty toward their suffering people. One of his first acts on assuming command was to represent the condition of the Indian tribes, and he had recommended some measures for the improvement of their condition. The Government is very desirous that you should make a crop this spring, and such a disposition of troops will be made that you can do it in safety.

Mr. Ross.—If white troops will keep away our white enemies, the loyal Indian troops can protect themselves.

General McNeil.—I ask if I may assure the Government that the Cherokees will not make civil war on their tribes except in self-defence.

Chief Christy.—You may.

—THE rebel schooner *Maria Alberta*, while attempting to run the blockade, was captured off Bayport, Florida, by the National schooner *Two Sisters*.—THE battle of Mine Run, Va., was fought this day, between the Union forces, under Major-General Meade, and the rebels, under the command of General Lee.—(Doc. 15.)

—A PARTY of surgeons belonging to the United States army, lately prisoners in Richmond, made the following statement: "We the undersigned consider it our duty to publish a few facts that came to our knowledge while we were inmates of the hospital attached to the Libby prison. We enjoyed for several months daily access to the hospitals where the sick and wounded among our Union soldiers were under treatment. As a result of our observation, we hereby declare our belief that, since the battle of Chickamauga, the number of deaths per diem has averaged fully fifty. The prevailing diseases are diarrhoea, dysentery, or typhoid pneumonia. Of late the percentage of deaths has greatly increased from causes that have been long at work, as insufficient food, clothing, and shelter, combined with that depression of spirits brought so often by long confinement. It may seem almost incredible that, in the three hospitals for wounded soldiers, the average mortality is nearly forty per day, and, we are forced to believe, the deaths in the tobacco factories and upon the Island, will raise

the total mortality among all the Union soldiers to fifty per day, or fifteen hundred monthly.

"The extremely reduced condition of those brought from the island argues that hundreds quite sick are left behind who, with us, would be considered fit subjects for hospital treatment. Such, too, is the fact, as invariably stated by scores we have conversed with from that camp. The same, to a degree, holds true of their prisoners in the city. It would be a reasonable estimate to put the number who are fit subjects for hospitals, but who are refused admittance, at five hundred. One thousand are already under treatment in the three hospitals; and the confederate surgeons themselves say the number of patients is only limited by the small accommodations provided. Thus we have over ten per cent of the whole number of the prisoners held classed as sick men, who need the most assiduous and skilful attention; yet, in the matter of rations, they are receiving nothing but corn-bread and sweet potatoes. Meat is no longer furnished to any class of our prisoners, except to the few officers in Libby Hospital; and all the sick and well officers and privates are now furnished with a very poor article of corn-bread, in place of wheat-bread—an unsuitable diet for hospital patients, prostrated with diarrhoea, dysentery, and fever.

"To say nothing of many startling instances of individual suffering, and horrid pictures of death from prostrated sickness and semi-starvation, we have had thrust upon our attention, the first demand of the poor creatures from the island was always for something to eat. Self-respect gone, half-clad and covered with vermin and filth, many of them are often beyond all reach of medical skill. In one instance, the ambulances brought sixteen to the hospital, and during the night seven of them died. Again, eighteen were brought, and eleven of them died in twenty-four hours. At another time, fourteen were admitted in a single day, and ten of them died. Judging from what we have ourselves seen and do know, we do not hesitate to say that under a treatment of systematized abuse, neglect, and semi-starvation, the number who are becoming prematurely broken down in their constitutions must be reckoned by thousands. The confederate daily papers in general terms acknowledge the truth of all we have affirmed, but usually close their abusive editorials by declaring that even such treatment is better than the invading Yankees deserve."

"The *Examiner*, in a recent article, begrudged

the little food the prisoners did receive, and the boxes sent to us from home, and closed by eulogizing the system of semi-starvation and exposure as well calculated to dispose of us. Recently several hundred prisoners per day were being removed to Danville, and in two instances we were standing in view of them as their ranks filed past. Numbers were without shoes, nearly all without blankets or overcoats, and not a man did we see who was well fed and fully clad; but to the credit of the prisoners in Richmond, of all ranks, be it recorded, that, although they have shown heroic fortitude under suffering, and spurning the idea that their Government had forgotten them, have held fast their confidence in the final and speedy success of our cause. In addition to the above statement, we wish to be distinctly understood that the confederate medical officers connected with the hospitals referred to, Surgeons Wilkins, Simmons, and Sobal, and the hospital steward, Hollet, are not in any way, as far as our observation has extended, responsible for the state of things existing there, but on the other hand, we are bound in justice to bear testimony to their kindness and the faithful performance of duties with the limited means at their disposal.”*

—Among the prisoners captured at Chattanooga, were found a large number of those paroled at Vicksburgh. General Grant inquired whether he should proceed against them according to the established usage in such cases, which is to shoot the persons so found. The War Department forbid, it being manifestly unjust to execute soldiers who were required by the rebel government to break their parole.—GENERAL JOHN H. MORGAN, with six of his officers, escaped from the penitentiary at Columbus, Ohio.—(Doc. 37.)

November 28.—A cavalry fight took place at Louisville, Tenn., between a party of rebels and two hundred and twenty-five men belonging to the Sixth Illinois regiment, resulting in the rout of the rebels.

November 29.—Fort Sanders, near Knoxville, Tenn., was assaulted by the rebel forces under General Longstreet, who was repulsed with a loss of over eight hundred in killed, wounded, and missing. A few hours previous to the assault, the rebel General issued the following instruc-

tions to the commanders of the brigades who were to attempt it:

“HEADQUARTERS, November 29, 1863.

“GENERAL: Please impress your officers and men with the importance of making a rush when they once start to take such a position as that occupied by the enemy yesterday. If the troops, once started, rush forward till the point is carried, the loss will be trifling; whereas, if they hesitate, the enemy gets courage, or, being behind a comparatively sheltered position, will fight the harder.

“Beside, if the assaulting party once loses courage and falters, he will not find courage, probably, to make a renewed effort. The men should be cautioned before they start at such work, and told what they are to do, and the importance and great safety of doing it with a rush.

“Very respectfully, J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

“Major-General McLAW.”

—THE schooner Winona was captured by the gunboat Kanawha, off Mobile Bay, Ala.

November 30.—Fort Esperanza, in Matagorda Bay, having been blown up and abandoned by the rebels, was occupied by the National forces under the command of Major-General C. C. Washburne.—(Doc. 17).—THE rebel blockade-runner Chatham, was captured in Doboy Sound, Ga., by the gunboat Huron.

December 1.—The army of the Potomac withdrew from before the works of the rebels on Mine Run, General Meade being convinced that they could not be taken without a great sacrifice of life. A soldier, writing from Kelleysville, on December fourth, gives the following account of the retrograde movement: “Since joining the regiment I have had very tough work, marching great distances in a short space of time, besides living on short rations. We crossed the Rapidan at Ely’s Ford, marching through the battle-field of Chancellorsville and the Wilderness, to within six miles of Orange Court-House, where we halted. Our impressions were, that we would reach Gordonsville before any serious opposition would be shown, but were mightily mistaken. The army skirmished with the rebels from the time we crossed the Rapidan until we halted, and through such a perfect wilderness as to be almost indescribable—the road, the only place where man or beast could walk, with both sides covered with dense woods, overrun with under-

* The surgeons who signed this statement were, Daniel Meeker, United States Navy; C. T. Linn, Assistant Surgeon Sixth Maine regiment; J. L. Brown, Assistant Surgeon One Hundred and Sixteenth Ohio volunteer infantry; and A. M. Parker, Assistant Surgeon First Maine cavalry.

brush. So you can readily imagine what a place for troops to advance in line of battle, and manœuvre for instant action. Yet it was done, and with a hearty good will, for the impression animated the whole army we would give the rebels a sound whipping, as we were on their flank; but alas! they got wind of it, and formed a line of battle on the high ridge of hills on the opposite side of Mine Run. We would have cleared them out from there, but the whole of our army did not arrive in time. Night came on, and they improved the time by fortifying. When morning came, they had one of the most formidable works in view I ever saw. The creek, or run, was crammed with felled trees, to break our ranks when advancing in line, and then came immense breastworks with abattis in front, making it an impossibility to make a charge over. Yet that morning the whole line had orders to take off knapsacks and overcoats, and make the attack, or rather attempt it. When all was ready, and going on the advance, the order was countermanded, and with it came many light hearts, as we knew it was impossible to make any impression on what we saw before us, although we were willing to attempt it. We lay all that day, and the next until evening, when we picked up our traps, and made a splendid retrograde movement. To be sure, the army suffered a little in killed and wounded, but nothing in comparison to what it would have been if we had fought them. One of the men in my company was shot in the breast while skirmishing. We are now near Kelly's Ford, and have arrived at the conclusion that General Meade acted wisely in not giving battle, for he would have been repulsed, and that would not do, when things looked so bright in the West."

December 2.—General Braxton Bragg issued a general order from his headquarters at Dalton, Ga., transferring the command of the rebel forces to Lieutenant-General Hardee who, on assuming the position announced, in orders, that "there was no cause for discouragement. The overwhelming numbers of the enemy forced us back from Missionary Ridge; but the army is still intact and in good heart; our losses were small, and were rapidly replaced. The country is looking to you with painful interest. I feel I can rely upon you. The weak need to be cheered by the constant successes of the victors of Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro, and Chickamauga, and require such stimulant to sustain their cour-

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age and resolution. Let the past take care of itself. We care more to secure the future."

December 3.—A large body of rebels, under the command of Chalmers and Forrest, made three desperate charges on a division of National cavalry, stationed at the Wolf River Bridge, Tenn., but were finally repulsed with heavy loss. The National troops were commanded by Colonel Hatch's cavalry division, which suffered severely.

December 4.—General Longstreet raised the siege of Knoxville, and fell back to Morristown, Tenn., in consequence of the approach of heavy reinforcements to General Burnside, under General Granger, as well as the great victory around Chattanooga.—(Doc. 19.)

December 5.—Major-General R. C. Schenck relinquished the command of the Middle Department, and was succeeded by Brigadier-General Lockwood.—STEPHEN D. LEE, Major-General in the rebel service, sent the following report from his headquarters, at Holly Springs, Miss., to General Joseph E. Johnston: "Chased enemy's cavalry, eight hundred strong, from Ripley into Pocahontas, on the first. The enemy concentrated at Pocahontas, and evacuated Salisbury on the second. Two miles of railroad destroyed at Salisbury. Forrest passed safely over. Routed and drove across into Wolf River, at Moscow, two regiments of the enemy's cavalry, killing, wounding, and drowning about one hundred and seventy-five, capturing forty prisoners, and forty horses, and killing about one hundred horses."

—A BODY of rebel cavalry, with a few pieces of artillery, crossed the Rapidan, and made a demonstration in front of the National lines. After a brief skirmish, it was discovered that the rebels wished to reestablish signal-stations on three peaks overlooking the section of country occupied by the Union army. This was successfully accomplished, and quiet restored.—A TRAIN, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, was attacked by a party of guerrillas, at a point two miles east of Bealton Station.—GEORGETOWN, S. C., was destroyed by fire this night.

December 6.—Major-General W. T. Sherman and staff, accompanied by Brigadier-General Wilson, arrived at General Burnside's headquarters, at Knoxville, Tenn., at noon to-day.—A most successful reconnoissance was made to Madison Court-House, Va., by four squadrons of the First New-York Dragoons, under Major Scott,

demonstrating that no rebel force existed in that quarter. At James City a few rebels, who fled on the approach of the Nationals, were seen. On Thoroughfare Mountain, the rebel signal-station was found in the possession of some thirty or more cavalry, who at once beat a hasty retreat. They were pursued some distance by Major Scott's men, but without capture. It was found to be a good position for its past uses, as well as in turn to be used against them, as from it the position of nearly the whole rebel army can be seen. The destruction was made as complete as possible.—THE National iron-clad *Weehawken*, during a terrific storm, sunk at her anchorage at the entrance of Charleston harbor, S. C., carrying down with her four engineers and twenty-six of her crew.—THE merchant steamer *Chesapeake*, commanded by Captain Willets, was seized by a party of rebels, who had taken passage in her, while on her way from New-York to Portland, Maine. The pirates assaulted the crew, killed the engineer, and wounded two other officers, and, after landing the passengers at Part-ridge Island, ran away with the vessel.

December 7.—Major-General Foster, from his headquarters at Tazewell, Tenn., sent the following to the National War Department: "Longstreet is on a full retreat up the valley. Your orders about following with cavalry, shall be carried out. My division of cavalry attacked the enemy's cavalry in one of the passes of Clinch Mountains, yesterday P.M., and are pushing them vigorously. Couriers from Knoxville arrived last night. The road is clear. Sherman arrived here yesterday."

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN issued the following recommendation for prayer and thanksgiving, for the defeat of the rebels under General Longstreet: "Reliable information having been received that the insurgent force is retreating from East-Tennessee, under circumstances rendering it probable that the Union forces cannot hereafter be dislodged from that important position, and esteeming this to be of high national consequence, I recommend that all loyal people do, on receipt of this information, assemble at their places of worship, and render special homage and gratitude to Almighty God for this great advancement of the national cause."—A DEBATE on the question of the employment of substitutes in the Southern army was held in the rebel Congress.—THE steamer *Von Phul*, on a trip from New-Orleans to St. Louis, was fired into at a

point about eight miles above Bayou Sara, and seriously damaged.—MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN assumed command of the Fifteenth army corps, at Bridgeport, Ala.—THE British steamer *Ceres* was captured off the port of Wilmington, North-Carolina.

—FULL and enthusiastic meetings were held in various portions of Indiana. At the capital of the State, General Carrington made a strategical speech, illustrated by maps and diagrams, showing how the rebels could be circumvented.—JEFFERSON DAVIS sent a message to the rebel Congress, which was received and read in both houses.—(Doc. 21.)

December 8.—A brisk cannonade between Fort Moultrie and Battery Gregg, in Charleston harbor, was carried on this day. The firing on Fort Sumter was moderated.—IN a speech before the rebel Congress, this day, Mr. Foote expressed great indignation at the course pursued by President Davis. "When Pemberton dishonorably surrendered Vicksburgh to the enemy, the President made him his companion, and carried him to General Bragg's army, when, as he rode along, soldiers were heard to say: 'There goes the traitor who delivered us over at Vicksburgh.' The President never visited the army without doing it injury; never yet that it was not followed by disaster. He was instrumental in the Gettysburgh affair. He instructed Bragg at Murfreesboro. He has opened Georgia to one hundred thousand of the enemy's troops, and laid South-Carolina liable to destruction. I charge him with having almost ruined the country, and will meet his champion anywhere to discuss it. Would to God he would never visit the army again!" . . .

Mr. Foote also referred to abuses in the commissary department. A certain commissary-general, who was a curse to our country, is invested with authority to control the matter of subsistence. This monster, Northrop, has stealthily placed our government in the attitude charged by the enemy, and has attempted to starve the prisoners in our hands!

Meats were furnished the prisoners very irregularly, and in a meagre manner. For twelve days the supply was inadequate, and for eight days they had none at all!

"The commissary-general," says Mr. Foote, "was a pepper-doctor down in Charleston, and looked like a vegetarian, and actually made an elaborate report to the Secretary of War, show-



Engr. by A. H. Ritchie

MAJ. GEN. C. C. AUGUR.

ing that for the subsistence of a human Yankee carcass vegetable diet was the most proper! For the honor of the country, this Northrop should be ejected at once."

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN, in his Message to Congress, appended his Proclamation of Amnesty.—(Doc. 32.)

—THE following is an account of an affair that took place to-day, near Great Western Furnace, Stuart County, Tenn., about twelve miles from Canton, Ky.: "The guerrilla, Colonel Martin, who lately robbed the citizens in that section of nearly all they possessed, passed through Golden Pond, Tenn., with his gang, taking horses, and plundering indiscriminately. The citizens of the neighborhood organized a squad of fifteen men, composed principally of the late Eighth Kentucky cavalry, headed by John Martin and F. M. Oakley, and started in pursuit of the guerrillas. They came upon them about midnight, in camp, eating a supper furnished them by one Dawsey Griffin. The citizens demanded a surrender, which was refused by the rebel leader, and the order was given by Martin to charge upon them, which was done in a handsome manner, resulting in a complete rout, and the capture of all their arms, horses, clothing, camp equipage, and two contrabands. Three of the rebels were killed on the spot."—THE National House of Representatives unanimously passed a vote of thanks to General U. S. Grant and his army, and ordered that a medal be struck in his honor, in the name of the people of the United States.

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN sent the subjoined congratulatory despatch to Major-General Grant: "Understanding that your lodgment at Chattanooga and Knoxville is now secure, I wish to tender you, and all under your command, my more than thanks—my profoundest gratitude for the skill, courage, and perseverance with which you and they, over so great difficulties, have effected that important object. God bless you all!" This was immediately published to the armies under the command of General Grant.

December 9.—President Lincoln granted a pardon exempting E. W. Gantt, of Arkansas, from the penalty of treason, which he incurred by accepting and exercising the office of Brigadier-General in the service of the rebels. The pardon also reinstated General Gantt in all his rights of property, excepting those relating to

slaves.—THE Marine Brigade, under the Command of General Ellet, and a portion of Colonel Gresham's command, returned to Natchez from an unsuccessful expedition after the rebels under Wirt Adams, who had mounted a battery on Ellis's Cliff.—THE English steamer Minna, while attempting to evade the blockade of Charleston, S. C., was captured by the United States gun-boat Circassian.

December 10.—Major-General Grant, from his headquarters at Chattanooga, Tenn., issued the following congratulatory order to his army: "The General commanding takes this opportunity of returning his sincere thanks and congratulations to the brave armies of the Cumberland, the Ohio, the Tennessee, and their comrades from the Potomac, for the recent splendid and decisive successes achieved over the enemy. In a short time you have recovered from him the control of the Tennessee River from Bridgeport to Knoxville. You dislodged him from his great stronghold upon Lookout Mountain, drove him from Chattanooga Valley, wrested from his determined grasp the possession of Missionary Ridge, repelled with heavy loss to him his repeated assaults upon Knoxville, forcing him to raise the siege there, driving him at all points, utterly routed and discomfited, beyond the limits of the State. By your noble heroism and determined courage, you have most effectually defeated the plans of the enemy for regaining the possession of the States of Kentucky and Tennessee. You have secured positions from which no rebellious power can drive or dislodge you. For all this the General commanding thanks you collectively and individually. The loyal people of the United States thank and bless you. Their hopes and prayers for your success against this unholy rebellion are with you daily. Their faith in you will not be in vain. Their hopes will not be blasted. Their prayers to Almighty God will be answered. You will yet go to other fields of strife; and with the invincible bravery and unflinching loyalty to justice and right, which have characterized you in the past, you will prove that no enemy can withstand you, and that no defences, however formidable, can check your onward march."

—GENERAL GILLMORE again shelled Charleston, S. C., throwing a number of missiles into different parts of the city. The rebel batteries opened fire, and a heavy bombardment ensued for several hours.—THE steamers Ticonderoga, Ella,

and Annie, left Boston, Mass., in pursuit of the Chesapeake.—The new volunteer fund of New-York City reached seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

December 11.—The annual report of the rebel Secretary of War was made public. He refers to the operations of the army in its several departments, and says that the campaign in Mississippi was certainly disastrous. It is difficult to resist the impression that its disasters were not inevitable. That a court of inquiry, to investigate the whole campaign, met in Atlanta in September, but in consequence of the vicinity of the enemy, requiring the presence of witnesses and judges at other points, it has been temporarily suspended. It is expected soon to reassemble. A deficiency of resource in men and provisions, rather than reverses in battle, caused the withdrawal of the army to Middle Tennessee. He alludes to desertion, straggling, and absenteeism, and says that the effective force of the army is but little over half or two thirds of the men whose names are on the muster-rolls. He recommends the repeal of the substitute and exemption provisions, and that all having substitutes be put back into the field, and that the privileges which Congress granted to put in substitutes can be regularly and constitutionally abrogated by the same power. He says that no compact was entered into between the government and the person furnishing a substitute, as has been alleged, but only a privilege which government accorded. Instead of complaining of such abrogation, the person ought to feel gratified at what has heretofore been allowed him. He recommends an abridgment of exemptions and the conscription of them all, making details according to the wants of society at home. He says that the three years' men, when their terms expire, cannot be finally discharged, and should be retained, allowing them to choose the existing company under its present organization in the same arm of the service. He recommends the consolidation of such companies and regiments as are reduced below a certain complement. He pays a glowing tribute to the heroism, endurance, and unfaltering devotion of the soldier, and of the lamented dead who yielded their lives as sacrifices upon the altar of liberty, and closes by saying that our very reverses, showing a united and determined endurance of every thing for independence, must convince the enemy of the futility of his efforts to subdue us.—*Richmond Examiner.*

—The steamboat Brazil, while passing below Rodney, Miss., was fired upon by rebels on shore. Three women and one man were killed.

—ROBERT OULD, the rebel Commissioner of Exchange, addressed the following official letter to Brigadier-General Meredith, the agent of the National Government: "As the assent of the confederate government to the transmission, by your authorities and people, of food and clothing to the prisoners at Richmond and elsewhere, has been the subject of so much misconstruction and misrepresentation, and has been made the occasion of so much vilification and abuse, I am directed to inform you that no more will be allowed to be delivered at City Point. The clothing and provisions already received will be devoted to the use of your prisoners. When that supply is exhausted, they will receive the same rations as our soldiers in the field."

—MAJOR-GENERAL BURNSIDE, in obedience to orders from the War Department, resigned the command of the army of the Ohio to Major-General John G. Foster.—The rebel government salt-works on West-Bay, Florida, were destroyed by an expedition from the United States armed vessels Restless and Bloomer. The government works were three quarters of a mile square, and one hundred and ninety-nine salt-works belonging to companies and private individuals, with five hundred and seven boilers, kettles, etc., the whole worth three millions of dollars.

December 12.—General Scammon attacked General Echols at Lewisburgh, Va., routing him effectually, killing and wounding quite a number of the rebels, and capturing many prisoners. *General Kelley's Despatch.*

December 13.—Major-General Grant, from his headquarters at Chattanooga, Tenn., issued general orders concerning the property of secessionists in his department. Corps commanders were directed to immediately seize, or cause to be seized, all county records and documents showing titles and claims to property within the revolted States, in their respective districts, and to hold the same until they could be delivered to an authorized tax commissioner of the United States.

December 14.—Between two and three o'clock this afternoon, the forces of Longstreet turned upon and attacked the pursuing column of cavalry under General Shackleford. The line of battle was formed at Bean Station, Tenn., on the

Cumberland Gap and Morristown road; and a fight ensued which continued until nightfall, when the rebels succeeded in driving the Nationals about half a mile. Colonels Wolford, Graham, Foster, and others were engaged. The musketry fire was very heavy. The whole movement was made with a well-contrived plan to cut off and capture General Shackleford and command; and a heavy force of rebel cavalry moved down the left bank of the Holston River, with the intention of crossing at Kelly's Ford and coming in his rear. This portion of the programme was checked by General Ferrero, who sent the brigade of General Humphrey to hold the ford. The rebels fired across the river with artillery upon the brigade, but with little effect.—(Doc. 36.)

—THE United States bark Roebuck captured a small sloop-boat called the Gopher, containing two men, sixteen bags of salt, and one box of notions, off Indian River, Florida.—GOVERNOR THOMAS E. BRAMLETTE, of Kentucky, addressed a letter to Captain Edward Cahill, recruiting colored troops, questioning his right to recruit in that State.—COLONEL WATKINS, commanding the Kentucky brigade, returned to Chattanooga, Tenn., from a cavalry reconnoissance as far as La Fayette. He captured a rebel signal station, and six officers and forty privates. The rest of the large force of rebels fled.

—AN expedition sent out by General Wistar from Yorktown to Charles City Court-House, Va., under the command of Colonel R. M. West, returned to Williamsburgh, Va., having been successful in the accomplishment of its object.—(Doc. 26.)

December-15.—President Lincoln's Amnesty Proclamation was under consideration in rebel Congress. Mr. Foote presented the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas a copy of the truly characteristic proclamation of amnesty recently issued by the imbecile and unprincipled usurper who now sits enthroned upon the ruins of constitutional liberty in Washington City, has been received and read by the members of this House; now, in token of what is solemnly believed to be the most undivided sentiment of the people of the confederate States:

"Be it resolved, That there never has been a day or an hour when the people of the confederate States were more inflexibly resolved than they are at the present time, never to relinquish the struggle of arms in which they are engaged,

until that liberty and independence for which they have been so earnestly contending shall have been at least achieved, and made sure and steadfast beyond even the probability of a future danger; and that, in spite of the reverses which have lately befallen our armies in several quarters, and cold and selfish indifference to our sufferings thus far, for the most part evinced in the action of foreign powers, the eleven millions of enlightened freemen now battling heroically for all that can make existence desirable, are fully prepared, alike in spirit and in resources, to encounter dangers far greater than those which they have heretofore bravely met, and to submit to far greater sacrifices than those which they have heretofore so cheerfully encountered, in preference to holding any further political connection with a government and people who have notoriously proven themselves contemptuously regardless of all the rights and privileges which belong to a state of civil freedom, as well as of all the most sacred usages of civilized war."

Mr. Miles regretted that the gentleman from Tennessee had introduced such a resolution. The true and only treatment which that miserable and contemptible despot, Lincoln, should receive at the hands of this house was silent and unmitigated contempt. This resolution would appear to dignify a paper emanating from that wretched and detestable abortion, whose contemptible emptiness and folly would only receive the ridicule of the civilized world. He moved to lay the subject on the table.

Mr. Foote was willing that the preamble and resolution should be tabled, with the understanding that it would indicate the unqualified contempt of the House for Abraham Lincoln and his message and proclamation alluded to.

Mr. Miles said there would be no misunderstanding about that.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Similar resolutions, offered by Mr. Miller of Virginia, went the same way.

—THERE were yesterday in the Libby Prison and its dependencies at Richmond, Va., over ten thousand abolition captives. In this number are included nine hundred and eighty-three commissioned officers, domiciled at the Libby under the immediate supervision of Major Thomas P. Turner. By the record it appears that nine were received on the fourteenth instant. Twelve died the same day. The arrivals for several days past have not been very numerous. On last Friday

night, Captain Anderson, of the Fifty-first Indiana cavalry, (Streight's command,) Lieutenant Skelton, of the Nineteenth Iowa regiment, (a red-headed, bullet-eyed, pestilential abolitionist,) escaped from the hospital of the Libby Prison by bribing the sentinel, one Mack, a member of the Tenth Virginia battalion of heavy artillery. This person was purchased for four hundred dollars.—*Richmond Examiner*.

—THIS night, about eight o'clock, Rosser's brigade, of Stuart's rebel cavalry, came upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, from the south, near Sangster's Station, Va., and destroyed two bridges over Pope's Run.—(*Doc.* 115.)

—AUTHENTIC information having been received that Acting Masters John Y. Beall and Edward McGuire, together with fifteen men, all belonging to the confederate States navy, are now in close confinement in irons at Fort McHenry, to be tried as pirates, our efficient and energetic Agent of Exchange, Judge Ould, notified General Meredith that Lieutenant Commander Edward P. Williams and Ensign Benjamin H. Porter and fifteen seamen, now Yankee prisoners in our hands, have been placed in close confinement and irons, and will be held as hostages for the proper treatment of our men.—*Richmond Enquirer*.

—A LIST of steamers destroyed on the Mississippi River since the beginning of the war, was made public. Over one hundred and seventy-five were burned or sunk.

December 16.—A fire broke out this evening in the hospital of the One Hundred and Forty-eighth New-York regiment at Yorktown, Va., and in a few moments the building was all on fire, and as there were no engines or water near, it was impossible to subdue it. The Government bakery also took fire, and communicated it to the Arsenal. For several hours, the loaded shell stored within exploded, until the magazine was reached, when a terrific explosion took place, scattering the building and shell in every direction. The loss was estimated at one million dollars.—MAJOR-GENERAL BUFORD, commanding a division in the cavalry corps of the army of the Potomac, died at Washington, D.C.—THE steamer Chesapeake was recaptured in Mud Cove, Sambro Harbor, Nova Scotia, by the National steamer Ella and Anna, under the command of Lieutenant Commander John F. Nichols.

December 17.—From his headquarters at Memphis, Tenn., General Hurlbut issued the follow-

ing general order: "The recent affair at Moscow, Tenn., has demonstrated the fact that colored troops, properly disciplined and commanded, can and will fight well, and the General commanding deems it to be due to the officers and men of the Second regiment West-Tennessee infantry of African descent, thus publicly to return his personal thanks for their gallant and successful defence of the important position to which they had been assigned, and for the manner in which they have vindicated the wisdom of the Government in elevating the rank and file of these regiments to the position of freemen and soldiers."

—THE *Richmond Enquirer*, in an article on the exchange of prisoners, held the following language: "The Yankees are not going to send their negro troops in the field: they know as well as we do that no reliance can be placed upon them; but as *dépôt-guards*, prison-guards, etc., they will relieve their white troops. This is the use that will be made of them. Should they be sent to the field, and be put in battle, none will be taken prisoners—our troops understand what to do in such cases."

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN sent a message to the Congress of the United States, communicating a letter addressed to him from a committee of gentlemen, representing the Freedmen's Aid Societies of Boston, New-York, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati, in relation to the freedmen under the proclamation of emancipation.—THE United States bark Roebuck captured off the mouth of Indian River, Florida, the English schooner Ringdove, twenty-three tons burden, of and from Nassau, with a crew of five men. Her cargo consisted of one hundred and ninety bales of salt, three bags of coffee, two half chests of tea, and three barrels of whisky. When first discovered, she attempted to escape, but on being fired at, ran aground on the bar.

—FOR several days past the detectives at Richmond, Va., have been on the hunt for parties who are either suspected of stealing the clothing sent by the Yankee Government for the prisoners now in our hands, or receiving the same, knowing it to have been stolen. Several soldiers, wearing the confederate uniform, have lately been seen with blankets branded "U. S.," and in some cases, shoes, with the Yankee mark on them, have been sold to citizens at uncommonly low figures by some of the guards of the prisons. Several individuals have been arrested on the

above charge.—*Richmond Examiner, December 19.*

—COLONEL CARTER, of the First rebel Virginia cavalry, with six other persons, was captured at Upperville, Va., by a detachment of the Twenty-second Pennsylvania cavalry.—An entire company, belonging to the Third North-Carolina rebel cavalry, was captured near Washington, N. C., by a party of the Fiftieth Pennsylvania regiment, commanded by Captain Blakely. Yesterday, at sunset, the Nationals left Washington, and after a march of twenty-four miles, came upon the enemy's camp. The night was dark and rainy, rendering it possible for the troops to come upon the rebels unheard, and a complete surprise was consequently effected, the enemy being taken in their tents asleep, without the firing of a gun. The number taken was thirty-four, with their horses, equipments, and arms. The surprising party was led by Mr. Henn, who acted as guide, and who previously had been of great use upon cavalry expeditions. On this occasion he entered the rebel camp alone in advance of the attack, and reconnoitred the enemy's position.—The rebel partisan Standwaite, with a portion of his force, made an attack upon the outposts of Fort Gibson, Ark., but was repulsed, and compelled to retreat across the Arkansas River.—A body of Stuart's cavalry made a descent at eight o'clock this night upon company I, of the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth New-York regiment, stationed at Sangster's, three miles west of Fairfax Station, Va., slightly wounding one man, capturing four, and burning the tents belonging to the company. The attack was unexpected, but, nevertheless, the guard made a gallant defence. On being charged upon by the enemy, they withdrew behind their encampment, pouring in repeated volleys upon the rebels, and finally compelling them to retire.

December 18.—THE *Richmond Despatch* of this day contained the following: "We can assure such members of the confederate Congress as feel disposed at this decisive crisis in the national affairs to give undue prominence to querulous complaints and denunciations of the government, that they do not represent the public sentiment of the country—nay, so far from that, they are arousing in the minds of a people whose salvation depends upon the harmony and coöperation of all the public servants, deep and stern dissatisfaction.

"At this solemn moment, when every patriot

should be willing to postpone all minor differences to a period when the enemy shall not be thundering at the gates, the country has a right to demand that the voice of faction shall be hushed, and that every man shall smother his private griefs, and give his heart and hand to the common salvation.

"We are all embarked in the same vessel, we are all tossing upon the same stormy sea, and, in the event of shipwreck, none has as much to lose as the officers of the ship, and especially the man whom we have ourselves called to the quarter-deck, and who has every conceivable motive to do the utmost for our preservation that human wisdom and energy can accomplish.

"Would to heaven that, for a time at least, till this hour of imminent peril be passed, the voice of dissension and discord could be hushed, and the counsels of patriotism and prudence govern the pulsations of every heart, and the utterance of every lip. We can assure Congress, that nothing so disheartens the true friends of the country as the fault-finding abuse heaped upon the public servants, at a time when we should all be engaged in beating back the public enemy.

"It would be mournful enough that our cause should be borne down by our vile and dastardly foes, but a far deeper humiliation, an unspeakable disgrace, that it should perish by our own hands. But the people will not let it perish either by the hands of indiscreet friends or open foes, and we warn them both to stand clear of an avalanche which will inevitably fall upon their own heads."

—CAPTAIN LEEPER, commanding National scouts in South-East Missouri, overtook three guerrillas, belonging to Reeve's band, near Black River, and succeeded in killing the entire party.

—A FIGHT took place at Fort Gibson, between a party of guerrillas, under Quantrell, and six hundred National troops, belonging to the Indian brigade, commanded by Colonel Phillips. The engagement lasted five hours, and resulted in the complete defeat of the guerrillas.

—THE chaplains of General Lee's army held a meeting at Orange Court-House, Va., to-day. Most interesting reports were made, showing a high state of religious feeling throughout the army. The great success of the army is due to the religious element which reaches every corner of it; whilst, on the other hand, I am very much disposed to fear, from what I have been told by officers who have served in the army of Ten-

nessee, that the lack of success of that army is due, in a large measure, to the want of religious influence upon the troops.—*Cor. Richmond Dispatch.*

—In the Virginia House of Delegates, Mr. Hutcheson offered a series of resolutions deprecating the Amnesty Proclamation of President Lincoln as “degrading to freemen, that, having calmly counted the cost and weight, the dangers and difficulties, necessary for the achievement of the rights and independence they covet, the people of the Old Dominion spurn with contempt the proffered pardon and amnesty.”—FIVE military executions took place in the respective divisions to which they belonged, in the army of the Potomac.—COMMODORE GERSHOM J. VAN BRUNT, of the United States navy, died at Dedham, Mass.

December 19.—Mrs. Patterson Allan, charged with carrying on a treasonable correspondence with persons in the North, was arraigned before Commissioner Watson, at Richmond, Va. The letter which she was charged with writing, was inclosed in a box, and directed to Rev. Morgan Dix; both were then placed in a buff envelope, and addressed to Miss H. Harris, New-York.—CAPTAIN GEORGE WASHINGTON ALEXANDER, commandant at Castle Thunder, was relieved from command at that point, and confined to his quarters, under arrest, charged with malfeasance in office. It was alleged that he extorted large sums of money from prisoners confined in that institution, by promising to use his influence for their benefit, and in some cases permitting the prisoners to go at large, upon paying him large sums of money. He was also charged with trading largely in greenbacks.—COLONEL A. D. STREIGHT, and his Adjutant, Lieutenant Reed, in attempting to escape from Libby Prison, at Richmond, Va., were detected, and “put in the dungeon.”—MAJOR-GENERAL GRANT arrived at Nashville, Tenn.

December 20.—The Third Wisconsin cavalry returned to Fort Smith, Ark., from a successful reconnoissance southward. They were within five miles of Red River, but finding that the rebels had changed position since last advices, they were unable to proceed further. Their return was a constant skirmish for over one hundred miles, strong bodies of the enemy being posted at all the cross-roads to intercept them. They, however, cut their way through. In some places they evaded the enemy by taking blind mountain-passes. Their loss was small.—Mrs.

ANNE JOHNSTON, of Cincinnati, was tried at Nashville, Tenn., before the Military Committee, for acting as a rebel spy, and smuggling saddles and harness from Cincinnati into the rebel lines. The articles were packed in barrels, purporting to contain bacon, for the shipment of which permits had been regularly obtained.—THE schooner Fox, tender to the United States flag-ship San Jacinto, East-Gulf squadron, destroyed in the Suwanee River, Florida, a rebel steamer, supposed to be the Little Leila, formerly the Paw-Paw, and before the Flushing. She was set fire to by a boat's crew belonging to the Fox.—(*Doc. 23.*)

December 21.—The bark Tuscaloosa, formerly the Conrad, of Philadelphia, captured by the Alabama, was seized at St. Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, by British officers, upon an alleged violation of British laws.

December 22.—A fight occurred at Fayette, sixteen miles from Rodney, Miss., between a party of Nationals, belonging to General Ellet's Marine Brigade, under the command of Colonel Curry, and about an equal number of rebels, attached to the forces under General Wirt Adams. After a brief skirmish, the rebels fled, leaving ten of their number in the hands of the Nationals.—THE bark Saxon arrived at New-York last night, in charge of Acting Master E. S. Keyser. She was captured by the gunboat Vanderbilt, on the twenty-ninth of October, on the west coast of Africa, four hundred miles north of the Cape of Good Hope, and had on board part of the cargo of the bark Conrad which vessel was captured by the pirate Alabama, and afterward converted into the pirate Tuscaloosa.—BRIGADIER-GENERAL AVERILL, arrived at Edray, Va., having successfully accomplished his expedition to cut the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.—(*Doc. 25.*)

—A SQUAD of forty men, under Major White, of the First regiment of confederate cavalry, made a dash into Cleveland, Tenn., driving in the National pickets, killing one, wounding several, and capturing six, besides twelve horses, and some small-arms.—JOHN KELLY was killed by a party of guerrillas, on the Arkansas shore of the Mississippi River, opposite Memphis, Tenn.—GENERAL MICHAEL CORCORAN died at Fairfax Court-House, Va., from injuries received from a fall from his horse.

—GENERAL JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, in command of the rebel department of Mississippi, relinquished it, by order of Jefferson Davis, to Lieu-



THE END

nessee, that the lack of success of that army is due, in a large measure, to the want of religious influence upon the troops.—*Cor. Richmond Dispatch.*

—In the Virginia House of Delegates, Mr. Hutcheson offered a series of resolutions deprecating the Amnesty Proclamation of President Lincoln.

He said that the President's proclamation was a direct insult to the brave soldiers of the Union, and that it was a direct insult to the brave soldiers of the Union, and that it was a direct insult to the brave soldiers of the Union.

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Eng^d by A.H. Purdie.

MAJ. GEN. WM. W. AVERILL.

tenant General Polk, and issued farewell orders, as follows: "Having felt great pride in this army, the undersigned leaves it with much regret. He assures his brave comrades of his full appreciation of the high soldierly qualities they have exhibited. Harmony of opinion and purpose has existed in all ranks. Amid events tending to produce gloom and despondency, they have presented the rare spectacle of the constant improvement of all arms in efficiency and discipline. He offers them his best wishes for their future success.

"In leaving this command, it is a source of great satisfaction to him that it devolves upon the distinguished General chosen for it by the President—one who, on each of so many bloody battle-fields, has proved himself worthy of such troops as constitute this command."

December 23.—A bill, prohibiting dealing in the currency of the United States, was passed in the rebel Congress: "Any person violating the provisions of the act was subject to indictment and prosecution in the confederate court holden for the district within which the offence was committed, and should, upon conviction, forfeit the amount so bought, sold, circulated, or used, or a sum equal thereto, and be moreover subject to a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars, nor less than five hundred, and be imprisoned not less than three months, nor more than three years, at the discretion of the court; and it was declared the duty of the judges of the several confederate courts to give the act specially in charge to the grand-jury: Provided, that the purchase of postage-stamps should not be considered a violation of the act."

—THE rebel forces, under General Longstreet, still remained in the neighborhood of Rutledge and Morristown, Tenn. "General Longstreet was unable to follow up his advantage in consequence of the large number of bare-footed men in his command. The weather was extremely cold, and the mountains covered with snow."

—A PARTY belonging to the rebel Colonel Harrison's guerrilla band, headed by James Cavalier, entered Omega, La., and after capturing twelve or fourteen negroes, proceeded to murder them in cold blood, after which they hurried away upon mules captured in the town.—In discussing the conscription proposed by the rebel Congress, the *Raleigh Progress* says: "There is not another man to spare from the farms or other industrial pursuits of the country, and a further draft on

this class will be fraught with the most disastrous consequences. If more men are wanted in the line, let the thousands of able-bodied men already in the pay of the government be placed there, and the drones and non-producers who insult honest toil by their constant swagger, and who have been shielded by the corruptions of office-holders since the war commenced, be gathered up and compelled to fight for that liberty for which they ever profess to be so ready to pour out their precious blood.

"Congress, we fear, is disposed to run into extremes, especially those members whose States are largely or entirely in the hands of the enemy. If this war is to be fought out to the last man and the last dollar, if we are really battling for independence, we must husband our resources. We must have men to fight, and we must have something to feed them on. Beware of destroying the seed-corn."

—THE Yankees made a raid on Luray, Va., and burned P. B. Borst's large tannery, the old Baptist Church, and Mr. Booton's workshop; broke open all the stores, and robbed them of all their goods, and what they could not take off, they distributed among the negroes. They also broke open the meat-houses, and stole, carried away, and destroyed nearly all the pork and bacon in the place, besides killing nearly all the chickens they could find. They also burnt the tannery of William R. Barbee, about six miles east of Luray.—*Richmond Dispatch*.

—LIEUTENANT-GENERAL LEONIDAS POLK, assuming command of the rebel army in Mississippi, issued an order at Meridian, in which he recognizes the defeats and discouragements the confederate cause has sustained of late, but seeks to stimulate his troops to fresh efforts, by assuring them that there is still, in the South, ample material for a continued and successful prosecution of the war. "The vigorous employment of our own resources," he closed by saying, "with unity, harmony, and an unflinching determination to be true cannot, under God, but crown our efforts with triumphant success."

December 24.—Yesterday a foraging party was sent out from the Union camp at Tullahoma, Tenn., under the command of Lieutenant Porter, of the Twenty-seventh Indiana volunteer infantry. There was a guard of the Fourth Tennessee cavalry, and a detail from the battery, to guard and load forage. They went to Lincoln County, loaded up, and were on the way to camp

for the night. The train was divided—one half under Sergeant James, of the battery, was in camp about one mile ahead; Lieutenant Porter, with the rear part of the train, was on his way to the same place. There was one wagon considerably ahead of the others, accompanied by George Jacobs, driver; John Wesley Drought and Newell Orcutt, foragers; and James W. Foley, battery wagon-master—when they were surprised by four guerrillas, and told to surrender or they would blow their brains out. They being unarmed, could make no successful resistance. Lieutenant Porter then came riding up, when he was seized also. They were then taken through the woods some eight miles, and halted to camp, as the guerrillas said, for the night. They then tied their hands behind their backs, asked if they were ready, and fired, when all fell except the Lieutenant, who being uninjured, ran. The bodies were then dragged to the end of the bluff and thrown into Elk River. Drought was killed instantly. His body floated down and lodged on a tree-top. Jacobs was only wounded in the arm and was drowned. Orcutt was shot through the bowels, and managed to get out of the river, but died next day. Foley having loosed his hands, reached shore, but being severely wounded in the groin, lay near the river all night, where he was found next day by a citizen and properly cared for.—THE schooner Fox captured the British schooner Edward, from Havana, off the Suwanee River, while endeavoring to run the blockade.—THE United States steamer Sunflower, off Tampa Bay, Florida, captured the rebel sloop Hancock.

—A BATTLE took place near Bolivar, Tenn., between a party of rebel raiders belonging to the command of General Forrest, and five hundred of the Seventh Illinois cavalry, under Colonel Edward Prince, who had been sent out to scout and patrol the crossings on the Mississippi Central Railroad. Finding himself overpowered by numbers, Colonel Prince fell back on Summerville, with a loss of three killed and eight wounded. (Doc. 50.)

—THE rebel House of Representatives, by a vote of four to one, resolved that a "person otherwise liable to military duty shall no longer be exempt by reason of having provided a substitute. It declared also that the substitute should not be discharged, and rejected a proposition to refund to the principal any portion of the money paid for his substitute."—THE enlist-

ment of colored troops at Nashville, Tenn., continued with great success.—THE ship Martaban, from Moulmein to Singapore, was captured and destroyed by the rebel privateer Alabama.

. December 25.—Colonel Prince again advanced upon the rebel forces under Forrest, and attacked them, but in a few moments discovered that he was surrounded on all sides. He did not surrender, but after fighting for three hours, with terrible loss, cut his way out, and carried most of his command safely into La Grange.—COLONEL R. R. LIVINGSTON, of the First Nebraska cavalry, assumed command of the district of North-eastern Arkansas, headquarters at Batesville, and issued a proclamation in accordance therewith.—A CORRESPONDENT of the Richmond Sentinel says: "The plate that is in our country, and its value to the government, if the people can be induced to relinquish it, has doubtless occurred to many minds—been, perhaps, weighed and repudiated; but yet, I presume to think, might be made to act, if not a principal, a valuable subsidiary part in any well-digested scheme to restore the credit of the Treasury, to give stability to any system of finance, to arrest depreciation of confederate notes and stock, by furnishing that in kind, which is the basis of all credits—gold and silver. I think we have it, and in large amount. We have in the possession of our people, in the form of gold and silver plate, a vast and unproductive fund—every household more or less of it. Was there ever a better time to bring it forward?—ever greater need for it?—ever stronger inducements to tender it to the government for the common good?"

—A BATTLE took place in Stono River, S. C., between the gunboat Marblehead, at anchor off Legareville, and two masked rebel batteries on shore. The fight continued until the gunboat had demolished the batteries and driven out the gunners.—(Doc. 29.)

—BRIGADIER-GENERAL B. F. KELLEY sent the following from his headquarters at Harper's Ferry, Va.: "General Sullivan's column has returned safely, bringing in one hundred prisoners, about one hundred horses, equipments, etc. My different columns are all now safely back. They have captured in all over four hundred prisoners and a large amount of property. My plans and others have been promptly and faithfully executed, with a single exception, and with but a small loss on our part."

December 26.—General Rosser returned to Orange Court-House, Va., having completed an entire circuit of the Yankee army, starting from Fredericksburgh and entering the valley at Conrad's Store. He burnt the bridge over Pope's Head Run, near Sangster's Station, just out from Alexandria, capturing and dispersing the troops left as a guard. Owing to the high water and bad weather, he was prevented from doing more damage. Gregg's Yankee cavalry pursued, but did not overtake him. General Rosser was forced to swim Bull Run. His loss was very slight, if any. The enemy, while in pursuit, destroyed two tanneries and a lot of leather at Sperryville, Rappahannock County; also, two tanneries, a flour-mill and some government workshops at Luray, in Page County. They also committed many other excesses, including the taking away of negroes, and shot a confederate named Smedley, at Washington, Rappahannock County, after he had surrendered.—*Richmond Papers.*

—The rebel privateer Alabama captured the American ships Sonora and Highlander, both lying at anchor at a point about ten miles east of the North Sands light-ship, near Singapore, East-Indies. Captain Semmes ordered the captains of both ships on board the Alabama, examined their papers, and allowing them to take a small quantity of clothing, burned their ships, and sent them adrift in their boats without any water or provisions.

December 27.—General McPherson, from his headquarters, Seventeenth army corps, at Vicksburgh, Miss., issued the following circular: "The following named persons: Miss Kate Barnett, Miss Ella Barrett, Miss Laura Latham, Miss Ellen Martin, and Mrs. Moore, having acted disrespectfully towards the President and Government of the United States, and having insulted officers, soldiers, and loyal citizens of the United States who had assembled at the Episcopal church in Vicksburgh, on Christmas-day, for divine service, by abruptly leaving said church at that point in the service where the President of the United States and all others in authority are prayed for, are hereby banished, and will leave the Federal lines within forty-eight hours, under penalty of imprisonment.

"Hereafter all persons, male or female, who by word or deed or by implication, do insult or show disrespect to the President, the Government, or the flag of the United States, or to any officer or soldier of the United States upon matters of a

national character, shall be fined, banished, or imprisoned, according to the grossness of the offence."

December 28.—The Seventh Wisconsin regiment left the army of the Potomac for home to recruit, under the general orders lately issued.—THE Legislature of Alabama has voted that the carpets that cover the floor of the Senate Chamber, Hall of Representatives, and all officers' and committee-rooms in the capitol at Montgomery, be cut up and given to the soldiers of the rebel army for blankets.—An attempt at informal renewal of the cartel was made by the enemy, under the immediate agency of General Butler, who initiated his effort by sending five hundred confederate soldiers to City Point. Commissioner Ould returned five hundred Federal soldiers, but informed Commissioner Hitchcock that the confederate authorities could hold no communication with General Butler, and that there must be no further effort at a partial exchange. If the enemy desire to renew the cartel, it must be done upon fair terms, and through an agent not outlawed and beyond the pale of military respectability.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

—A SKIRMISH took place at Charlestown, Tenn., between the rebels under General Wheeler and a body of National troops, under the command of Colonel Laibold, of the Second regiment of Missouri infantry, resulting in the total rout and defeat of the rebels.—(*Doc. 80.*)

—THE following memorial, signed by Generals Hardee, Stevenson, Cheatham, Breckinridge, and nearly all the other officers in command of the army of the Tennessee, was read in the confederate House of Representatives:

"In the existing condition of affairs it is hoped your honorable bodies will pardon the variance from custom of addressing you from the army. It is done in no spirit of dictation, but in the conscientious conviction that the necessities of the country demand the voice and labor of all, and that delay, even for thirty days, in enacting proper measures, may make present disorders incurable, and the dangers of the moment omnipotent for our destruction.

"In our opinion, it is essential to retain, for the term of during the war, without reorganization, the troops now in service; to place in service immediately, for the same term, all other white males between eighteen and fifty years of age, able to perform any military duty; to provide for placing in service, at the discretion of the

President, for the same term, all white males between fifteen and eighteen, and between fifty and sixty years of age; to prohibit substitutes; to prohibit exemption, except for the necessary civil offices and employments of the confederate States and the several States; to prohibit details, except for limited times, and for carrying on works essential to the army; to prohibit discharges, except in cases of permanent disability, from all duty; to prohibit leaves and furloughs, except under uniform rules of universal application, based, as far as practicable, on length of service and meritorious conduct; to prohibit, to the greatest extent, the details of able-bodied officers and men to posts, hospitals, or other interior duty, and to place in service as cooks, laborers, teamsters, and hospital attendants, with the army and elsewhere, able-bodied negroes and mulattoes, bond and free.

"These measures, we think, if promptly enacted as laws, so as to give time for organizing and disciplining the new material, would make our armies invincible at the opening of the campaign of next year, and enable us to win back our lost territory and conquer a peace before that campaign shall be ended.

"We beg further to suggest that, in our opinion, the dissatisfaction, apprehended or existing, from short rations, depreciated currency, and the retention of old soldiers in service, might be obviated by allowing bounties, with discriminations in favor of retained troops; an increase of pay; the commutation to enlisted men of rations not issued; and rations, or the value thereof, to officers."—Eighty-two rebel prisoners from Camp Douglas, Chicago, went to Boston, Mass., to enter the United States naval service. They were taken directly to the North-Carolina, receiving-ship.

December 29.—THE Ninety-third New-York, First Delaware, and Fifth Michigan regiments, left the army of the Potomac for home to recruit, under the general orders lately issued.—THE gas company at Norfolk, Va., having sealed up their works and refused, for several months, to light the city, General Butler ordered the establishment to be seized and "carried on efficiently and economically, so that the city of Norfolk will be fully lighted, and its peace and quiet in the darkness of the night be assured, until it is made certain, that in case of an attack upon the city of Norfolk, the rebel proclivities of the owners will not leave the city in darkness, as a means of im-

pairing the defence made by the United States forces, and when the owners have, by their works and not by their lips, convinced the military authorities that they can rely upon their loyalty for aiding in repelling an invasion of the rebels, and a keeping up of the works to aid us in that behalf; then, and not until then, will the works be returned to their custody.

"In the mean time, accurate accounts will be kept of the receipts and expenditures, and the excess of profits, which no doubt will be considerable, will be paid to those who are loyal in the sense of the word as understood by loyal men."

—THE battle of Mossy Creek, Tenn., was fought this day, and resulted in the defeat of the rebels, after a severe contest.—(Doc. 31.)

December 30.—A skirmish took place in the outskirts of St. Augustine, Fla., between a detachment of the Tenth Connecticut regiment, detailed to guard a party of wood-choppers, and a squadron of rebel cavalry, who attempted to seize the teams. The rebels were unsuccessful, but in the fight three privates of the Tenth were killed, and Lieutenant Brown, the officer commanding the detachment, was so badly wounded, that he afterward died.

—YESTERDAY an affair occurred, at Matagorda Bay, Texas, between the Union gunboats, a company of the Thirteenth Maine regiment, and a large force of rebel cavalry and a rebel gunboat. The small party of Union troops, under General Herron, had landed with the object of cutting off the rebel pickets, but were attacked by the cavalry, who were driven off by the gunboats. The cavalry, aided by the rebel gunboat, subsequently attacked the Nationals, and caused them to vacate their position; but, this morning, a strong gale of wind drove the steamer ashore, and she was destroyed by fire.

—COLONEL McCHESNEY, commanding Pamlico Sub-District, N. C., while reconnoitring within six miles of Greenville, with about one hundred and forty men of the Twelfth New-York cavalry, First North-Carolina volunteers, and Twenty-third New-York artillery, was attacked by a superior force under Major Moore, who attempted to cut off his return to Washington. After a hand-to-hand conflict the enemy retired, leaving one lieutenant and five men dead, with one piece of Starr's fine battery, caisson, and horses. Darkness prevented further knowledge of the injury sustained by the rebels. The National loss was one killed, six slightly wound-

ed, one missing, and three horses disabled. Lieut. William K. Adams, of company L, First North-Carolina volunteers, a gallant and dashing officer, was killed while making a charge at the head of his command.

The Commanding General, Peck, thanked in general orders, Colonel McChesney, the officers, men, and guides, for this bold and successful affair.

December 31.—The following review of the year and situation, was published in the *Richmond Examiner* of this day:

"To-day closes the gloomiest year of our struggle. No sanguine hope of intervention buoys up the spirits of the confederate public as at the end of 1861. No brilliant victory like that of Fredericksburgh encourages us to look forward to a speedy and successful termination of the war, as in the last weeks of 1862. Meade has been foiled, and Longstreet has had a partial success in Tennessee; but Meade's advance was hardly meant in earnest, and Bean's Station is a poor set-off to the loss of the gallant men who fell in the murderous assault on Knoxville. Another daring Yankee raid has been carried out with comparative impunity to the invaders, and timorous capitalists may well pause before they nibble at eligible investments in real estate situated far in the interior. That interior has been fearfully narrowed by the Federal march through Tennessee, and owing to the deficiencies of our cavalry service, Lincoln's squadrons of horse threaten to be as universal a terror, as pervasive a nuisance, as his squadrons of gun-boats were some months since. The advantages gained at Chancellorsville and Chickamauga have had heavy counterpoises. The one victory led to the fall of Jackson and the deposition of Hooker, the other led first to nothing and then to the indelible disgrace of Lookout Mountain. The Confederacy has been cut in twain along the line of the Mississippi, and our enemies are steadily pushing forward their plans for bisecting the eastern moiety. No wonder, then, that the annual advent of the reign of mud is hailed by all classes with a sense of relief—by those who think and feel aright, as a precious season to prepare for trying another fall with our potent adversary.

"Meanwhile the financial chaos is becoming wilder and wilder. Hoarders keep a more resolute grasp than ever on the necessities of life. Non-producers, who are at the same time non-speculators, are suffering more and more. What

was once competence has become poverty, poverty has become penury, penury is lapsing into pauperism. Any mechanical occupation is more profitable than the most intellectual profession; the most accomplished scholars in the Confederacy would be glad to barter their services for food and raiment; and in the complete upturning of our social relations, the only happy people are those who have black hearts or black skins. The cry of scarcity resounds through the land, raised by the producers in their greed for gain, echoed by consumers in their premature dread of starvation and nakedness. We are all in the dark, and men are more or less cowards in the dark. We do not know what our resources are, and no one can tell us whether we shall have a pound of beef to eat at the end of 1864, or a square inch of leather to patch the last shoe in the Confederacy. Unreasoning confidence has been succeeded by depression as unreasoning, and the Yankees are congratulating themselves on the result, which they hawk about as the 'beginning of the end.'

"Theologians will tell us that the disasters of the closing year are the punishment of our sins. This is true enough; but a cheap penitence will not save us from the evil consequences. There is no forgiveness for political sins, and the results will as certainly follow as if there had been no repentance. As all sins are, in a higher sense, intellectual blunders, we must strain every fibre of the brain and every sinew of the will if we wish to repair the mischief which our folly and our corruption have wrought. The universal recognition of this imperative duty is a more certain earnest of our success than the high spirits of our men in the field, or the indomitable patriotism of our women at home, from which newspaper correspondents derive so much comfort. The incompetence and unfaithfulness of government officials have had much to do with the present sad state of affairs, but the responsibility does not end there; the guilt does not rest there alone. Every man who has suffered himself to be tainted with the scab of speculation has done something to injure the credit of confederate securities; every man who has withheld any necessary of life has done his worst to ruin the country; every one, man or woman, who has yielded to the solicitations of vanity or appetite, and refused to submit to any privation, however slight, which an expenditure, however great, could prevent, has contributed to the general de-

moralization. It may be said that, with the present plethora of paper money, such virtue as we demand is not to be expected of any people made up of merely human beings. But some such virtue is necessary for any people whose duty it has become to wage such a contest as ours; and if the virtue is not spontaneous, it must be engrafted by the painful process through which we are now passing. We cannot go through this fiery furnace without the smell of fire on our garments. We can no more avoid the loss of property than we can the shedding of blood. There is no family in the Confederacy that has not to mourn the fall of some member or some connection, and there is no family in the Confederacy which ought to expect to escape scathless in estate. The attempt is as useless, in most cases, as it is ignoble in all. A few, and but few, in comparison with the whole number, may come out richer than when they went in; but even they must make up their minds to sacrifice a part, and a large part, in order to preserve the whole. The saying of the stoic philosopher, 'You can't have something for nothing,' though it sounds like a truism, in fact, conveys a moral lesson of great significance. Men must pay for privileges. If they do not pay voluntarily, their neighbors will make them pay, and that heavily. Had those who employed substitutes to take their places in the army refrained as a class from speculation and extortion, they would not now be lamenting the prospect of a speedy furtherance to the camp of instruction. However just their cause, the manner in which too many of them abused the immunity acquired by money has deprived them of all active sympathy.

"We all have a heavy score to pay, and we know it. This may depress us, but our enemies need not be jubilant at our depression, for we are determined to meet our liabilities. Whatever number of men, or whatever amount of money shall be really wanting will be forthcoming. Whatever economy the straightening of our resources may require, we shall learn to exercise. We could only wish that Congress was not in such a feverish mood, and that the government would do something toward the establishment of a statistical bureau, or some other agency, by which we could approximately ascertain what we have to contribute, and to what extent we must husband our resources. Wise, cool, decided, prompt action would put us in good condition for the spring campaign of 1864, and the close of

next year would furnish a more agreeable retrospect than the *annus mirabilis* of blunders which we now consign to the dead past."—MAJOR-GENERAL BUTLER, from his headquarters at Fortress Monroe, Va., issued a general order, dismissing several officers of his command for intoxication.

—THE rebel steamer *Grey Jacket*, while attempting to run out of Mobile Bay, was captured by the Union gunboat *Kennebec*.—PRESIDENT LINCOLN approved the "additional instructions to the tax commissioners, for the district of South-Carolina, in relation to the disposition of lands."

—JEFFERSON DAVIS having approved the following rule, by virtue of authority vested in him by the confederate Congress, the rebel Secretary of State gave notice thereof:

"No passport will be issued from the department of state, during the pending war, to any male citizen, unless the applicant produce, and file in the department, a certificate, from the proper military authorities, that he is not liable to duty in the army."

JANUARY 1, 1864.

—A DETACHMENT of seventy-five men, composed of a proportionate number from each of four companies constituting Major Henry A. Cole's Maryland cavalry battalion, on a scout in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, Maryland, were suddenly encountered, at a point near Rectortown, by a force of rebel cavalry, belonging to the brigade under the command of General Rosser. After fighting gallantly and until fifty-seven out of their number (seventy-five) were either killed or captured, the remaining eighteen made their way in safety to camp. Several of those who escaped found their feet frozen when they reached camp.

—COLONEL WILLIAM S. HAWKINS, of the "Hawkins Scouts," a leader in the scouting service of the rebel forces under General Bragg, was captured at the house of a Mr. Mayberry, on Lick Creek, Kentucky, by Sergeant Brewer, of Major Breathitt's battalion of Kentucky cavalry.—AT Memphis, Tennessee, the thermometer stood at ten degrees below zero, and at Cairo, Illinois, at sixteen degrees below. A number of soldiers were frozen to death at Island No. 10.—THE *Richmond Whig*, in an article setting forth the condition of military and naval affairs at the South, concluded its remarks as follows: "Thus



Gen. A. P. Hill.

GEN. A. P. HILL.

we find we have an army poorly clad, scantily fed, indifferently equipped, badly mounted, with insufficient trains, and with barely enough ammunition. To remedy the evil, we are going to double, and if possible, quadruple the number of men and horses, take away every efficient master from the agricultural districts, and leave the laborers, on whom both men and horses depend for existence, a prey to natural idleness, and with every inducement to revolt. If this be not judicial madness, the history of desperate measures adopted by feeble and afrighted councils does not present an example."

—ANDREW J. HAMILTON, Military Governor of Texas, issued an able address to the citizens of that State, setting forth their duties to themselves and their government.

January 3.—A large force of rebels, under General Sam Jones, made a descent upon a small body of Union troops stationed near Jonesville, Virginia, belonging to an Illinois regiment, commanded by Major Beers, and eighteen men of Neill's Ohio battery. A desperate resistance was made, continuing from seven A.M. to three P.M., when the Nationals surrendered. The rebels numbered four hundred men. They lost four killed and two wounded. —ADMIRAL LEE, in the United States gunboat *Fah Kee*, entered Lockwood's, Folly Inlet, about ten miles to the south of Wilmington, North-Carolina, hoisted out his boats, and examined the blockade-running steamer *Bendigo*, which was run ashore by the captain a week previous, to prevent her being captured by the blockaders. While making these examinations, the enemy's sharpshooters appeared and opened fire upon the boats' crews, which was returned by the *Fah Kee*'s guns, when a rebel battery opened fire and the boats returned to the ship.

The *Fah Kee* continued her fire until the *Bendigo* was well-riddled, but her battery was light, and in consequence of her draft of water and the shoals inside, had to be at long-range, and consequently not as destructive as was desired. Night coming on, the Admiral returned to the fleet.—*Official Report.*

—THE British ship *Silvanus*, while attempting to run the blockade at Doboy Sound, Georgia, was chased ashore by the National gunboat *Huron*.—TWENTY shells loaded with Greek fire, were thrown into the city of Charleston, South-Carolina, causing a considerable conflagration.

January 4.—General Gregg's cavalry division, under the command of Colonel Taylor, of the First Pennsylvania regiment, left the headquarters of the army of the Potomac, on the first instant, for the purpose of making a reconnoissance to Front Royal, taking on their horses three days' rations and forage. Owing to the condition of the roads the artillery attached to the division could proceed no farther than Warrenton. The command returned to-day, having travelled ninety miles during the three days' absence, and encountered severe deprivations in consequence of the intensely cold weather; but no enemy was discovered. Owing to the depth of the Shenandoah River, no attempt was made to cross it.

—A FIGHT occurred near Fort Sumner, New Mexico, in which the Union troops belonging to General Carlton's command, routed the Navajo Indians, killing forty and wounding twenty-five.

—FORTY Sioux Indians surrendered themselves to the Union forces, at Pembina, Dacotah Territory.—REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT sailed from the navy-yard at Brooklyn, New-York, in the flag-ship *Hartford* to assume command of the East Gulf squadron.—JOINT resolutions of thanks to General Robert E. Lee and the officers and soldiers under his command, by the rebel Congress.

January 5.—The Fourth Virginia rebel cavalry surprised an infantry picket belonging to the army of the Potomac, at a point near Eldorado, Culpeper County, Virginia, and captured three of their number.

January 6.—Major General Foster, from his headquarters at Knoxville, issued the following order: "All able-bodied colored men, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, within our lines, except those employed in the several staff departments, officers' servants, and those servants of loyal citizens who prefer remaining with their masters, will be sent forthwith to Knoxville, Loudon, or Kingston, Tennessee, to be enrolled under the direction of Brigadier-General Davis Tillson, Chief of Artillery, with a view to the formation of a regiment of artillery, to be composed of troops of African descent."

—By orders from General Foster, Brigadier-General O. B. Wilcox was assigned to the command of the district of Clinch, including the region between the Cumberland and Clinch Mountains, and extending from Big Creek Gap on the west, to the eastern line of the State of Tennessee, on the east.

January 7.—Madisonville, La., was entered and occupied by the National forces.—TWENTY shells were thrown into the city of Charleston, S. C., from the National batteries under the command of General Gillmore.—CALEB B. SMITH, Judge of the United States Court for the District of Indiana, and late Secretary of the Interior, died suddenly at Indianapolis.—THE rebel schooner John Scott, while attempting to escape from the harbor of Mobile, Ala., was captured by the Union gunboat Kennebec.

January 8.—David O. Dodd, charged with being a rebel spy, was executed this afternoon, in front of St. John's College, at Little Rock, Arkansas.—GENERAL JOHN MORGAN held a reception at Richmond, Va. Judge Moore, of Kentucky, in a speech on the occasion, spoke of the worth of General Morgan, and the great credit with which he had served his country. He was now receiving the grateful testimony of the mother of States. He said that Morgan and other Kentuckians who were battling for the liberties of the South, would not sheathe their swords until her liberty was achieved. Despite the thralldom in which Kentucky was held, the muster-rolls of the army showed that forty-nine thousand of her sons had joined their fortunes with ours, and this, despite the fact that the heel of the tyrant was on her neck. He knew the sentiment of the people there—they would be found with the South. The Yankees have desolated her homes and murdered her people. Kentucky never will join her fortunes with the Northern Government.—THE rebel blockade-runner Dare, while attempting to run into the harbor of Wilmington, N. C., was chased ashore and destroyed.—(Doc. 65.)

January 9.—To-day the noted guerrilla McCown and three of his men were captured by the Forrester New-York cavalry regiment, reconnoitring in the direction of Sperryville, Va.—A FIGHT took place in Mobile Bay, between the rebels in Fort Morgan and the National gunboats stationed on the blockade. On the discovery, this morning, of a steamer ashore under the guns of the Fort, all the gunboats of the fleet got under way; and, while some repaired to the flag-ship for instructions, the Octorara steamed in and opened fire on the rebel craft, which speedily drew a reply from the Fort. The rest of the fleet soon steamed in and took up their positions, when the fire became quite spirited. The rebel steamer was struck several times, and abandoned; but

she lay so near the Fort, it was impossible to get her out. Finding the efforts to set her on fire were fruitless, the fleet withdrew, after firing two hours.—A SQUAD of rebel cavalry entered Cleveland, Tenn., and conscripted every man able to perform service.

January 10.—General J. C. Sullivan sent the following to headquarters:

"Major Cole's camp at Loudon Heights, Va., was attacked this morning. He fought gallantly and drove the attacking party off. I send you his report:

"I have the honor to report that my camp was attacked this morning at about four o'clock, by Mosby and his command.

"After a brisk fight of about one hour, they were repulsed and driven from the camp. Our loss is two men killed and thirteen wounded. Among the latter is Captain Vernon, seriously, and Lieutenant Rivers, slightly.

"There are some missing, but it is impossible to give the exact number at present. The rebels left four dead in the camp—one captain, and one a lieutenant.

"They left three prisoners in our hands, two of them wounded, and one a lieutenant."—(Doc. 46.)

—THE United States bark Roebuck captured the rebel sloop Marie Louise while attempting to run out of Jupiter Inlet, Florida. She was of about eight tons register, and laden with three thousand pounds Sea Island cotton.—EIGHTEEN shells were thrown into the city of Charleston, S. C., from the National defences around that city.

January 11.—The United States bark Roebuck, off Jupiter Inlet, Florida, captured the English schooner Susan, while attempting to run the blockade. At the same time and place the United States steamer Honeysuckle captured the English schooner Fly, of Nassau.—THE blockade-running steamers Ranger and Vesta were beached and burned near Lockwood's, Folly Inlet, North-Carolina. Admiral Lee reported that the latter was the twenty-second blockade-runner destroyed within six months.—(Doc. 116.)

—THREE shells were thrown into the city of Charleston, S. C., from the National defences under the command of General Gillmore.—THE United States steamer Iron Age, attempting to tow off the blockade-runner Bendigo, which had been driven ashore near the batteries at the mouth of Cape Fear River, grounded, and owing

to her proximity to the rebel forts, was destroyed by fire.—*Official Reports.*

January 12.—A portion of Colonel McCook's cavalry attacked the Eighth and Eleventh Texas rebel regiments, at Mossy Creek, Tenn., and defeated them, killing fourteen and capturing forty-one of them.—CONTRIBUTIONS were made in Georgia to equip a new command for the rebel General John H. Morgan. Among the contributors was Governor Joseph E. Brown, who gave five hundred dollars.—*Richmond Whig.*

January 13.—THE rebel Congress, having passed a joint resolution of thanks to General Robert E. Lee, and his officers, Adjutant-General Cooper issued an order announcing the fact, with the following preface: "The President, having approved the following joint resolution of Congress, directs its announcement in general orders, expressive of his gratification at the tribute awarded the patriot officers and soldiers to whom it is addressed.

"For the military laggard, or him, who, in the pursuits of selfish and inglorious ease, forgets his country's need, no note of approbation is sounded. His infamy is his only security from oblivion. But, the heroic devotion of those, who, in defence of liberty and honor, have perilled all, while it confers in an approved conscience the best and highest reward, will also be cherished in perpetual remembrance by a grateful nation. Let this assurance stimulate the armies of the Confederacy everywhere to greater exertion and more resolute endurance, till, under the guidance of Heaven, the blessings of peace and freedom shall finally crown their efforts. Let all press forward in the road to independence, and for the security of the rights sealed to us in the blood of the first revolution. Honor and glory attend our success. Slavery and shame will attend our defeat."

—THE schooner *Two Sisters*, a tender to the United States flag-ship *San Jacinto*, captured, while trying to enter the Suwanee River, the British schooner *William*, from Nassau.—GENERAL BUTLER addressed a characteristic letter to the Perfectionists of the city of Norfolk, Va.—THE following report was made by Colonel James A. Mulligan, from his headquarters at New-Creek, Va.: "A soldier of ours, James A. Walker, company H, Second Maryland regiment, captured in the attack upon the train at the Moorfield and Alleghany Junction, on the third instant, by the enemy under General Fitz-Hugh Lee, escaped when

near Brocks's Gap, on the fifth instant, and reported to me this morning. He informs me that thirteen of the enemy were killed and twenty wounded, in the skirmish. He also states that there was present under the command of General Fitz-Hugh Lee, three companies of negro troops, cavalry, armed with carbines. They were not engaged in the attack, but stationed with the reserve. The guards, he reports, openly admitted to the prisoners that they were accompanied by negro soldiers, stating, however, that the North had shown the example."

January 14.—Major-General R. B. Vance, made a raid toward Terrisville, Tenn., and captured a train of twenty-three wagons. He was pursued by Colonel Palmer, who recaptured the wagons, and took one ambulance, loaded with medicines, one hundred and fifty saddle-horses and one hundred stand of arms. General Vance and his assistant adjutant-general and inspector-general are among the prisoners captured.—*General Grant's Report.*—(Doc. 52.)

—A ROUSE of about two hundred rebels made an attack on a party of National cavalry, stationed at Three Miles Station, near Bealton, Va., but were repulsed and driven off, after several desperate charges, leaving three dead and twelve wounded. The National casualties were two wounded, one severely.—THE official correspondence between the agents of exchange of prisoners of war, together with the report of Mr. Ould was made public.—THE body of a Union soldier was found hanging at Smith Mills, Va., with the following words placarded upon it: "Here hangs private Samuel Jones, of the Fifth Ohio regiment, hung by order of Major-General Pickett, in retaliation for private David Bright, of the Sixty-second Georgia regiment, hung December eighteenth, by order of Brigadier-General Wild."

—THE *Richmond Examiner* held the following language: "Surely British-protection patriots of the *Emerald Isle* here, have, we are credibly informed, recently shouldered their shillalahs, and cut stick for the land of Lincoln. Sundry others, too, born this side of the Potomac, have wended their way in the same direction,—all leaving their families behind them to sell rum or make breeches and other garments for the clothing bureau. When mothers and sisters, sweethearts and wives, thus intentionally, and by a cunning arrangement, left behind, present themselves at the clothing bureau for a job, they represent, with the most innocent faces imagin-

able, that their male protectors are in General Lee's army, and thus enlist sympathy, and sponge on the Confederacy. To poor females every kindness and aid should be extended as long as they and those belonging to them are true to us; but it is past enduring that able-bodied fellows should go North, and leave as a charge here people whom we are under no obligations to support, and who, by false representations, shut out the wives and other female relatives of gallant fellows, who are confronting our ruthless enemies."

—LIEUTENANT GATES, with a party of the Third Arkansas cavalry, made a reconnoissance near Clinton, Ark., and succeeded in capturing twelve prisoners, whom he surprised at Cadson's Cave. —THE blockade-runner schooner *Union*, with a cargo of cotton from the coast of Florida, arrived at Havana. She was chased by the United States gunboat *De Soto*.

January 15.—The United States schooner *Beauregard* captured, near Mosquito Inlet, the British schooner *Minnie*, of and from Nassau.

—"THE utmost nerve," said the *Richmond Whig*, "the firmest front, the most undaunted courage, will be required during the coming twelve months from all who are charged with the management of affairs in our country, or whose position gives them any influence in forming or guiding public sentiment." "Moral courage," says the *Wilmington Journal*, "the power to resist the approaches of despondency, and the faculty of communicating this power to others, will need greatly to be called into exercise; for we have reached that point in our revolution which is inevitably reached in all revolutions, when gloom and depression take the place of hope and enthusiasm—when despair is fatal and despondency is even more to be dreaded than defeat. In such a time we can understand the profound wisdom of the Roman Senate, in giving thanks to the general who had suffered the greatest disaster that ever overtook the Roman arms, 'because he had not despaired of the Republic.' There is a feeling, however, abroad in the land, that the great crisis of the war—the turning-point in our fate—is fast approaching. Whether a crisis be upon us or not, there can be in the mind of no man, who looks at the map of Georgia, and considers her geographical relations to the rest of the Confederacy, a single doubt that much of our future is involved in the result of the next spring campaign in Upper Georgia."

—THE Fifty-second regiment of Illinois volunteers, under the command of Colonel J. S. Wilcox, reenlisted for the war, returned to Chicago. —THE blockade-runner *Isabel* arrived at Havana. She ran the blockade at Mobile, and had a cargo of four hundred and eighty bales of cotton, and threw overboard one hundred and twenty-four bales off Tortugas, in a gale of wind.

January 16.—General Sturgis's cavalry, in pursuit of General Longstreet, reached Dandridge, Tenn., thirty miles east of Knoxville, and drove the rebel videttes out of the town.

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN, in a note to the proprietors of the *North-American Review*, said:

"The number for this month and year was duly received, and for which please accept my thanks. Of course, I am not the most impartial judge; yet, with due allowance for this, I venture to hope that the article, entitled 'The President's Policy,' will be of value to the country. I fear, I am not quite worthy of all which is therein kindly said of me personally.

"The sentence of twelve lines, commencing at the top of page 252, I could wish to be not exactly as it is. In what is there expressed, the writer has not correctly understood me. I have never had a theory that secession could absolve States or people from their obligations. Precisely the contrary is asserted in the inaugural address; and it was because of my belief in the continuance of these obligations, that I was puzzled for a time as to denying the legal rights of those citizens who remained individually innocent of treason or rebellion. But I mean no more now than to merely call attention to this point."*

January 17.—This morning the rebels made a desperate attack upon the Union lines near Dandridge, Tenn. They threw out no skirmishers, but pressed down upon the Nationals in

* The sentence referred to by Mr. Lincoln is as follows:

"Even so long ago as when Mr. Lincoln, not yet convinced of the danger and magnitude of the crisis, was endeavoring to persuade himself of Union majorities at the South, and to carry on a war that was half peace, in the hope of a peace that would have been all war—while he was still enforcing the fugitive slave law, under some theory that secession, however it might absolve States from their obligations, could not escheat them of their claims under the Constitution, and that slaveholders in rebellion had alone, among mortals, the privilege of having their cake and eating it at the same time—the enemies of free government were striving to persuade the people that the war was an abolition crusade. To rebel without reason was proclaimed as one of the rights of man, while it was carefully kept out of sight that to suppress rebellion is the first duty of government."

full force, seemingly determined to sweep them from the field. Observing their desperate determination, General Sturgis ordered Colonel D. M. McCook, who was in command of a division of Elliott's cavalry, to charge the enemy on horse. This order was obeyed most gallantly. The charge of this division turned the fortunes of the day, which, up to this time, had been decidedly against the Nationals. The First Wisconsin, which bore the brunt of the enemy's attack, lost sixty in killed and wounded. The Union loss in all did not exceed one hundred and fifty.—A FIRE occurred at Camp Butler, near Springfield, Ill., destroying the officers' quarters and quartermaster's stores. Captain Dimon and Lieutenant Bennett, of the Thirty-eighth Illinois cavalry, were burned to death, and two other lieutenants were badly injured.—THE bombardment of Charleston, S. C., by the forces under General Gillmore, was continued with great fury, several new Parrott guns having been opened on the city from Battery Gregg.

January 18.—At Flint Hill, Va., a party of fifteen rebels attacked the National pickets, but were driven off after a brief engagement.—THE rebel conscription law created great consternation and excitement in the western districts of North-Carolina, and public meetings were held to take into consideration a repudiation of the confederate government and a return to the Union. The Raleigh *Standard* openly defied the execution of the measures proposed, and said, if they prevail, "the people of North-Carolina will take their own affairs into their own hands, and will proceed, in Convention assembled, to vindicate their liberties and privileges."—IN the rebel Senate at Richmond, Va., a resolution was passed approving the action of the government with regard to the outlawry of General Butler, and the determination of the rebel authorities to hold no communication with him.—A PARTY of rebel guerrillas made their appearance on the bank of the river opposite Memphis, Tenn., but were driven off by a gunboat, without effecting any damage.—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FULLER, of the Third Arkansas cavalry, received the following from the major of his regiment, at Lewisburgh:

"Captain Hamilton has had a fight with a portion of Wells's command, and killed six, and wounded as many more. Hamilton lost six, and but one or two killed; the balance missing. The command opposing him were under Captain Thompson, numbering nearly one hundred. Hamilton killed Thompson, and brought his

horse, equipments, revolvers, and papers in with him. The rebels were dressed in Federal uniforms. Hamilton is here with me."—NEWMARKET, Tenn., was occupied by the rebels belonging to the forces under the command of General Longstreet.—THE rebel blockade-runner, A. D. Vance, was run ashore, under the guns of Fort Caswell, in attempting to enter the port of Wilmington, N. C.—THE steamer Laura, blockade-runner, was captured in St. Mark's Bay, Florida, by the United States steamer Stars and Stripes.

January 19.—This evening a party scouting for Colonel Williams, in command of the military post at Rossville, Ark., returned to camp, having captured in the Magazine Mountains, some fifteen miles east of the post, the county records of Vernon and Cedar Counties, Mo. The books and papers so captured and retained were worth one million dollars to those counties.—COLONEL CLAYTON attacked and routed Shelby's rebel force, twenty miles below Pine Bluff, Ark., on the Monticello Railroad. The fight lasted half an hour, when the enemy fled, pursued by Colonel Clayton, with his command, for two hours and a half. The rebels were driven seven miles. Shelby was badly beaten, and the rout was complete.

Shelby's force was estimated at eight hundred. Colonel Clayton marched sixty miles in twenty-four hours, and made fight and gained a victory.—AN unsuccessful attempt was made to burn the residence of Jefferson Davis, at Richmond, Va.—A SALE of confiscated estates took place at Beaufort, S. C.

January 20.—Correspondence showing the operations of Southern agents and individuals at the North, in the cotton trade, and making other revelations, were made public.—MAJOR HENRY H. COLE and the Maryland cavalry under his command, were officially praised for their gallantry in repelling the assault made upon his camp on Loudon Heights, on the tenth instant, by the rebel partisan, Mosby.—General Halleck's Letter.

—A SQUAD of men sent from Charleston, Mo., in pursuit of a band of guerrillas, killed the leader of the band and wounded two or three others. The remainder escaped to the swamp. Five prisoners were carried in, charged with harboring guerrillas.—THIRTY-TWO guerrillas were captured near Paris, Ky., and taken to Columbus.

January 21.—The advance of the cavalry belonging to the National forces, in their retreat

from Strawberry Plains, Tenn., reached Sevier-ville. Skirmishing was kept up all day between the National troops on one side of the Holston River, and the enemy on the other. The latter had a battery on College Hill, near Strawberry Plains, from which he played on the Nationals, while crossing the river. Comparatively little damage was done, the Union loss being not over a half-dozen wounded.—THE shelling of Charleston from Fort Putnam continued night and day, at intervals of ten minutes. One gun alone has fired over one thousand one hundred rounds, at an elevation of forty degrees.—ON account of the scarcity of grain in the department of the Ohio, and the factitious value given to it by the manufacture of whiskey, the distillation of that commodity was forbidden by Major-General Foster.—REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT, accompanied by his staff, arrived at New-Orleans.

January 22.—Skirmishing took place at Armstrong's Ferry, a point six miles above Knoxville, Tenn.—CAPTAIN GEORGE P. EDGAR was ordered to the headquarters of Major-General Butler to investigate into the condition of the poor of Norfolk, Va., and to organize a system for their relief.

January 23.—The *Nashville Union* of this date contained the following: "Indications that the next battle will occur in the vicinity of Knoxville accumulate. We yesterday conversed with several well-informed parties—two of them East-Tennessee refugees—and all the witnesses concur in the statement that every train from North-Virginia comes loaded with troops from Lee's army; and that these legions are immediately added to the force now under Longstreet. It is even believed by many that Lee himself, feeling the absolute necessity for the reoccupation of East-Tennessee, will leave his old command—or what will remain of it—and take charge of the campaign in the region of Knoxville. He and Jeff. Davis argue this way: If Tennessee is not repossessed, Richmond must be abandoned; if in reinforcing Longstreet's army the capital is lost, it must be regained, provided the assault on Grant is successful; and there is a chance that Meade, like some of his predecessors, may remain inactive, with but a small force confronting him, and in that event Knoxville may be retaken and Richmond saved.

"We only hope the rebels will make an early attack on Foster's command. Nothing would be more gratifying to those who understand the dis-

position and strength of our forces. Offensive operations on the part of Longstreet would insure the defeat and dispersion of his army, though all Lee's forces were with him. Upon this subject we speak from a thorough knowledge of the situation; and dared we publish the facts, the public would feel as much assured on that point as we do.

"General Grant left for the front night before last, and will be ready to personally superintend operations when commenced."

—A SMALL detachment of National cavalry belonging to the forces in pursuit of General Longstreet, made a dash into Cocke County, Tenn., capturing twenty-seven wagons loaded with bacon and flour, and eighty-five prisoners. They reported that Longstreet was stripping the country of provisions and compelling Union families to leave.—A VERY exciting debate occurred in the rebel Congress upon the act to increase the efficiency of the rebel army, by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain capacities.

—RESTRICTIONS upon trade with Missouri and Kentucky, with some exceptions, were annulled and abrogated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

—GENERAL WIET ADAMS, in command of a party of rebel cavalry, entered Gelsertown, near Natchez, Miss., and captured thirty-five prisoners, sixty wagons and teams, a lot of cotton going to Natchez, and about eighty negroes.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

January 24.—A cavalry detachment from Fort Smith made successful scout into Polk County, Arkansas. They passed through Caddo Gap and found the notorious Captain Williamson, with forty men, posted within log houses. The advance, under Lieutenant Williams, charged into the village and attacked the rebels, killing Williamson and five of his men, wounding two, and taking two lieutenants and twenty-five men prisoners.

The Union loss was one killed; Lieutenant Williams and a private were slightly wounded. All the arms in the place were destroyed. The distance travelled was one hundred and seventy-two miles.

January 25.—A body of rebels six hundred strong, attacked the National garrison of about one hundred, at Athens, Alabama, but were repulsed and routed after a fight of two hours. The Union loss was twenty; rebel loss more severe.—*Gen. Rawlins's Despatch.*



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MAJOR GENERAL E. R. S. CANBY.

—BRIGADIER-GENERAL GRAHAM, by direction of Major-General Butler, went with three armed transports and a competent force, to the Peninsula, made a landing on the James River, seven miles below Fort Powhatan—known as the Brandon Farms, and captured twenty-two of the enemy, seven of the signal corps, and brought away ninety-nine negroes.

They also destroyed twenty-four thousand pounds of pork and large quantities of oats and corn, and captured a sloop and schooner, and two hundred and forty boxes of tobacco, and five Jews preparing to run the blockade, and returned without the loss of a man.—*Gen. Butler's Despatch.*—(Doc. 57.)

—CORINTH, Miss., was evacuated by the National forces, and every thing of value in that section was transported to Memphis, Tenn.—THE bombardment of Charleston, South-Carolina, continued. The *Courier*, published in that city, said: "This is the one hundred and ninety-fourth day of the siege. The damage being done is extraordinarily small in comparison with the number of shots and weight of metal fired, and that creates general astonishment. The whizzing of shells overhead has become a matter of so little interest as to excite scarcely any attention from passers-by. We have heard of no casualties. Some of the shells have exploded, and pieces of the contents been picked up, which, on examination, have been found to be a number of small square slugs, held together by a composition of sulphur, and designed to scatter at the time of explosion."

—THE following special order was issued by General Butler, at Fortress Monroe: "That Mrs. Jennie Graves, of Norfolk, having a husband in the rebel States, and having taken the oath of allegiance on the second instant, as she says, to save her property; and also having declared her sympathies are with the South still, and that she hopes they will be successful, be sent through the lines and landed at City Point, so that she may be where her hopes and sympathies are." —MAJOR BURROUGHS, the guerrilla chief, was shot by the guard at Fortress Monroe, Va., while attempting to escape from the pest-house where he was under treatment for the small-pox.—HOSPITAL buildings at Camp Winder, near Richmond, Va., were destroyed by fire.

January 26.—General Palmer sent an expedition to capture a force of rebel cavalry in Jones and Onslow counties, North-Carolina. They

succeeded in routing the enemy, and captured twenty-three men with their horses and equipments. They also destroyed from one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred thousand pounds of pork, seventy bushels of salt, ten thousand barrels of tobacco, thirty-two barrels of beef, and captured a number of mules, horses, and other material.—*Gen. Butler's Despatch.*

—FOURTEEN men belonging to the Eightieth Indiana regiment, were captured, and two wounded, by a squad of rebel cavalry, within seven miles of Knoxville, Tenn., on the Tazewell road. The men were on a foraging expedition, and were picked up before they had any chance of offering much resistance.

January 27.—A party of rebel guerrillas made an attack on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad at Cameron, and after firing upon a train, fled. They were pursued by a squad of cavalry under the command of Lieutenant Jackson, and one of their number captured.—THE National cavalry under General Sturgis achieved a victory over the enemy's cavalry near Fair Gardens, about ten miles east of Sevierville, Tenn. General McCook's division drove the enemy back about two miles, after a stubborn fight, lasting from daylight to four p.m., at which time the division charged with the sabre and a yell, and routed the enemy from the field, capturing two steel rifled guns and over one hundred prisoners. The enemy's loss was considerable, sixty-five of them being killed or wounded in the charge. Generals Garrard and Wolford's divisions came up, after a forced march, in time to be pushed in pursuit, although their horses were jaded.—*Gen. Rawlins's Report.*

—GENERAL PALMER, with General Davis's division, moved toward Tunnel Hill, Georgia, on a reconnoissance. The Twenty-eighth Kentucky and the Fourth Michigan drove in the rebel advance pickets and captured a company of rebel cavalry. The rebels retreated from Tunnel Hill during the night. They lost thirty-two killed and wounded. The Union casualties were two wounded. The object of the reconnoissance was effected.

—THE following report was sent by General Thomas, from his headquarters at Chattanooga, to the National war department: "Colonel Boone, with a force of four hundred and fifty men, Twenty-eighth Kentucky mounted infantry, and Fourth Michigan cavalry, left Rossville January twenty-

first, moved through McLamore's caves, crossed Lookout Mountain into Brown-ton Valley; thence across Taylor's Ridge to eight miles beyond Deertown, toward Ashton, attacked camp of home guards, Colonel Culbertson, commanding, routed them, destroying camp, considerable number of arms, and other property, and retired to camp without any casualties in his force. Friday, twenty-second January, sent flag of truce under Colonel Burke, with Ohio infantry, with rebel surgeons and a proposition to exchange our wounded at Atlanta for rebel wounded here.

"A despatch from Colonel H. B. Miller, Seventy-second Indiana, commanding division, Bluewater, twenty-sixth, *via* Pulaski, twenty-seventh, says Johnston's brigade of Roddy's command crossed Tennessee River at Bainbridge, three miles, and Newport ferry, six miles below Florence, intending to make a junction with a brigade of infantry who were expected to cross the river at Laub's and Brown's ferry, thence proceed to Athens and capture our forces; then we engaged them near Florence; routed them, killing fifteen, wounding quite a number, and taking them prisoners, among them three commissioned officers. Our loss, ten wounded."

—LIEUTENANT A. L. CADY, of the Twenty-fourth New-York battery, proceeded with his command to Tyrrel County, North-Carolina, and captured five men who had been engaged in a number of robberies and murders; also, two rebel officers, and returned to headquarters with one thousand sheep.

—A PARTY of rebel cavalry made a dash on the lines of Colonel Chapin's brigade, on guard-duty five miles above Knoxville, Tenn., on the Scott's Mill road. Their pickets being captured, the camps of the Thirteenth Kentucky and Twenty-third Michigan were completely surprised, and five men of the former and seven of the latter were taken prisoners, one being mortally wounded. Immediately on being advised of the attack on these two regiments, Colonel Chapin sent the One Hundred and Eleventh Ohio and One Hundred and Seventh Illinois to their relief, and the rebels were put to flight, leaving in their track a number of blankets and small-arms.

—BRIGADIER-GENERAL CARTER, Provost-Marshal General at Knoxville, Tenn., sent the following letter to Rev. W. A. Harrison: "On account of your persistent disloyalty to the Government of the United States, it has been decided to send you and your family South, within the rebel lines.

You are hereby notified to be at the railroad dépot in time for the morning train, on Saturday next, with all your family, prepared to leave permanently. As baggage, you will be permitted to take your wearing apparel and the necessary blankets. You can also take three or four days' provisions with you."—THE steamer Freestone, while at Carson's Landing, on the Mississippi, fifteen miles above the White River, was attacked by guerrillas, who were driven off without inflicting any serious damage on the boat.

—IN the rebel Congress, Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back the following joint resolutions of thanks to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress are eminently due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to General G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command, for their gallantry and successful defence of the city of Charleston, S. C.—a defence which, for the skill, heroism, and tenacity displayed by the defenders during an attack scarcely paralleled in warfare, whether we consider the persistent efforts of the enemy, or his boundless resources in the most improved and formidable artillery and the most powerful engines of war hitherto known, is justly entitled to be pronounced "glorious" by impartial history and an admiring country.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate the foregoing resolutions to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command.

January 28.—THE National forces under the command of Colonel Phillips drove the rebel General Roddy to the south side of the Tennessee River and captured all his trains, consisting of over twenty mule teams, two hundred head of cattle, six hundred head of sheep, and about one hundred head of horses and mules, and destroyed a factory and mill which had largely supplied the Southern armies.—*General Dodge's Report.*

—THIS morning, two forage-wagons and some men of the Eighty-first Ohio, near Sam's Mills, a distance of about nine miles from Pulaski, Tenn., were captured by a party of rebels. The wagons were going for forage with a small guard, and when they reached a brick church on the Shelbyville pike, two or three miles from the mills, they were attacked by thirty confederate cavalry, and captured. The two wagons were burned, the mules,

arms, and equipments and the men were hurried off. A mounted force from Major Evans's command was sent in pursuit, but without overtaking them. Private Mills, of company G, was wounded and left by the rebels. Five men of company G and three of company K were captured.

—THE British steamer *Rosetta*, from Havana for Mobile, was captured at a point west of the Tortugas, by the steamer *Metropolis*.—SCOTTSVILLE, Ky., was entered and plundered by a body of rebels under the command of Colonel Hamilton.

—BRIG.-GEN. J. C. SULLIVAN, from his headquarters at Harper's Ferry, Va., issued the following general orders: "It appearing that the leaders of the rebellion against the Government of the United States have passed laws conscripting all males between certain ages, and have appointed agents to enforce such conscript laws; and such agents having made their appearance in the counties of Berkeley, Jefferson, Clarke, and Loudon, counties not occupied by or under the control of insurgent troops; and believing that a large portion of the citizens of these counties are anxious to remain at home, and to preserve their faith and allegiance to the Federal Government, and to receive the protection which is due them; and knowing that the poorer class of citizens of these counties have been hostile to the usurpation of the rebel authorities, and have been compelled by them to shoulder the musket, while the rich man's sons have worn the sword, notice is hereby given to the inhabitants of said counties: *That*, upon representation being made to these headquarters by any person of the conscripting and forcing into the rebel ranks of father, husband, brothers, or sons, the nearest and most prominent secessionist will be arrested and imprisoned and held until the return of such conscript."

January 29.—Last night a train of about eighty wagons was sent out from New-Creek, heavily laden with commissary stores for the garrison at Petersburg, West-Virginia, and accompanying the train was an escort of about eight hundred men, being detachments from the Twenty-third Illinois, (Irish brigade,) Fourth Virginia cavalry, Second Maryland, First and Fourteenth Virginia infantry, and one hundred of the Ringgold Cavalry battalion, the whole under command of Colonel J. W. Snyder.

Nothing unusual occurred until the train got about three miles south of Williamsport to-day, when it was suddenly set upon at different points by open and concealed forces of the rebels. Al-

though somewhat surprised by the suddenness of the attack, the guard at once formed and deployed for action. Then it was that a hard fight ensued, commencing at three o'clock in the afternoon and lasting for over four hours, at the expiration of which time it was found that the Nationals had lost about eighty in killed and wounded. The enemy's loss was about one hundred.

In the early part of the fight the rebels opened fire from four pieces of artillery. The superiority of their strength—there being in all about two thousand men—also gave them the advantage in outflanking movements, and they exercised their ingenuity simultaneously to operate on the front, rear, and flanks of Colonel Snyder's command. They, however, completely failed of their object, which seemed to be to try to surround, and, if possible, capture the whole party. Several times the rebel lines were broken, and several times the rebel charges were repulsed. At last, as night closed, the superior numbers of rebels gained them a success.

—COLONEL JOURDAN, commanding the sub-district of Beaufort, made a dash into Jones and Onslow counties, N. C., for the purpose of surprising and capturing detachments of cavalry near Swansboro and Jacksonville. He returned to Morehead City this day, having been entirely successful, the expedition being a complete surprise to the rebels. He captured about thirty prisoners, (cavalry,) including one lieutenant, a large number of horses, arms, and equipments, and destroyed a large quantity of ammunition and other property. His command consisted of detachments of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth New-York, Ninth Vermont, Twelfth and Mix's cavalry—in all, about three hundred men. They marched one hundred miles in about fifty hours, meeting with no loss whatever.

—THE Twenty-first Missouri regiment, in command of Major Moore, left Memphis yesterday, on board the steamer *Sir William Wallace*, and to-day, while passing the foot of Islands Nos. 70 and 71, the boat was fired upon from the Mississippi shore by a large party of guerrillas, who were lying in ambush at a place where boats had to run close to shore. There were from fifty to one hundred shots fired in the space of about ten minutes, resulting in killing one man and wounding six others.

—LAST night Colonel Thoburn, in command of the National garrison at Petersburg, West-Virginia, evacuated that post in consequence of re-

ceiving information that the enemy in large force would attack him in the morning. The enemy did attack Petersburg this morning with artillery. They made regular approaches, and finally charged, but found no opposing force. Colonel Thoburn was within hearing with his retreating column.

—A PARTY of seven men belonging to the steamer Southwester were sent ashore at Bolivar Landing, Tenn., on a foraging expedition, taking with them nine mules and horses and wagons. They had scarcely got out of sight when they were set upon and surrounded by nine guerrillas, who leaped from the bushes with shouts to surrender. This they did. The animals were cut from the wagons, and the prisoners ordered to mount, when they were taken to the interior.

January 30.—This morning a reconnoitring force that had been sent out from Colonel Campbell's command, returned to headquarters of his department of West-Virginia, after having gone to Romney. There they divided into three columns, one going out on the Winchester road thirty miles, the other down the Grassy Lick road to the vicinity of Wardensville, and the third on the old Moorfield road. None of these columns met with serious opposition on their advance. The information which they gained proved to be of high importance.—A PARTY of Southern sympathizers were banished from Knoxville, Tenn.

—MAJOR-GENERAL ROSECRANS, at his headquarters in St. Louis, Mo., issued the following address: "In relieving General Schofield, who, in assuming the arduous duties connected with this command, relinquished high prospects of a brilliant career as commander of Thomas's old division in the then opening campaign of the army of the Cumberland, I tender him my compliments for the admirable order in which I have found the official business and archives of this department, and my best wishes, as well as hopes, that in this new field of duty he may reap that success which his solid merits, good sense, and honest devotion to his duty and his country so well deserve.

"While commanding here, I sincerely trust I shall receive the honest, firm, and united support of all true National and Union men of this department, without regard to politics, creed, or party, in my endeavors to maintain law and re-establish peace and secure prosperity throughout its limits. The past should be remembered only for the lessons it teaches, while our energies should

be directed to the problem of assuring our future, based firmly on the grandeur of our position, and on the true principle of humanity and progress to universal freedom, secured by just laws."

January 31.—Warsaw, N. C., was destroyed by fire.—GOVERNOR R. H. GAMBLE died at St. Louis, Missouri. •

February 1.—President Lincoln issued an order for a draft of five hundred thousand men, to serve three years or during the war.—(Doc. 72.)

—A FIGHT took place late this afternoon in the New-Creek Valley, Va., between an advancing column of the enemy's troops and one column of Nationals. After a sharp engagement the rebels were repulsed and driven back over two miles.—A FIGHT took place at Bachelor's Creek, N. C., between a large force of rebels under the command of Generals Pickett and Hoke, and the Union forces under General J. W. Palmer, resulting in the retreat of the latter with considerable loss in men and material.—(Doc. 69.)

—THE blockade-running steamer Wild Dayrell was chased ashore and burned, near Stump Inlet, N. C., by the National gunboat Sassacus, under the command of Lieutenant Commander F. A. Roe.—*Admiral Lee's Report.*

February 2.—The United States steamer Underwriter, lying at anchor in the Neuse River, N. C., was surprised and destroyed by a party of rebels, who belonged to the forces on the expedition against Newbern.—*Admiral Lee's Report.*

—ONE hundred and twenty-nine deserters from the rebel army under the command of General Johnston, who had effected their escape during his late movement, entered the provost-marshal's office at Chattanooga, and took the oath of allegiance to the United States.—THIS morning eleven prisoners and ten horses, belonging principally to the Sixth Virginia cavalry, were captured near Blue Ridge, in the vicinity of Thornton's Gap, Va.—THE British steamer Presto, in attempting to run into Charleston Harbor, ran ashore off Sullivan's Island, where she was destroyed by the National fleet.

February 3.—Major-General W. T. Sherman, with the Sixteenth army corps, under the command of Major-General Hurlbut, and the Seventeenth army corps, commanded by General McPherson, left Vicksburgh upon an expedition through Mississippi.—(Doc. 192.)

—THE guard of one company of infantry posted at Patterson Creek Bridge, eight miles east of

Cumberland, Va., was attacked at half-past one P.M. yesterday, by five hundred rebel cavalry, under General Rosser, and after a spirited resistance, in which two were killed and ten wounded, the greater part of the company were captured. This accomplished, the rebels set fire to the bridge, and leaving it to destruction, started off with their prisoners in the direction of Romney. The *employés* of the railroad succeeded in staying the fire, and saved the bridge, with only slight damage. General Averill, with his command of nearly two thousand cavalry, and who had been sent out from Martinsburgh by General Kelley, this morning overtook the rebels near Springfield, and a severe engagement ensued. The rebels were driven through Springfield, and thence to and south of Burlington. Many of the rebels were killed and wounded, and the Union captures were large, including the recovery of the men yesterday taken at Patterson's Creek, and many horses. The enemy retreated rapidly to the back country, hotly pursued by the cavalry.—A fight took place at Sartatia, Miss., between a body of rebels numbering about three thousand, under General Ross, and the National gunboats, on an expedition up the Yazoo River to cooperate with General Sherman.—(*Docs. 123 and 124.*)

February 4.—The British steamer Nutfield, from Bermuda to Wilmington, N. C., was chased ashore and destroyed near New-River Inlet, N. C., by the National war steamer Sassacus.—*Admiral Lee's Report.*

February 5.—The Fourteenth Illinois cavalry, commanded by Major Davis, which had been out on an expedition from Knoxville, Tenn., reported at headquarters, after having performed one of the most daring raids of the war. Evading the enemy's cavalry, the force dashed round into Jackson County, North-Carolina, surprised the camp of Thomas's celebrated Indian Legion, capturing fifty of those outlaws—among whom were three lieutenants and an Indian doctor—besides killing and wounding a large number. Thomas, himself, with a remnant of his band escaped. Before the war he was the United States agent for the Cherokees of East-Tennessee and North-Carolina, a position which gave him great influence with the savages.

The Union loss in the fight was three killed—among whom was Lieutenant Capran, son of the colonel who first commanded the regiment—and

five wounded. A detachment of the Forty-ninth Ohio were sent to bring in the prisoners.

—DAY before yesterday a scouting-party sent out from Cape Girardeau, Mo., by Colonel J. B. Rogers, under command of Captain Shelby, Second regiment of cavalry, M. S. M., attacked a large band of guerrillas under the noted chief, John F. Bolin, killed seven, and captured eight men, thirteen horses, and fifteen wagons loaded with corn. Bolin was captured and confined in the guard-house at that post.

At a late hour to-night he was forcibly taken by the enraged soldiers and citizens from the custody of the guard, and hung. No intimation of the act reached the officers until the deed was perpetrated. The officers did all in their power to suppress the violation of the law, but to no avail. Bolin made the following confession before his execution:

"I was at Round Pond; there were eight men killed; two by Nathan Bolin and one by John Wright. They were killed with handspikes. I emptied one revolver. At Round Point I shot one man; at Dallas I wounded another. I captured eight men on Hickory Ridge; I told them I was going to shoot them, but their soldiers recaptured them before I could do so. I have killed six or seven men; I killed my cousin; I ordered him to halt—he would not, and I shot him down."

—GOVERNOR YATES, of Illinois, issued a proclamation, saying that that State, under every call, had exceeded her quota, and was not, on the first of January or at any other time, subject to a draft.

—DAY before yesterday, an expedition, under command of Colonel Jourdan, left Newport, N. C., for the White River, for the purpose of making a reconnoissance. The command was made up of Vermont and New-York troops, and a part of the Second North-Carolina regiment, who rendered efficient service as guides. Last evening they came upon a body of cavalry about five miles from Young's Cross-Roads, and captured the entire party, numbering twenty-eight men and thirty horses, with their arms and equipments. A quantity of corn was also captured and brought in. The command returned to Newport this day, without losing a man.

—THE steamer Emma was fired into at a point fifteen miles below Helena, Ark., with cannon and musketry. The shells were filled with Greek fire, three of which exploded in various parts of

her, setting her on fire, but the flames were extinguished.—THE bombardment of Fort Sumter was continued; ~~eighty-six shots were fired at~~ between the two governments; nevertheless that the confederate States may stand justified in the sight of the conservative men of the North of all

pressly of the preservation of amicable relations! Cannon were being hauled through the streets.



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MAJOR GENERAL D. M. COUCH.

her, setting her on fire, but the flames were extinguished.—THE bombardment of Fort Sumter was continued; eighty-six shots were fired at the city of Charleston during the day.

February 6.—The English steamer *Dee* was discovered ashore and on fire, at a point one mile south of Masonboro Inlet, N. C., by the National gunboat *Cambridge*. Finding it impossible to extinguish the flames or get her off, Commander Spicer, of the *Cambridge*, abandoned the attempt, and still further destroyed her by firing into her.—*Admiral Lee's Report.*

—THE Sixteenth army corps, General Hurlbut, and Seventeenth corps, General McPherson, under orders of Major-General Sherman, entered Jackson, Miss., the enemy offering but little resistance.—(*Doc. 122.*)

—A PARTY of Yankees went to Windsor, in Bertie County, N. C., in boats, while another party landed on the Roanoke River, eight miles below, and marched on the town, where they made a junction with those that went up in boats. They burned up some meat, destroyed some salt, and carried off the Rev. Cyrus Walters, of the Episcopal Church, and several others. They attacked Captain Bowers's camp, and routed the small force there; but, Captain Bowers being reinforced with a small body of cavalry, after some sharp fighting, the Yankees retired.—*Raleigh Confederate.*

—A DETACHMENT of the Seventh Indiana entered the town of Bolivar, Tenn., under the impression that the place was still occupied by the Federal troops. Much to their surprise, they found a regiment and a half of rebels in possession. They were in the town, and demanded what troops they were. The reply was, Mississippi. The Indianans, with the shout, "Remember Jeff Davis!" made a furious attack upon the astonished and disconcerted rebels, and drove them out of Bolivar in the utmost confusion, killing, wounding, and capturing about thirty. The Union loss was one killed and three wounded.

—IN the rebel Congress, the following resolution was introduced this day: "Whereas, The President of the United States, in a late public communication, did declare that no propositions for peace had been made to that Government by the confederate States, when in truth such propositions were prevented from being made by the President, in that he refused to hear or even to receive two commissioners appointed to treat expressly of the preservation of amicable relations

between the two governments; nevertheless that the confederate States may stand justified in the sight of the conservative men of the North of all parties, and that the world may know which of the two governments it is that urges on a war unparalleled for fierceness of conflict, and intensifying into a sectional hate unsurpassed in the annals of mankind; therefore,

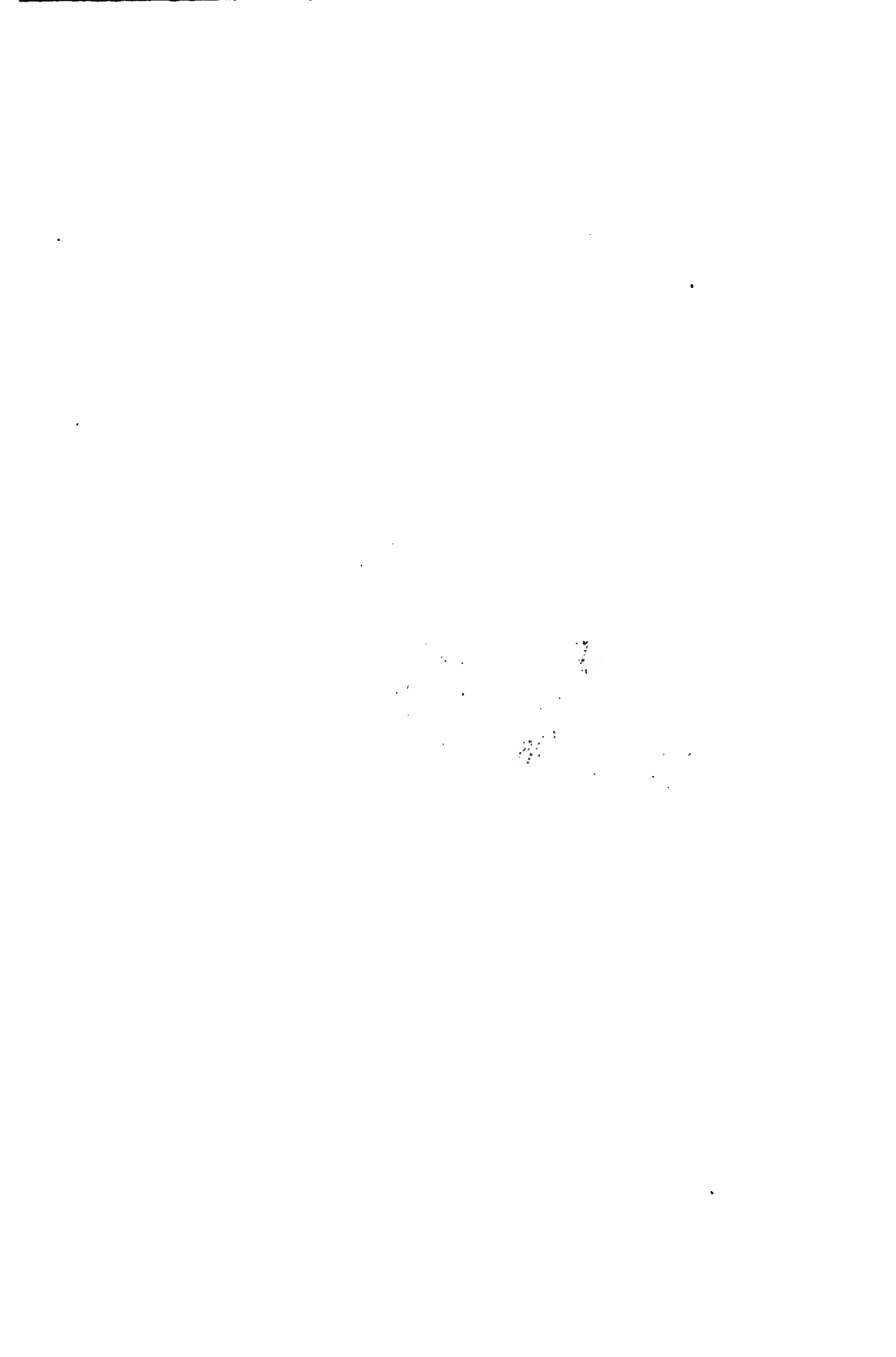
Resolved, That the confederate States invite the United States through their government at Washington, to meet them by representatives equal to their representatives and senators in their respective congresses —, on the day of —, next —, to consider, first, whether they cannot agree upon a recognition of the confederate States of America. Second, in the event of declining such a recognition, whether they cannot agree upon the formation of a new government, founded upon the equality and sovereignty of the States; but if this cannot be done, to consider, third, whether they cannot agree upon treaties offensive, defensive, and commercial.

February 7.—The reconnoissance which was sent out from the army of the Potomac on Friday night and yesterday morning, returned to-day, having ascertained the rebels' exact position and probable strength. The Second corps (General Warren's) took to Morton's Ford at seven A.M., yesterday, under Generals Caldwell, Webb, and Hayes. General Alexander Hayes, commanding the Third division, led the advance in person, fording the river waist-deep, on foot, at the head of General J. T. Owen's brigade. The rebel sharpshooters, in rifle-pits, on the other side, kept up a galling fire, while a battery stationed on the hills to the right, and a mile beyond the ford, hotly shelled the advancing column. On reaching the south bank of the Rapidan, a charge was made on the rebel rifle-pits, and twenty-eight men and an officer captured. Much skirmishing ensued, and at midnight Warren recrossed his troops.—(*Doc. 104.*)

—GREAT excitement and consternation existed in Richmond, Va., on account of the approach of General Butler's forces upon that place. Last night the bells of the city were rung, and men were rushing through the streets, crying: "To arms, to arms! the Yankees are coming!" During the remainder of the night there was an intense commotion everywhere visible. The Home Guard was called out, and the tramp of armed men could be heard in all directions. Cannon were being hauled through the streets.



W. R. H. H. H. H. H.



women and children were hurrying to and fro, and there was all the evidence of such a panic as had never before been witnessed in Richmond.

This morning there was no abatement in the excitement. The guards were all marched out of the city to the defences, and the armed citizens placed on guard over the prisoners. Horsemen were dashing to and fro, and the excitement among the prisoners to know the cause of all this commotion became intense. It was soon learned that a large cavalry and infantry force, with artillery, had made their appearance on the peninsula at Bottom's Bridge, within ten miles of the city, a point so famous in McClellan's peninsula campaign, and that Richmond was actually threatened by the Yankees. The same hurrying of troops, arming of citizens, and excitement among the women and children continued during the morning. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the alarm-bells were again rung with great fury. The rumors that prevailed were conflicting and wild, and it was the impression that eight or ten thousand cavalry would have found but little difficulty in entering the city, liberating the prisoners, destroying the forts and public property, and retiring by the peninsula before any sufficient force to resist them could be brought to the aid of the small garrison left to defend it.—A fight took place at Vidalia, La.—(*Doc. 76.*)

February 8.—The expedition sent by General Butler, with the object of making a sudden dash into Richmond, Va., and releasing the Union prisoners confined there, returned, having been unsuccessful. The following are the facts of the affair: On Saturday morning, February sixth, General Butler's forces, under command of Brigadier-General Wistar, marched from Yorktown by the way of New-Kent Court-House. The cavalry arrived at half-past two o'clock yesterday morning at Bottom's Bridge, across the Chickahominy, ten miles from Richmond, for the purpose of making a raid into Richmond, and endeavoring, by a surprise, to liberate the prisoners there.

The cavalry reached the bridge at the time appointed, marching, in sixteen hours and a half, forty-seven miles. A force of infantry followed in their rear, for the purpose of supporting them. It was expected to surprise the enemy at Bottom's Bridge, who had had for some time only a small picket there. The surprise failed, because, as the Richmond *Examiner* of to-day says, "a

Yankee deserter gave information in Richmond of the intended movement." The enemy had felled a large amount of timber, so as to block up and obstruct the roads and make it impossible for our cavalry to pass. After remaining at the bridge from two o'clock until twelve, General Wistar joined them with his infantry, and the whole object of the surprise having been defeated, they all returned to Williamsburgh. On his march back to New-Kent Court-House, his rear was attacked by the enemy, but they were repulsed without loss. A march by the Union infantry, three regiments of whom were colored, of more than eighty miles, was made in fifty-six hours. The cavalry marched over one hundred miles in fifty hours.

—THE office of the newspaper *Constitution and Union*, at Fairfield, Iowa, edited by David Sheward, was visited by company E, Second Iowa, to-day. The type and paper were thrown out of the windows, and subscription-books destroyed.

—GENERAL FOSTER telegraphed from Knoxville, under date of yesterday, that an expedition sent against Thomas and his band of Indians and whites, at Quallatown, N. C., had returned completely successful. They surprised the town, killed and wounded two hundred and fifteen, took fifty prisoners, and dispersed the remainder of the gang in the mountains. The Union loss was two killed and six wounded.—*General Grant's Despatch.*

February 9.—Jefferson Davis approved the bill, passed in secret session of the rebel congress, to prohibit the exportation of cotton, tobacco, naval and military stores, molasses, sugar or rice; also one to prohibit the importation of luxuries into the confederate States.—COLONEL A. D. STRAIGHT, and one hundred and eight other National officers, escaped from Libby Prison, at Richmond, Va. Forty-eight of these were recaptured by the rebels, and returned to prison.

February 10.—The English steamers *Fannie* and *Jennie*, and the *Emily*, were destroyed near Masonboro Inlet, N. C., by the National gunboat *Florida*, commanded by Pierce Crosby. The *Fannie* and *Jennie* was the old prize *Scotia*, captured in 1862, and condemned, not being considered suitable for naval purposes. She was commanded by the celebrated blockade-runner Captain Coxetter, who was drowned while attempting to escape.—*Commander Crosby's Report.*

—THE Richmond *Enquirer*, of this date, contained an editorial, denouncing the Virginia Legislature, for attempting to interfere with the state and war matters of the rebel government, by the passage of an act, requesting Jeff Davis to remove the act of outlawry against General Butler, in order to facilitate the exchange of prisoners.

—MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE, in a speech at Philadelphia, in response to an address of welcome by Mayor Henry, stated, that it might "not be uninteresting to know that since March, 1861, when the army of the Potomac left its lines in front of Washington, not less than one hundred thousand men had been killed and wounded."

February 11.—The cavalry expedition under the command of Generals W. S. Smith and Grierson, intended to cooperate with the forces under General Sherman, left Memphis, Tenn.—(Doc. 122.)

—THE English steamer *Cumberland*, with a cargo of arms and ammunition, arrived at Key West, Fla. She was captured by the United States gunboat *De Soto*, while trying to run the blockade on the fifth instant.—(Doc. 103.)

—A WESTWARD-BOUND train on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was captured ten miles west of Harper's Ferry, Va., by a band of guerrillas. The usual signal to stop the train was given, when the thieves surrounded it, and commenced a general robbery of the passengers, male and female. Greenbacks, jewelry, and other valuables were taken, and few of the passengers escaped without losing something. The object seemed to be entirely to obtain booty, as, notwithstanding several Union officers and soldiers were on board, no prisoners were taken. The engine and tender were run off the track, but the train was not injured.

February 12.—Decatur, Miss., was entered by the National troops, belonging to the command of General W. T. Sherman, on an expedition into that State.—(Doc. 122.)

February 14.—Major Larmer, of the Fifth Pennsylvania reserve regiment, Acting Inspector-General on General Crawford's staff, was shot dead in a skirmish with guerrillas about two miles east of Brentsville, Va. He was out with a scouting-party of some fifty men of the Thirtieth Pennsylvania cavalry, who, as they were crossing a bridge over Cedar Run, at the point above mentioned, were suddenly fired upon by a

band of guerrillas concealed in a pine thicket a short distance off the road.

His men were driven back across the bridge, but there held their ground until assistance could be sent for from General Crawford's division. Colonel Jackson, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania reserves, was then sent out with a portion of his regiment, and on his approach the rebels fled. The men then recrossed the bridge to the point where they had been driven back, and brought away the body of Major Larmer, which had been left in the hands of the rebels. The Nationals lost in the skirmish, besides Major Larmer, three cavalrymen killed and one wounded, and two prisoners.

—GAINESVILLE, Florida, was captured by the United States troops under Captain George E. Marshall, of the Fortieth Massachusetts infantry, and held for fifty-six hours against several attacks of the rebels double his own number. A large quantity of rebel stores were distributed among the people of the town, after which Captain Marshall successfully evacuated the place.—(Doc. 87.)

—It appearing that large numbers of men qualified for military duty were preparing to leave Idaho for the far West, for the purpose of evading the draft ordered by the President of the United States, Governor W. M. Stone, of that territory, issued a proclamation, announcing that no person would be permitted to depart in that direction without a proper pass, and that passes would be granted to those only who would make satisfactory proof that they were leaving the State for a temporary purpose, and of their intention to return on or before the day of drafting, March tenth.

—THOMAS H. WATTS, Governor of Alabama, issued the following communication to the people of Mobile :

"Your city is about to be attacked by the enemy. Mobile must be defended at every hazard and to the last extremity. To do this effectively, all who cannot fight must leave the city. The brave defenders of the city can fight with more energy and enthusiasm when they feel assured that the noble women and children are out of danger.

"I appeal to the patriotic non-combatants to leave for the interior. The people of the interior towns, and the planters in the country, will receive and provide support for all who go. The

patriots of this city will see the importance and necessity of heeding this call.

"Those who love this city and the glorious cause in which we fight, will not hesitate to obey the calls which patriotism makes."*

February 15.—Yesterday and to-day attacks were made upon the fort at Waterproof, La. The following account of the affair was given by Lieutenant Commander Greer, of the steamer *Rattler*: "A force of about eight hundred cavalry, of Harrison's command, on the fourteenth made an attack upon the post, driving in the pickets and pressing the troops very hard. Fortunately for them the *Forest Rose*, was present. Captain Johnson immediately opened a rapid fire on them, which drove them back. He got his vessel under way and shelled the enemy wherever his guns would bear. They hastily retreated to the woods. This lasted from three to five P.M. At eight o'clock, the enemy attempted to make a dash into the town, but Captain Johnson, who was well advised as to their approaches, drove them back. Eight dead rebels and five prisoners were left in our hands. Our loss was five killed and two wounded. Captain Johnson says some of the negroes fought well, but for want of proper discipline a majority did not. Lieutenant Commander Greer arrived with the *Rattler*, after the fighting was over. He then proceeded to Natchez, reported the facts to Commander Post, and asked him to send up reinforcements. The next morning he despatched two hundred men and some howitzer ammunition to Waterproof. Upon arriving at that place on the fifteenth, he found that in the morning the enemy, who had been reinforced in the night, and whose forces now consisted of two regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, and four pieces of artillery, had again

* General Dabney H. Maury, in command at Mobile, on the thirteenth despatched the following letter to R. H. Slough, the Mayor of that city:

"MY DEAR SIR: I see but little disposition on the part of non-combatants to leave Mobile. Please use every means in your power to induce them to do so without delay.

"The Governor of Alabama assures me that he will take measures to secure to the people an asylum in the upper region of country bordering the river above here. I cannot believe that the kind and hospitable people of Mobile, who have for years been opening their homes to the homeless refugees from other parts of the Confederacy, will fail to receive a really welcome and kind protection during the attack on their homes.

"Patriotism demands that they leave the city for a while to those who can defend it. Prudence urges that they make no unnecessary delay in going.

"I will assist you here with transportation. The Governor says he will make proper arrangements for their reception and entertainment above."

attacked the post. The *Forest Rose*, whose commander was ever on the alert, was ready for them. A few well-directed shells stopped them from planting their battery on the plank-road, and drove them off in confusion. The attempts of the remainder to advance were frustrated by the *Forest Rose*. Captain Johnson says that Captain Anderson asked repeatedly for me to take his troops on board and throw them across the river, while in every request he (Johnson) declined, and could only tell him to fight. After I got the enemy to retreat he felt more easy, and discontinued his requests to cross. I do not think Captain Anderson was intimidated, but, by the bad discipline of his officers and the incapacity of his men, he became panic-stricken. The ram *Switzerland* arrived about the close of the fight and joined them. The rebel loss, as far as known, was seven killed, a number wounded, who were taken off, and several prisoners, among them a lieutenant, who were taken to Harrison. Our loss was three killed and twelve wounded. In the two days' fight the *Forest Rose* expended two hundred and seventy shell."

—COLONEL PHILLIPS, commanding the expedition to the Indian Territory, reported to General Thayer that he had driven the enemy entirely out of that region, and in several skirmishes killed nearly a hundred rebels, and had captured one captain and twenty-five men.

—JUDGE STEWART, of the Provincial Court of Admiralty, Nova Scotia, gave judgment that the capture of the *Chesapeake* was an act of piracy, and ordered restitution of the vessel and cargo to the original owners.

February 16.—An engagement took place between the rebel fort at Grant's Pass, near Mobile, and the National gunboats.—THE British steamer *Pet* was captured by the United States gunboat *Montgomery*. The capture was made near Wilmington, N. C. The *Pet* was from Nassau, for Wilmington, with an assorted cargo of arms, shot, shell, and medicines, for the use of the rebel army. She was a superior side-wheel steamer, of seven hundred tons burthen, built in England expressly for Southern blockading purposes. She had made numerous successful trips between Nassau and Wilmington.—THE blockading steamer *Spunky* was chased ashore and destroyed while attempting to run the blockade of Wilmington, N. C.

February 17.—The United States steam-sloop

Housatonic was destroyed by a torpedo in the harbor of Charleston, S. C.—(*Doc. 84.*)

February 18.—An expedition, consisting of four hundred men belonging to the National cavalry, under General Gregg, left Warrenton, Va., last night, to examine the country in the direction of Middleburgh and Aldie. This evening the party returned, bringing in twenty-eight of Mosby's rebel guerrillas and fifty-one horses. On their return they were charged on by the rest of the guerrilla band, for the purpose of retaking their fellows, but the charge was repulsed, and one more prisoner added to those already in the hands of the Union cavalry.

February 19.—A fight took place at Waugh's Farm, twelve miles north-east of Batesville, Ark. About a hundred men, composed of company I, Eleventh Missouri cavalry, and Fourth Arkansas infantry, under command of Captain William Castle, of the Eleventh Missouri, out on a foraging expedition, with a large train of wagons in charge, were attacked by three hundred men under Rutherford. They were taken by surprise, but fought desperately against greatly superior numbers.

The rebels retreated across White River, having lost six killed and ten wounded. Of the Nationals, Captain Castle and private Alfred Wilgus, of company I, Eleventh Missouri cavalry, and a man of the Fourth Arkansas infantry, were killed. Wounded—Sergeant F. M. Donaldson, severely in the thigh and abdomen; William Ball, severely in the foot; John H. Brandon, in both hands and breast, slightly; all of company I, Eleventh Missouri.

The Nationals lost forty prisoners, mostly teamsters, about thirty horses, and sixty wagons were burnt, and the teams, six mules to each, carried off.—*Sergeant Spencer's Account.*

—THE Twenty-first, Forty-seventh, and One Hundred and Eighteenth regiments of Indiana volunteers, returned to Indianapolis, and met with an enthusiastic welcome.

February 20.—The battle of Olustee, Florida, was fought this day by the National forces under the command of General Seymour and the rebels under General Cæsar Finnegan.—(*Doc. 87.*)

—THE rebel schooner Henry Colthurst, from Kingston, Jamaica, with a cargo of the munitions of war for the confederate government, and other articles of merchandise, was captured, near

San Luis Pass, by the National schooner Virginia.

February 21.—A plot to escape, set on foot by the rebel prisoners confined at Columbus, Ohio, was discovered and frustrated.

February 22.—Two companies of the Thirty-fourth Kentucky infantry (A and I) were engaged in a hand-to-hand encounter of about four hours' duration, against superior numbers of the enemy. The rebels, about five hundred strong, attacked them at Powell's River Bridge, Tenn., at six o'clock A.M., and after making four separate charges on the bridge, which were gallantly met and repulsed, the rebels were driven from their position and compelled to retreat in disorder, leaving horses, saddles, arms, etc., on the field. They took most of their dead and wounded with them.

There were a great many daring acts of bravery committed; but as the whole affair is one of the most brilliant of the war, it would be almost impossible to make any distinction. There is one, however, that is well worth recording. The attack was made by infantry, while the cavalry prepared for a charge. The cavalry was soon in line and moving on the bridge; on they came in a steady, solid column, covered by the fire of their infantry. In a moment the Nationals saw their perilous position, and Lieutenant Slater called for a volunteer to tear up the boards to prevent their crossing. There was some hesitation, and in a moment all would have been lost, had not one William Goss (company clerk of company I) leaped from the intrenchments, and, running to the bridge under the fire of about four hundred guns, threw ten boards off into the river, and returned unhurt. This prevented the capture of the whole force.—*Louisville Journal.*

—A FIGHT occurred near Mulberry Gap, Tenn., between the Eleventh Tennessee cavalry and a body of rebels, in which the National troops were obliged to retreat.

—LIEUTENANT-GENERAL J. B. HOOD, of the rebel army, in an address to his old division, concludes as follows:

"A stern conflict is before us; other hardships must be borne, other battles fought, and other blood shed; but we have nothing to fear if we only prove ourselves worthy of independence—it is ours, but our armies must deliver us. With them we must blaze a highway through our enemies to victory and to peace. In the trials

and dangers that are to come, I know you will claim an honorable share, and win new titles to the admiration and love of your country; and in the midst of them, whether I am near you or far from you, my heart will be always there; and when this struggle is over, I shall look upon no spectacle with so much pleasure as upon my old comrades, who have deserved so well of their country, crowned with its blessings and encompassed by its love."

—A SMALL force of National troops left Hilton Head, S. C., in transports, and proceeded up the Savannah River to Williams's Island, arriving at that place about dark yesterday. A company of the Fourth New-Hampshire regiment landed in small boats and made a reconnoissance, in the course of which they met a small body of the enemy. The Nationals lost four men of the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania. This morning the Union forces withdrew, bringing twenty prisoners. The reconnoissance was highly successful.

—THIS morning, about eleven o'clock, as a detachment of the Second Massachusetts cavalry, under command of Captain J. S. Read, who had been out on a scouting expedition, were returning toward Dranesville, Va., on the way to Vienna, they were attacked on the Dranesville Pike, about two miles from the latter place, by a gang of rebel guerrillas, supposed to be under Mosby, concealed in the pines. In the detachment of the Second Massachusetts there were one hundred and fifty men, while Mosby had at least between two and three hundred men. The Second Massachusetts were fired upon from the dense pine woods near Dranesville, and retreated. Afterward eight of their men were found dead and seven wounded, and at least fifty or seventy-five were taken prisoners, or missing. Among the prisoners was Captain Manning, of Maine. Captain J. S. Read, the commander of the detachment, was shot through the left lung, and died a few moments after being wounded.

February 23.—On the publication of the currency bill, passed by the rebel Congress, a panic seized the people of Richmond, and many tradesmen closed their shops. Brown sugar sold for twelve dollars and fifty cents by the hogshead, and whiskey, which a few days before sold for twenty dollars a gallon, could not be purchased for one hundred and twenty dollars.—THE Second Massachusetts regiment of infantry left Boston, to rejoin the Twelfth army corps, under General

Grant. The Twenty-third regiment also left Boston for Newport News, Va.

February 24.—A police magistrate at St. John's, New-Brunswick, ordered the Chesapeake pirates to be committed to be surrendered to the United States, upon charges of robbery, piracy, and murder.

February 25.—The following was published in Richmond, Va.:

"General Bragg has been assigned to duty in Richmond as consulting and advisory General. We regard the appointment as one very proper, and believe that it will conduce to the advancement and promotion of the cause. General Bragg has unquestionable abilities, which eminently fit him for such a responsible position. The country will be pleased to see his experience and information made use of by the President. His patriotism and zeal for the public service are fully recognized and appreciated by his countrymen. The duties of the commander-in-chief, who, under the constitution, can be no other than the President, are most arduous, and require much aid and assistance as well as ability and experience. General Bragg has acquired, by long service, that practical experience necessary to the position to which he is assigned by the general order published in to-day's *Enquirer*.

"An erroneous impression obtains as to the nature of this appointment of General Bragg. He is not and cannot be commander-in-chief. The Constitution of the confederate States makes the President the commander-in-chief. General Bragg is detailed for duty in Richmond 'under' the President. He does not rank General Lee nor General Johnston. He cannot command or direct them, except 'by command of the President.' His appointment has been made with the knowledge and approval of Generals Cooper, Lee, Johnston, and Beauregard, all his superiors in rank, who, knowing and appreciating the usefulness and ability of General Bragg, concur in his appointment by the President.—*Richmond Enquirer*.

—FORT POWELL, situated below Mobile, Ala., was bombarded by the ships belonging to the National fleet.—THE British sloop *Two Brothers*, from Nassau, N. P., was captured in Indian River, abreast of Fort Capron, Florida, by the National bark *Roebuck*.

February 27.—Brigadier-General James H. Carleton sent the following to the National head-

quarters, from his post at Sante Fé, New-Mexico: "What with the Navajos I have captured and those who have surrendered, we have now over three thousand, and will, without doubt, soon have the whole tribe. I do not believe they number now much over five thousand, all told. You have doubtless seen the last of the Navajo war; a war that has been continued with but few intermissions for the past one hundred and eighty years; and which, during that time, has been marked by every shade of atrocity, brutality, and ferocity which can be imagined, or which can be found in the annals of conflicts between our own and the aboriginal race. I beg to congratulate you, and the country at large, on the prospect that this formidable band of robbers and murderers have at last been made to succumb.

"To Colonel Christopher Carson, First cavalry New-Mexican volunteers, Captain Asa B. Carey, United States army, and the officers and men who have served in the Navajo campaign, the credit for these successes is mainly due.

"The untiring labors of Major John C. McFerreran, United States army, the chief quartermaster of the department, who has kept the troops in that distant region supplied in spite of the most discouraging obstacles and difficulties—not the least of these the sudden dashes upon trains and herds in so long a line of communication—deserves the special notice of the War Department."

—THE United States bark Roebuck captured the British sloop Nina, in Indian River, Florida.—AN expedition from the United States steamer Tahoma destroyed some important rebel salt-works, situated on Goose Creek, Florida.—(Doc. 90.)

February 28.—General Custer, with a body of National cavalry left headquarters at Culpeper Court-House, Va., to coöperate with the force under General Kilpatrick, in his expedition to Richmond, Va.—(Doc. 133.)

—THREE blockade-runners were captured in Brazos River, Texas, by the United States steamer Penobscot.—COLONEL RICHARDSON, the noted rebel guerrilla, was captured at a point below Rushville, south of the Cumberland River.—A DETACHMENT of the Seventh Tennessee cavalry, which left Union City yesterday in pursuit of guerrillas, just before daylight this morning came up with a squad of rebels at Duke-dom, about fifteen miles from Union City, and

dispersed them; captured one prisoner, four horses, four revolvers, one carbine, and some of the clothing of the entire party.—GENERAL JUDSON KILPATRICK, in command of a considerable body of National cavalry, left Stevensburgh, Va., for the purpose of surprising the city of Richmond, and releasing the Union prisoners there.—(Doc. 134.)

February 29.—Major-General Fred. Steele, from his headquarters at Little Rock, issued an address to the people of Arkansas, announcing the initiation of proceedings for the restoration of the civil law, and the establishment of order throughout the State.—THE schooner Rebel, while attempting to run the blockade, was captured by the National bark Roebuck, off Indian River, Florida.—THE rebel schooners Stingray and John Douglass, when off Velasco, Texas, were captured by the Union gunboat Penobscot.

—THE schooners Camilla and Cassie Holt, laden with cotton, were captured by the National vessel Virginia, off San Luis Pass.

March 1.—President Lincoln signed the bill creating a Lieutenant-General of the Army of the United States, and immediately after nominated Major-General Grant for that position.—THE English steamer Scotia was captured while endeavoring to run the blockade of Wilmington, N. C.—FRANCISCO GARDE, while riding two miles from his residence, two miles south of the village of Kinderhook, Illinois, was waylaid and shot by a party of rebel sympathizers.—THE British schooner Lauretta, with a cargo of salt, was captured by the National bark Roebuck, two miles from the entrance of Indian River, Florida.

March 2.—General Custer's expedition, which left Culpeper on the twenty-eighth of February to coöperate with the forces under General Kilpatrick, returned this day with only four men wounded slightly, and one rather badly. He captured and brought in about fifty prisoners, a large number of negroes, some three hundred horses, and destroyed a large quantity of valuable stores at Stannardsville, besides inflicting other damage to the rebels.—(Doc. 133.)

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN directed that the sentences of all deserters who had been condemned to death, by court-martial, and that had not been otherwise acted upon by him, be mitigated to imprisonment during the war at the Dry Tortugas, Florida, where they would be sent



Eng^d by A. H. Ritchie

GEN. E. D. TOWNSEND.

under suitable guards by orders from the army commanders.—CAPTAIN Ross and twelve of his men, deserters from General Price's rebel army, arrived at Van Buren, Arkansas.—COLONEL A. D. STREIGHT made a report to the Committee on Military Affairs, of the lower house of Congress, in relation to the treatment the Union officers and soldiers received from the rebel authorities at Richmond and elsewhere in the South.—(Doc. 106.)

March 3.—The rebel schooner Arletta or Martha, was captured and destroyed off Tybee Island.

March 4.—The English steamer Don, while attempting to run the blockade of Wilmington, N. C., was captured by the National steamer Pequot.—MICHAEL HAHN was installed as Governor of Louisiana, at New-Orleans. An address was made by General Banks, and other interesting ceremonies performed.—ORDERS requiring the draft to be made on the tenth instant were suspended.

March 5.—Yazoo City, garrisoned by one white and two negro regiments of National troops, was attacked by a body of rebels under the command of Ross and Richardson, who were repulsed after a severe contest.—(Doc. 109.)

—A LARGE force of rebel cavalry attacked ninety-three men of the Third Tennessee regiment at Panther Springs, East-Tennessee. The Union loss was two killed and eight wounded and twenty-two captured. The rebels had thirty killed and wounded.

March 6.—A cavalry force, sent out from Cumberland, Md., under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Root, of the Fifteenth New-York cavalry, returned, having effectually destroyed all the saltpetre works near Franklin, in Pendleton County.—THE English steamer Mary Ann, while attempting to run the blockade of Wilmington, N. C., was captured by the Union steamer Grand Gulf.—THE sloop G. Garibaldi was seized at Jupiter Inlet, Florida, while trying to run the blockade with a cargo of cotton.

March 7.—The first negro prisoners of war arrived in Richmond, Va., and were placed in Libby Prison. The *Examiner* thus noticed the fact: "They were genuine, sure members of the original Corps d'Afrique, ranging in color from gingerbread-brown to tobacco-black, greasy and loud-smelling, encased in blue uniforms, close buttoned up to the chin. They were captured

on the second instant, within a few miles of Williamsburgh, with arms in their hands, having been pushed forward by Massa Butler with a negro command on a foraging and thieving expedition. Their names and military connection were recorded as follows: James W. Cord and P. F. Lewis, Fifth United States volunteers; R. P. Armstead and John Thomas, Sixth United States volunteers. As they claimed to be 'Butler's pets,' and it being understood that a great affection and fondness for each other existed between them and the officers captured from the recent sacking and plunder expedition, Major Turner very considerably ordered that they be placed in the cells occupied by their white co-patriots, each being accommodated with a sable boon companion. We are glad that our officials are inclined to carry out Greeley's idea of amalgamation of the races, so far as it affects the Yankee prisoners in our care. It will result in mutual good. The only party likely to be seriously affected, either in *status* or morals, is the negro. The Yankee cannot be degraded lower; the negro probably can be."

—UNDER the caption of "A Premium Uniform," the Richmond newspapers published the following: "Recently Mrs. White, of Selma, Alabama, went through the lines to Lexington, Kentucky, and being a sister (Todd) of Mrs. Lincoln, was permitted to go on to Washington. On her return, several weeks ago, she was allowed to carry nothing back, save a uniform for a very dear friend of hers who was battling in the Southern cause. The uniform arrived in the Confederacy several days since, and on inspection all the buttons were found to be composed of gold coin—two and a half, five, ten, and twenty-dollar gold pieces, set in the wooden button and covered with confederate cloth. The gold thus brought through is valued at between thirty and forty thousand dollars—all sewed upon a uniform."

—CONSIDERABLE excitement existed in Frederick and Washington counties, Md., growing out of rebel movements on the Virginia side of the Potomac, supposed to be premonitory of a cavalry raid through the upper counties of the State.

—DECATUR, Alabama, was captured by the National forces under the command of Brigadier-General Dodge.

March 8.—Four Yankee negro soldiers, captured in James City County, were brought to

this city yesterday and delivered at the Libby, where they were distributed, as far as they would go, into the solitary cells of the Yankee officers captured during the recent raid. This is a taste of negro equality, we fancy, the said Yankee officers will not fancy overmuch. The negroes represent themselves as James W. Cord, company C, Fifth United States volunteers; P. F. Lewis, company I, Fifth United States volunteers; R. P. Armistead, company H, Sixth United States volunteers; John Thomas, ditto.—*Richmond Whig.*

—THE rebel steamer Sumter was captured on Lake George, Florida, by the National steamer Columbine, under the command of Acting Master J. C. Champion.—FORTY-EIGHT Union officers and over six hundred prisoners arrived at Fortress Monroe from Richmond, Va., for exchange.—THE steam-tug Titan, which was captured near Cherry Stone Point, Va., was burned at Freeport on the Piankatank River.

March 9.—A fight took place near Suffolk, Virginia, between a force of rebels and a portion of the Second Virginia colored regiment, commanded by Colonel Cole, resulting in a loss of twenty-five rebels, and twenty killed, wounded, and missing of the Nationals.*

—FORTY of the Thirtieth Pennsylvania cavalry were captured by guerrillas about a mile and a half from Bristoe Station, Virginia. They were surrounded and compelled to surrender. Several of them afterward escaped.

—THE steamer Hillman was attacked by a gang of guerrillas, stationed on the Missouri shore opposite Island No. 18 in the Mississippi River, and several persons were killed and wounded.

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN this afternoon formally presented to Major-General Grant his commission as Lieutenant-General. The ceremony took place in the Cabinet chamber in the presence of many distinguished personages. General Grant having entered the room, the President rose and addressed him thus:

"General Grant: The nation's appreciation

* The following is the Southern version of the story:

WELDON, March 9.—The enemy occupied Suffolk in force on Sunday. We attacked them to-day, and, after a short struggle, drove them in a rout out of the town, killing a number, capturing one piece of artillery and a large quantity of commissary and quartermaster stores. The enemy are flying to Portsmouth, burning bridges, and leaving every thing behind. We pursued them beyond Bernard's Mills. M. W. RAMSON, Brig.-Gen.

G. E. PICKETT, Major-Gen:

of what you have done, and its reliance upon you for what there remains to do in the existing great struggle, are now presented with this commission constituting you Lieutenant-General in the army of the United States. With this high honor devolves upon you also a corresponding responsibility. As the country herein trusts you, so, under God, it will sustain you. I scarcely need to add that with what I have spoken for the nation, goes my own hearty personal concurrence."

To which General Grant replied as follows:

"Mr. President: I accept this commission with gratitude for the high honor conferred. With the aid of the noble armies that have fought on so many fields for our common country, it will be my earnest endeavor not to disappoint your expectations. I feel the full weight of the responsibilities now devolving on me, and I know that if they are met, it will be due to those armies, and, above all, to the favor of that Providence which leads both nations and men."

The President then introduced the General to all the members of the Cabinet, after which the company were seated and about half an hour was spent in conversation.

—MAJOR-GENERAL PECK, in general orders, issued the following from his headquarters at Newbern, N. C.: "The moment when we are threatened with an advance by the enemy, is the proper time to remind the gallant officers and soldiers of this command of the results of the recent operations in North-Carolina.

"Besides the repulse of General Pickett's army at Newbern, the following have been captured: Six officers, two hundred and eighty-one prisoners and dangerous rebels, five hundred contrabands, two hundred and fifty arms and accoutrements, one hundred and thirty-eight horses and mules, eleven bales of cotton, one piece of artillery, caisson complete, one flag, many saddles, harnesses, and wagons. Much property of the rebel government has been destroyed from inability to remove it, as appears by a partial list: Two hundred and fifty thousand pounds of pork, eighty barrels of lard, seventy-five barrels of meat, twenty thousand bushels of corn, thirty-two barrels of beef, five hogsheads of sugar, five thousand empty sacks, one corn-mill, ten wagons, one ton of tobacco, eighteen mules, two warehouses of salt, and two extensive salt manufactories. Thousands of deserters have entered the lines, and resumed their allegiance to the Federal

Union with joy and gladness. These valuable services will be appreciated by the Government and the people, and this brief allusion to them should stimulate all to renewed energy in the final campaign against the revolutionists."

March 10.—A party of "over one hundred citizen guerrillas" entered Mayfield, Ky., and after pillaging the stores and severely wounding one of the citizens, left, carrying away their booty.

—GOVERNOR JOSEPH E. BROWN'S annual message was read in the Legislature of Georgia. It concluded as follows:

"Lincoln has declared that Georgia and other States are in rebellion to the Federal Government, the creature of the States, which they could destroy as well as create. In authorizing war, he did not seek to restore the Union under the Constitution as it was, by confining the Government to a sphere of limited powers. *They have taken one hundred thousand negroes, which cost half a million of whites four thousand millions of dollars, and now seek to repudiate self-government—subjugate Southern people, and confiscate their property.* The statement of Lincoln, that we offer no terms of adjustment, is made an artful pretext that it is impossible to say when the war will terminate, but that negotiation, not the sword, will finally terminate it.

"We should keep before the Northern people the idea that we are ready to negotiate, when they are ready, and will recognize our right to self-government, and the sovereignty of the States. *After each victory, our government should make a distinct offer of peace on these terms, and should the course of any State be doubted, let the armed force be withdrawn, and the ballot-box decide.* If this is refused even a dozen times, renew it, and keep before the North and the world that our ability to defend ourselves for many years has been proved."

—PILATKA, Florida, was occupied by the Union forces under Colonel Barton. The force, consisting of infantry and artillery, left Jacksonville on the transports General Hunter, Delaware, Maple Leaf, and Charles Houghton last evening, and, under the direction of good pilots, reached Pilatka at about daylight this morning. The night was densely dark, and a terrible thunder-storm added not a little to the difficulty of the passage of the boats up the tortuous channel. The troops disembarked at sunrise, and

found but few of the enemy. The rebels probably had only a small cavalry picket in the town, and on the approach of the Nationals it was withdrawn, and the place given up without firing a shot on either side. The town was found entirely deserted, except by three small families, who professed Union sentiments, and desired to remain at their homes.—THE rebel iron-clad war steamer Ashley was successfully launched at Charleston, S. C.

March 11.—A detachment of the Seventh Tennessee cavalry, commanded by Colonel Hawkins, captured eleven guerrillas in the vicinity of Union City, Ky.—THE rebel sloop Hannah, was captured by the Beauregard, off Mosquito Inlet, Ga.—THE United States steamer Aroostook captured, in latitude twenty-eight degrees fifty minutes north, longitude ninety-five degrees five minutes west, the British schooner M. P. Burton, loaded with iron and shot. She cleared from Havana, and purported to be bound to Matamoras. When first seen she was steering direct for Velasco, some two hundred miles out of her course.—*Admiral Farragut's Report.*

—THE schooner Linda, with an assorted cargo, was captured off Mosquito Inlet, by the National vessels Beauregard and Norfolk Packet.

March 12.—President Lincoln ordered as follows:

I. Major-General Halleck is at his own request relieved from duty as General-in-Chief of the army, and Lieutenant-General U. S. Grant is assigned to the command of the armies of the United States. The headquarters of the army will be in Washington, and also with Lieutenant-General Grant in the field.

II. Major-General Halleck is assigned to duty in Washington, as chief-of-staff of the army, under the direction of the Secretary of War and the Lieutenant-General commanding. His orders will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

III. Major-General W. T. Sherman is assigned to the command of the military division of the Mississippi, composed of the departments of the Ohio, the Cumberland, the Tennessee, and the Arkansas.

IV. Major-General J. B. McPherson is assigned to the command of the department and army of the Tennessee.

V. In relieving Major-General Halleck from duty as General-in-Chief, the President desires to express his approbation and thanks for the able and zealous manner in which the arduous

and responsible duties of that position have been performed.

—THE rebel schooner *Marion*, bound to Havana, from Tampico, was captured by the steamer *Aroostook*, off Rio Brazos.—The rebel sloop *Persis* was captured off Wassaw Sound, Georgia, by the National gunboats Massachusetts and others.

March 13.—A Union meeting was held at Huntsville, Alabama, at which resolutions were passed deprecating the action of the South, and calling upon the Governor of the State to convene the Legislature, that it might "call a convention to provide some mode for the restoration of peace and the rights and liberties of the people." Speeches were made by Jere Clemens and D. C. Humphreys in support of the resolutions.

—GENERAL BUTLER, learning that the Fifth and Ninth Virginia cavalry, with a large force of armed citizens, were in the vicinity of King and Queen Court-House, immediately despatched an expedition from Yorktown under command of General Wistar, with which General Kilpatrick and a portion of his command essayed to cooperate. This rebel force was ascertained to be one thousand two hundred strong, and the same that ambushed and killed Colonel Dahlgren.

General Kilpatrick left Gloucester Point on Tuesday night, March eighth, in charge of the cavalry, and was ordered to scout Gloucester County to the north and east as far as Dragon River, and drive the enemy up the Peninsula, while Wistar landed his forces by transports on Wednesday at Shepherd's warehouse, six miles above West-Point, on the Mattaponi, with the purpose of heading off their retreat and charging their front and rear. Owing to a misapprehension of General Wistar's orders, General Kilpatrick marched direct to West-Point, where he arrived about the same time with General Wistar.

A small cavalry force was then despatched to New-Market, and the infantry and artillery moved out as far as Little Plymouth, while Kilpatrick scouted across the Dragon River and tried to cross at Old and New-Bridge, but could not, owing to the swollen state of the stream. Our forces then moved down through the counties of King and Queen, Middlesex and Gloucester, making many captures and destroying large quantities of supplies. King and Queen Court-House was destroyed, and when near Carrol-

ton's store, Colonel Onderdonk, commanding the First New-York Mounted Rifles, and Colonel Spear, of the Eleventh Pennsylvania cavalry, came upon the looked-for rebel force of cavalry and citizens. This was in the midst of a severe rain-storm which had been pouring all day, and the mud was knee-deep; yet the rebels were gallantly charged, dispersed, and chased ten miles, their camp destroyed, about twenty killed, and seventy wounded and taken prisoners. The remainder made good their escape by recrossing the river into King William County.

The Union force comprised the Forty-fifth, Sixth, and Twenty-second National colored troops the First New-York Mounted Rifles, the Eleventh Pennsylvania cavalry, parts of Hart's and Belger's batteries, and some five hundred of Kilpatrick's Richmond raiders. The only organized rebel force encountered were the Fifth and Ninth Virginia cavalry, having, however, many mounted and armed, though ununiformed citizens in their ranks, who claimed to be non-combatants.

On the raid large amounts of grain, provisions, arms, etc., were destroyed. One mill filled with corn belonging to the Ninth Virginia cavalry was burned. Several of Lee's soldiers at home on recruiting service were captured; two Union officers recently escaped from Libby Prison were rescued, and one of Longstreet's men captured.

The National forces returned to Yorktown today, without the loss of a man, and but very few horses, and the objects of the expedition were as fully accomplished as were possible. The enemy was severely punished for the death and brutalities perpetrated upon Colonel Dahlgren, and General Wistar highly complimented for the success of his expedition.

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN addressed the following to Michael Hahn, the newly elected Governor of Louisiana: "I congratulate you on having fixed your name in history as the first free State Governor of Louisiana: now you are about to have a commission which, among other things, will probably define the elective franchise. I barely suggest, for your private consideration, whether some of the colored people may not be let in, as, for instance, the very intelligent, and especially those who have fought gallantly in our ranks. They would probably help in some trying time to keep the jewel of

Liberty in the family of freedom. But this is only a suggestion, not to the public, but to you alone."

—Two men belonging to the Thirty-second Missouri infantry, Archibald Towner, of company B, and Thomas Norris, of company D, while beyond their picket-lines, in Mo., were taken prisoners by a party of guerrillas, who took them to the top of a mountain near by and tied them to a tree, where they were kept until about sundown, when they were shot, robbed of every thing valuable, and thrown from the summit of the mountain down a precipice sixty feet. Norris miraculously escaped death, which he feigned while being handled by the murderers, and succeeded in reaching camp very much exhausted. He implicated many of the citizens who received their daily rations from the Government, and several in that vicinity were arrested for trial.

The body of Towner was found by the men of his regiment, while out in search of the guerrillas, and carried into camp.—*Captain John T. Campbell's Report.*

March 14.—Major-General John Pope, from his headquarters, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, issued an official notice to emigrants by the way of the Missouri River and across the upper plains to the Idaho mines, warning them of the dangers of that route from hostile Indians, and recommending them to communicate with General Sully before attempting to pass that way.—A commission consisting of Captain George P. Edgar, A. D. C., Captain George I. Carney, A. Q. M., and M. Dudley Bean, of Norfolk, were appointed by Major-General Butler, for the purpose of caring for and supplying the needs of the poor white people in Norfolk, Elizabeth City, and Princess Anne counties, Va., who were a charge upon the United States, and employing such as were willing to work and were without employment, etc.—SKIRMISHING occurred at Cheek's Cross-Roads, Tennessee, between Colonel Garrard's National cavalry and Colonel Giltner's rebel troops. The rebels were repulsed.

—PRESIDENT LINCOLN issued an order calling for two hundred thousand men, in order to supply the force required to be drafted for the navy, and to provide an adequate reserve force for all contingencies, in addition to the five hundred thousand men called for February first.—(*Doc. 111.*)

March 15.—Owing to the disturbance of the popular mind produced by the enrolment of slaves for the army in Kentucky, Governor Bramlette issued an address to the people of that State, suggesting moderation, and calling upon them "to uphold and maintain the Government as constituted, and obey and enforce its just demands, as the only hope of perpetuating free institutions."—FORT DE RUSSY, on the Red River, below Alexandria, La., was captured this day by the combined military and naval forces of the United States, under General A. J. Smith and Admiral D. D. Porter.—(*Docs. 96 and 181.*)

March 16.—A party of guerrillas belonging to Roddy's command made an attack upon the Chattanooga Railroad, at a point between Tullahoma and Estelle Springs, and, after robbing the passengers and committing other outrages, fled on the approach of another train loaded with soldiers. Among other atrocious acts was the following: There were four colored boys on the train acting in the capacity of brakemen, and two black men who were officers' servants. These six poor creatures were placed in a row, and a squad of about forty of the robbers, under a Captain Scott, of Tennessee, discharged their revolvers at them, actually shooting the poor fellows all to pieces.—An engagement took place at a point two miles east of Fort Pillow, Tenn., between a body of Nationals and about one thousand rebels, who were routed with a loss of fifty killed and wounded.

—CAPTAINS SAWYER AND FLYNN, who had been held at Libby Prison, under sentence of death, in retaliation for the execution of two rebel spies, hung in Kentucky by General Burnside, were released. They were exchanged for General W. F. Lee and Captain Winder, who were held by the United States as personal hostages for their safety.

—THE advance of General A. J. Smith's forces, coöperating with General Banks's, and under the command of Brigadier-General John A. Mower, reached Alexandria, La., accompanied by Admiral David D. Porter and his fleet of gunboats.—(*Doc. 181.*)

March 17.—Colonel William Stokes, in command of the Fifth Tennessee cavalry, surprised a party of rebel guerrillas under Champ Ferguson, at a point near Manchester, Tenn., and after a severe fight routed them, compelling them to

leave behind twenty-one in killed and wounded.—THIS morning, at a little before three o'clock, an attempt was made on Seabrook Island by a large force of rebels, who came down the Chickassee River in boats. They approached in two large flats, filled with men, evidently sent forward to reconnoitre, with a numerous reserve force further back, to co-operate in case any points were found to be exposed. One of the boats came down to the mouth of Skull Creek, where they attacked a picket-boat containing a corporal and four men of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania. They first fired three shots and then a whole volley, and succeeded in capturing the boat and those in it, after a severe hand-to-hand fight. Whether there were any casualties could not be ascertained. Further on, meeting an unexpected resistance, they retreated.

—LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GRANT formally assumed the command of the armies of the United States to-day. The following was his order on the subject:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, }
NASHVILLE, TENN., March 17, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12.

In pursuance of the following order of the President:

"EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C., }
March 10, 1864.

"Under the authority of the Act of Congress to appoint the grade of Lieutenant-General in the army, of February 29, 1864, Lieutenant-General Ulysses S. Grant, U. S. A., is appointed to the command of the armies of the United States.

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

—I assume command of the armies of the United States. Headquarters will be in the field, and, until further orders, will be with the army of the Potomac. There will be an office headquarters in Washington, D. C., to which all official communications will be sent, except those from the army where the headquarters are at the date of their address.

March 18.—Colonel Stokes's Fifth Tennessee cavalry again overtook Champ Ferguson and his guerrillas on a little stream called Calf-killer River, near where it empties into Caney Fork, Tenn., and there killed eight of them.

—THE behavior of the rebel brigade under General Pettigrew, at the battle of Gettysburgh, was vindicated in this day's *Richmond Enquirer*.

March 19.—The correspondent of the *Cincinnati Gazette*, at Washington, Mr. Whitelaw

Reid, ("Agate,") wrote as follows concerning the Emancipation Proclamation: "A recent allusion to the fact that Mr. Secretary Chase's pen supplied the concluding sentence of the Emancipation Proclamation, has been received with a surprise that indicates a less general knowledge on the subject than might have been expected.

"When the final draft of the Proclamation was presented by the President to the Cabinet, it closed with the paragraph stating that the slaves if liberated would be received into the armed service of the United States. Mr. Chase objected to the appearance of a document of such momentous importance without one word beyond the dry phrases necessary to convey its meaning; and finally proposed that there be added to the President's draft the following sentence:

"And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God."

"Mr. Lincoln adopted the sentence as Mr. Chase wrote it, only interlining after the word 'Constitution' the words, 'upon military necessity;' and in that form the Proclamation went to the world, and history.

"The President originally resolved upon the policy of issuing this Proclamation in the summer of 1862. As he has expressed it himself, every thing was going wrong; we seemed to have put forth about our utmost efforts, and he really didn't know what more to do, unless he did this. Accordingly, he prepared the preliminary Proclamation, nearly in the form in which it subsequently appeared, called the Cabinet together, and read it to them.

"Mr. Montgomery Blair was startled. 'If you issue that proclamation, Mr. President,' he exclaimed, 'you will lose every one of the fall elections.'

"Mr. Seward, on the other hand, said: 'I approve of it, Mr. President, just as it stands. I approve of it in principle, and I approve the policy of issuing it. I only object to the time. Send it out now, on the heels of our late disasters, and it will be construed as the convulsive struggle of a drowning man. To give it proper weight, you should reserve it until after some victory.'

"The President assented to Mr. Seward's



Eng. & by A. H. Purdie.

*John C. Stackhouse.
Brig. Gen. U.S.*

view, and it was withheld till the fall, when it was issued almost precisely as originally prepared. The one to which Mr. Chase supplied the concluding sentence was the final Proclamation, issued on the subsequent first of January."

—THE Legislature of Georgia in both branches to-day adopted Linton Stephens's peace resolutions, earnestly "recommending that our government, immediately after every signal success of our arms, when none can impute its action to alarm instead of a sincere desire for peace, shall make to the government of our enemy an official offer of peace, on the basis of the great principle declared by our common fathers in 1776, accompanied by the distinct expression of a willingness, on our part, to follow that principle to its true logical consequences, by agreeing that any Border State whose preference for our association may be doubted, (doubts having been expressed as to the wishes of the Border States,) shall settle the question for herself, by a convention to be elected for that purpose, after the withdrawal of all military forces on both sides from her limits."

They also adopted his resolution declaring that "the recent act of Congress to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* in cases of arrests, ordered by the President, Secretary of War, or general officer commanding the Trans-Mississippi military department, is an attempt to maintain the military in the usurpation of the constitutional judicial functions of issuing warrants, and to give validity to unconstitutional seizures of the persons of the people; and the said act, by its express terms, confines its operation to the upholding of the class of unconstitutional seizures, the whole suspension attempted to be authorized by it, and the whole act itself, are utterly void."

"That in the judgment of this General Assembly, the said act is an alarming assault upon the liberty of the people, without any existing necessity to excuse it, and beyond the power of any possible necessity to justify it; and our Senators and Representatives in Congress are earnestly urged to take the first possible opportunity to have it blotted from the record of our laws."

Both houses also adopted a resolution turning over to the confederate government all persons between the ages of seventeen and eighteen, and forty-five and fifty years.

They also unanimously adopted a resolution expressive of confidence in the President, and

thanks to the confederate armies for reenlisting for the war.—*Mobile Papers*.

March 20.—The expedition, composed of the steamers Columbine and Sumter, that left Pilotka, Florida, for Lake George, to capture the rebel steamer Hattie Brock, returned to the former place, having been successful.

—THIS morning, while off Elbow Light, in latitude twenty-six degrees thirty-three minutes north, longitude seventy-six degrees twenty-five minutes west, the United States steamer Tioga overhauled and captured the sloop Swallow, from the Combahee River, South-Carolina, bound to Nassau, N. P. One hundred and eighty bales of cotton, eighty barrels of resin, and twenty-five boxes of tobacco were found on board the prize.—THE rebel steamer Florida was captured by the National gunboat Honeysuckle.

March 21.—A battle occurred at Henderson's Hill, La., between a portion of General A. J. Smith's forces, under the command of General John A. Mower, and the rebels under General Richard Taylor, resulting in the defeat and rout of the latter, with a loss of five guns with caissons, four hundred horses, and about two hundred and fifty men, in killed, wounded, and missing. In a skirmish previous to the battle, Colonel H. B. Sargent, of General Banks's staff, was wounded severely.—(*Docs. 98 and 181.*)

—LAST NIGHT a body of rebels made an attack on the Union pickets, near Jenkins's Island, South-Carolina, but were repulsed at every point by the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania regiment, Colonel Campbell, doing duty at that point. The rebels approached in eight large flatboats, and came in force, evidently with a view of cutting off the pickets. Another attempt to gain a foothold on the island this night was baffled by Captain Kness's company of the Seventy-sixth, which fired several deadly volleys into the boats, and drove them off. No casualties occurred on the Union side in either affair.—THE steamer Chesapeake, surrendered by the British authorities, arrived at Portland, Maine.

—THE rebel steamer Clifton, formerly the United States gunboat of that name, while attempting to run the blockade at Sabine Pass, with over a thousand bales of cotton, got aground on the bar. She remained immovable, and was burned to prevent her from falling into the hands of the Nationals.—THE rebel schooner Wild Pigeon was captured by the Hendrick Hudson.

March 22.—Major-General Lew. Wallace assumed command of the Middle Department, Eighth army corps, headquarters at Baltimore, Md., and issued orders in accordance therewith.—THE Supreme Court of Georgia to-day unanimously affirmed the constitutionality of the confederate anti-substitute law.—A HEAVY snow-storm prevailed in Richmond, Va., and vicinity, the average depth being about one foot.

—MAJOR-GENERAL BANKS, from his headquarters at New-Orleans, Louisiana, issued general orders constituting a Board of Education, and defining their duties and powers.

March 23.—An expedition under the command of General Steele left Little Rock, Ark., and went in pursuit of the rebel General Price.—THE following order was issued by Brigadier-General Nathan Kimball on assuming command of troops in the department of Arkansas: "The Commanding General intends to protect, to the fullest extent of his power, all citizens who may be in the country occupied by troops under his command, in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; knowing that in so doing he will assist in accomplishing the primary object of the government he serves.

"He will devote all his energies to the defeat of the enemies of that government; and although, as a soldier, he can feel respect for those *openly* in arms against it, yet robbers and guerrillas who have taken advantage of the unsettled state of the country to burn dwellings, murder their neighbors, and insult women, are in no respect soldiers, and when taken will not be treated as such.

"He requires all citizens to aid and assist the officers of the United States Government, and to stand firm in their allegiance to it.

"The loyal shall be protected, and the sympathizers with rebellion, though they may have taken the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States, will be treated as rebels, unless they conform, in word and act, to the spirit of that oath."

—By order of the Commander-in-Chief, the corps of the Army of the Potomac were reduced to three, namely, the Second, Fifth, and Sixth corps. The First and Third were temporarily reorganized and distributed among the Second, Fifth, and Sixth. Major-General G. K. Warren was assigned to the command of the Fifth corps, General W. S. Hancock continued to command

the Second corps, and Major-General Sedgwick the Sixth.

—A DARING rebel raid was made into the southern part of Green County to within five or six miles of Springfield, Mo., by a band of rebels numbering from eight to twelve, yesterday. Among the number were Louis Brashears and William Fulbright, (youngest son of Ephraim Fulbright,) both formerly of that county. The citizens collected and drove them out of the county to-day, and in a little fight with them killed Fulbright. In their flight southward the rebels killed Elijah Hunt and one Dotson, both of whom had formerly been in the rebel service.—*Missouri Democrat, March 30.*

March 24.—Major-Gen. Wm. H. French having been detached from the army of the Potomac in consequence of its reorganization, issued his farewell order to his command.—GENERAL NEAL DOW delivered an address in Portland, Maine, describing his captivity in the South.—THE rebel sloop Josephine was captured by the steamer Sunflower, at Saver's Sound.

—A LARGE force of rebels, under General Forrest, captured Union City, Ky., and after destroying the buildings, carried off the entire force of Nationals prisoners of war.—(*Docs. 1 and 127.*)

March 25.—Major-Generals Newton and Pleasanton, having been relieved of their commands in the army of the Potomac, issued general orders in accordance therewith.—PADUCAH, Kentucky, was attacked by the rebel forces under General Forrest.—(*Docs. 1, 127, and 139.*)

—THE steamer La Crosse was captured and burned by a party of rebel guerrillas, at a point on the Red River, below Alexandria; her crew was released, but the officers were carried off.

March 26.—President Lincoln issued a proclamation specifying the persons to whom the benefits of the Amnesty Proclamation of December last were intended to apply. He also authorized every commissioned officer in the United States service, either naval or military, to administer the oath of allegiance, and imposed rules for their government, in the premises.—(*Doc. 113.*)

—GENERAL ROSECRANS, from his headquarters at St. Louis, Mo., issued the following special orders: "The attention of the General Commanding has been called to various articles of an incendiary, disloyal, and traitorous character, in a

newspaper entitled the *Metropolitan Record*, without ecclesiastical sanction, called a 'Catholic family newspaper,' published in New-York March twenty-sixth, 1864. The articles on 'Conscription,' the 'Raid upon Richmond,' 'Clouds in the West,' and the 'Address of the Legislature of Virginia,' contain enough to satisfy the General Commanding that the reasonable freedom, nor even license, of the press, suffice for the traitorous utterances of those articles. They are a libel on the Catholics, who as a body are loyal and national; no man having a drop of Catholic charity or patriotism in his heart could have written them, expressing, as they do, hatred for the nation's efforts to resist its own dissolution, and friendship for those who are trying to destroy the great free government under which so many have found an asylum from oppression in other lands.

"The Provost-Marshall General will cause to be seized all numbers of the *Metropolitan Record* containing those articles; and venders of them, if found guilty of having sold or distributed them, knowing their traitorous contents, will be punished.

"To protect the innocent from imposition, the circulation of this paper is prohibited in this department until further orders."

—AN official announcement from Washington was made, that Illinois was twelve thousand four hundred and thirty-six "ahead of all quotas under the calls of President Lincoln for more troops."

March 27.—Colonel John M. Hughes, commanding the Twenty-fifth Tennessee rebel regiment, made application to Colonel Stokes, in command of the National forces at Sparta, Tenn., for the purpose of taking the oath of allegiance to the United States, and surrendering his command.

March 28.—A riot occurred at Charleston, Illinois, in which several persons were killed and wounded.—(*Doc. 186.*)

—THE election, ordered by Major-General Banks, for delegates to the Constitutional Convention of Louisiana, was held, and resulted in the success of the Free State party.

—Two rebel spies were captured in the navy-yard at Mound City, Arkansas, this morning.—An express train, which left Louisville, Ky., this morning, for Lebanon, was captured by a body of guerrillas, and two of the cars were burned. A

guard of seventeen National soldiers on the train surrendered without firing a gun.

March 29.—An expedition under Colonel Clayton, from Pine Bluff, made a descent upon a party of rebels who had been committing depredations in the neighborhood of Little Rock, Ark., and captured a large number of them.—THE following order was issued by J. P. Sanderson, Provost-Marshall General of the department of the Missouri, from his headquarters at St. Louis: "The sale, distribution, or circulation of such books as 'Pollard's Southern History of the War,' 'Confederate Official Reports,' 'Life of Stonewall Jackson,' 'Adventures of Morgan and his Men,' and all other publications based upon rebel views and representations, being forbidden by the General Commanding, will be suppressed by Provost-Marshals, by seizing the same, and arresting the parties who knowingly sell, dispose, or circulate the same."

—A BATTLE took place this day at Cane River, La., between a portion of the National forces under General Banks, engaged on the expedition up the Red River, and the rebels commanded by General Dick Taylor.—(*Doc. 181.*)

—THE United States steamer Commodore Barney, with fifty-six picked men from the Minnesota, all in charge of Captain J. M. Williams, left Fortress Monroe, Va., yesterday afternoon, proceeded up the Chuckatuck Creek, and landed the men in small boats at the head of the creek. They then took a guide to the headquarters of Lieutenant Roy, where they arrived at four o'clock this morning, when they immediately surrounded the houses, and captured two sergeants and eighteen privates, with their small-arms, without firing a shot. Masters Pierson and Wilder had charge of the Minnesota's boats. The capture was important, as the officers taken prisoners were in the rebel signal service.

March 31.—Colonel Powell Clayton, from his headquarters at Pine Bluffs, Ark., despatched the following to General Halleck, at Washington: "The expedition to Mount Elba and Long View has just returned. We destroyed the pontoon-bridge at Long View, pursued a train of thirty-five wagons loaded with confederate equipments, ammunition, some stores, etc., and captured three hundred and twenty prisoners; engaged in battle, yesterday morning, General Dockney's division of about one thousand two hundred men, from Monticello; routed and pur-

sued him ten miles, with a loss on his side of over one hundred killed and wounded. We captured a large quantity of small-arms, two stand of colors, many negroes, and have three hundred horses and mules. Our loss will not exceed fifteen in killed, wounded, and missing. We brought in several hundred contrabands. The expedition was a complete success."—LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GRANT, accompanied by General Meade, left Washington for Fortress Monroe.

April 1.—The funeral ceremonies of Owen Lovejoy, were held at his late residence near the town of Princeton, Illinois.—The steamer *Maple Leaf*, while returning to Jacksonville from Pilatka, struck a rebel torpedo, which exploded, tearing off the steamer's entire bow, the vessel sinking in ten minutes. Two firemen and two deck-hands were drowned. The passengers, sixty in number, were safely landed, but their baggage was all lost, including that of two or three regiments.—The battle of Fitzhugh's Woods, Ark., was fought this day.*—(*Doc. 128.*)

—A PARTY of rebels made an attack on Brooks's plantation, (which was being worked on a Government lease,) near Snedersville, on the Yazoo River, and destroyed all the valuable buildings and machinery. The First Massachusetts cavalry, (colored,) six hundred strong, drove the rebels off, after an hour's fight. The enemy numbered nearly one thousand five hundred. The Union loss was sixteen killed. Ten killed and wounded of the rebels were left on the field.

April 2.—Captain Schmidt, of company M, Fourteenth New-York cavalry, while scouting near Pensacola, Florida, with thirty of his men, came upon a party of fifty rebels belonging to the Seventh Alabama cavalry, under command of Major Randolph, C. S. A. The Nationals immediately charged them, and after a hand-to-hand fight of about ten minutes, defeated them with a loss of from ten to fifteen killed and wounded, eleven prisoners, one lieutenant, two sergeants, and eight men. The loss of the Nationals was First Lieutenant Lengerche and two men slightly wounded.

April 3.—This night a band of forty rebels landed at Cape Lookout, took possession of the lighthouse, put the keeper and his wife in du-rance, and exploded a keg of powder, which seriously damaged the building. They then retired on the approach of the steamer *City of Jersey*.

* See Document 8, Volume IX., REBELLION RECORD.

—GENERAL J. P. HATCH, commanding the district of Florida, issued the following order from his headquarters at Jacksonville: "The Brigadier-General Commanding desires to make known to his command the successful accomplishment of a daring and difficult expedition, by a detachment of twenty-five men of the One Hundred and Fifteenth New-York volunteers, commanded by Captain S. P. Smith, of the same regiment. This little party, sent from Pilatka to a point thirty-two miles from the post, surprised and captured a picket of the enemy, consisting of one sergeant and nine men, with their arms, and thirteen horses, and equipments complete. To bring off the horses, it was necessary to swim them across the St. John's River, and force them for a mile and a half through a swamp previously considered impracticable. The energy, intrepidity, and skill with which this expedition was conducted demands the praise of the commander of this district, and the imitation of troops hereafter detached on similar expeditions.

"II. The Brigadier-General Commanding announces that the Marine Battery, which was so promptly and cheerfully placed on the line of our intrenchments when they were first thrown up in the vicinity of Jacksonville, and at a time when it was much needed, has been ordered on board the sloop-of-war *Mahaska*. He takes this opportunity to return his thanks to Captain G. B. Balch, commanding United States naval forces on St. John's River, for his kindness, and to Ensign Augustus E. French, and the petty officers and men under him, for their valuable services, very good conduct, and exhibition of excellent discipline, throughout their intercourse with the troops of this command."

April 4.—The gunboat *Scioto*, under the command of Lieutenant Commander George H. Perkins, captured the rebel schooner *Mary Sorley*. Two hours and a half previous to the capture, the *Mary Sorley* was seen coming out of Galveston, Texas, in a gale. The *Scioto* gave chase, and after running south by west about twenty-five miles, made the capture beyond signal distance of any of the blockading vessels. All the official papers were found on board.—*Captain Marchand's Report.*

—By direction of the President of the United States, the following changes and assignments were made in army corps commands:

Major-General P. H. Sheridan was assigned to the command of the cavalry corps of the army of the Potomac.

The Eleventh and Twelfth corps were consolidated and called the First army corps. Major-General J. Hooker was assigned to command.

Major-General Gordon Granger was relieved from the command of the Fourth army corps, and Major-General O. O. Howard was assigned in his stead.

Major-General Schofield was assigned to the command of the Twenty-third army corps.

Major-General Slocum would report to Major-General Sherman, commanding the division of the Mississippi, and Major-General Stoneman would report to Major-General Schofield, commanding the department of the Ohio, for assignment.

Major-General Granger would report by letter to the Adjutant-General of the army.

Captain Horace Porter, United States ordnance department, was announced as an aid-de-camp to Lieutenant-General Grant, with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.—*General Orders.*

—CAPTAIN PHELPS, of gunboat Number Twenty-six, captured a rebel mail-carrier near Crockett's Bluff, Ark., with five thousand letters from Richmond and other points, and sixty thousand percussion-caps for General Price's army. The letters contained official communications from Shreveport, and a considerable sum of Federal money.—THE Metropolitan Fair, for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission, was inaugurated at New-York City, with imposing ceremonies.—*New-York Papers.*

—T. A. HENDERSON, Provost-Marshal of the district of Florida, issued the following circular from his headquarters at Jacksonville:

"All refugees from the rebel lines, and deserters from the rebel armies, and all persons desiring to become such, are hereby informed that they will not, under any circumstances, be compelled to serve in the United States army against the rebels. This assurance is fully given in General Orders Number Sixty-four, of date February eighteenth, 1864, from the War Department.

"All such refugees and deserters, who are honest in their intentions of for ever deserting the rebel cause, will be allowed every opportunity of engaging in their usual avocations; or, if they desire employment from the United States, will, as far as expedient, be employed on the government works, receiving proper compensation for their services.

"All refugees or deserters who may bring

horses or mules into the Union lines will be paid their full value."

April 5.—The government powder-mills, belonging to the rebels, at Raleigh, North-Carolina, exploded this day, and killed several persons.

April 6.—Brigadier-General Guitar, from his headquarters at Macon, Missouri, issued general orders relinquishing his command of the district of North-Missouri, to Brigadier-General C. B. Fisk.

—REUBEN PATRICK, captain of a company of secret service employed by order of Governor Bramlette, by Colonel G. W. Gallup, commanding the district of Eastern Kentucky, with fifteen men of company I, Fourteenth Kentucky, and four of his own company, surprised Captain Bradshaw, with eighty men of Hodge's brigade, on Quicksand Creek. He drove them in all directions, they leaving all their horses, arms, and camp equipage in Patrick's possession, who selected thirty of the best horses, and, with three prisoners, made quick time for camp, where he arrived, having left ten dead rebels, and seven mortally wounded on the ground. The captured arms were destroyed by burning them. This is the same Patrick who stole Humphrey Marshall's artillery out of his camp at Shelbyville, last spring.

—An election was held in Maryland, to determine whether a convention should be called for the purpose of amending the Constitution of the State. The question was carried by a large majority.—THE schooner Julia A. Hodges was captured off Matagorda Bay, Texas, by the National vessel Estrella.

April 7.—The rebels made a dash within the National picket-lines at Port Hudson, La., and a brisk skirmish ensued, without important results to either side. A detachment of the One Hundred and Eighteenth Illinois mounted infantry, and a section of Barnes's battery, Twenty-first New-York, with one gun, had been out mending the line of telegraph to Baton Rouge, and on their return were attacked by a superior force of rebel cavalry and driven in. Simultaneously an attack was made on the pickets by an equally large force, and the detachment on the telegraph road was cut off and flanked. The cavalry came in by wood roads, but the piece of artillery was spiked and left, and afterward carried off by the enemy. In the several skirmishes the Nationals lost one killed, four wounded, and six prisoners. They took two prisoners, one of them an officer. Gen-

eral Ullman's division marched several miles outside, but on the approach of the infantry the rebels left without hazarding a fight. The rebel force was the Wirt Adams's cavalry from up the river, numbering nearly a thousand. They were well mounted and equipped.—The rebel schooner Spunky was captured by the National schooner Beauregard, off Cape Canaveral.

April 8.—Last night, a scouting-party of one hundred men of the Second Missouri volunteers, from New-Madrid, was surprised in camp and in bed by guerrillas, at a point sixteen miles northwest of Osceola, in Arkansas. A member of the attacked band gives the following detailed account of the expedition and surprise. He says: "The rebels demanded a surrender, firing on our men in their beds, before they could get up, and as they sprang up, the assailants fired a dreadful volley from double-barreled shot-guns. Lieutenant Phillips, springing up, and calling to his men to rally, discharged one shot with revolver, and was struck in the left temple by a ball, and killed instantly. Major Rabb called to the men to rally, but they were so tightly pressed for the moment, that they fell back to a house at which was company K. The combatants were so close, that it was dangerous to our own men for those at the house to fire. The firing on our part was thus much curtailed for the moment. But all was soon over; the rebels have fallen back, and taken covering in the darkness of the night. But they were not all as fortunate as they might have wished; for at the close of the fray, some of them were heard to call out: 'Don't leave us, for we are wounded.' The fact of finding some arms on the ground, twenty or thirty feet off, where Lieutenant Phillips lay, proved that some of them had got their rights, (Federal lead.) In a few minutes after the fray, Sergeant Reese was ordered to take eight men and carry the wounded to the house, which was done immediately. Here is the list of the unfortunate—Lieutenant Phillips, killed; Lieutenant Orr, severely wounded; Sergeant Handy, killed; Sergeant Millhouse, severely wounded; Sergeant Claypool, slightly, in arm; William Julian, slightly; Thomas Jump, slightly, in leg; Joseph W. Davis, slightly; Milton R. Hardie, mortally, (has since died;) Able Benny, slightly, in leg; William Chasteen, mortally, (has since died in hospital.) Total—four killed, seven wounded, all of company I, Second Missouri."

The dead were necessarily left, and after bury-

ing them, the party conveyed the wounded the long distance to the river, and taking the steamer Darling, returned to quarters at New-Madrid to-night.

—By a general order, issued this day from the headquarters of the army of the Potomac, all civilians, sutlers, and their employés, were ordered to the rear by the sixteenth. Members of the Sanitary or Christian Commissions, and registered news correspondents only, were allowed to remain. All property for which there was no transportation, also was ordered to the rear, and the authority of corps commanders to grant furloughs was revoked, and none to be granted save in extreme cases, or in case of reenlisted veterans.

—A PARTY of guerrillas entered Shelbyville, Ky., at one o'clock A.M., this day, stole seven horses, and broke open the Branch Bank of Ashland; but before they could rifle it of its contents, they became alarmed at the proximity of the Twelfth Ohio cavalry, and decamped. The rest of them were arrested, and confined in Taylorsville jail.—This evening, the National cavalry, under the command of General Grierson, made a descent upon a bridge over Wolf River, Tenn., which had just been completed by the rebel General Forrest, and succeeded in capturing and destroying it, with a loss of eight killed and wounded, and the capture of two rebel prisoners.

—THE battle of Sabine Cross-Roads, La., took place this day. A participant in the fight gives the following account of it: "On the morning of the eighth of April, the regiment broke up camp at Pleasant Hill, and with the Twenty-fourth Iowa, Fifty-sixth Ohio, Forty-sixth Indiana, and Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, which composed the Third division, moved in the direction of Mansfield. After marching ten miles, the division halted and went into camp, as was supposed, for the night. At half-past two o'clock P.M., we (the Twenty-eighth Iowa) were ordered into line, and forward with the division, to support General Lee's cavalry and the Fourth division of the Thirteenth army corps, then engaging the enemy. A rapid march of an hour brought us to the scene of action. The Twenty-eighth Iowa was formed on the extreme left, supported by four companies of the Twenty-fourth Iowa, and advanced into an open field to meet the enemy. Here the regiment (the Twenty-eighth) halted, and was ordered to fire. After a spirited contest of about fifteen minutes, being exposed to a ter-



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nible fire of grape, shell, and shrapnel from the enemy's batteries, causing sad havoc in our ranks, we were ordered to fall back a short distance to secure a better position. This was accomplished in the best possible manner. Our second position was taken behind a fence, near a small ravine, and held two hours, receiving the constant fire of the enemy's infantry, and being exposed to their artillery. At this time the enemy had gained our left flank and rear, and were pouring a deadly fire upon us. Our ammunition being, in a great measure, exhausted, and having no support whatever, we were obliged to retreat with the rest of the division. After a running fight of three miles, in which we harassed the advance of the enemy, we were met by the Nineteenth army corps, and, with their assistance, succeeded in checking them. Night soon caused a cessation of hostilities."—(Doc. 131.)

—COLONEL HOWELL, of the Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania volunteers, continued his reconnoissances toward the rebel outposts, in the neighborhood of Hilton Head, S. C. To-day, he advanced up the May River, in the patrol-boats Foulk and Croton, guarded by the gunboat Chippewa. Detachments from the Seventy-sixth and Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania volunteers accompanied the expedition. Landing on Hunting Island, the forces drove in the rebel pickets, and skirmished with the force in their rear. Captain Phillips, with some men of the Eighty-fifth, drove away the pickets in another locality, and regained the main body without casualty. Meanwhile, the Chippewa shelled the woods on and about the neighboring shores. Reëmbarking, the force proceeded toward Bluffton, shelling that place and its vicinity.

—MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN J. PECK, in official orders, issued the following from his headquarters at Newbern, N. C.: "The Commanding General has the satisfaction of announcing another expedition against the enemy, in which both the military and naval forces of North-Carolina took part, sharing the honors equally.

"On the twenty-fifth of March, Colonel J. Jourdan, commander of the sub-district of Beaufort, with two hundred men of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth New-York volunteer infantry, embarked on board the United States gunboat Britannia, Lieutenant Huse commanding, and steamed for Bogue and Bear Inlets, for the purpose of capturing two of the enemy's vessels engaged in contraband trade, and also a body of

cavalry reported to be at Swansboro. Nearing the inlets, a portion of the command was transferred to small boats, and an effort made to effect a landing and move on Swansboro. All night long, in the breakers and storm, these little boats, with their patient crews, were tossed about. Several craft, in the violence of the gale, were dashed to pieces; but, through the energetic exertions of Colonel Jourdan and others, no lives were lost, although one officer (Captain David, of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth New-York volunteers) was seriously injured.

"In the morning the storm abated, and another attempt was made. As the boats moved up, instead of seeing the expected cavalry, they were saluted by heavy volleys of musketry from the river-banks. The enemy proving too strong, the party was obliged to return to the vessel.

"At the same time, Lieutenant King, of Colonel Jourdan's staff, with a body of men in boats, moved up Bear Inlet: he found and burned one of the vessels sought, together with its cargo of salt and leather. He returned to the gunboat, bringing with him forty-three negro refugees. The whole expedition arrived at Beaufort on the morning of the twenty-sixth ultimo, without the loss of a man.

"Great credit is due Colonel Jourdan and the officers and men of his command, together with the officers and men of the navy, for the efficient service performed. The Commanding General tenders his thanks especially to Colonel Jourdan, Captain Cuff, and Lieutenant King, of the army, and to Commander Dove and Lieutenants Huse and Cowie, of the navy."

April 9.—In the National House of Representatives, there was a very exciting discussion, in Committee of the Whole, on a resolution offered by Mr. Colfax to expel Mr. Alexander Long, of Ohio, for disloyal sentiments uttered in his speech on Friday last. During the discussion, Mr. Benjamin G. Harris, of Maryland, arose, and boldly avowed his gratification at the secession of the South, justifying it fully, and rebuking the Democratic party for not daring to come up to his standard of political morality. Mr. E. B. Washburne, of Illinois, instantly offered a resolution to expel Mr. Harris, which received eighty-one votes against fifty-eight; but two thirds being required, the resolution was not adopted. Mr. Schenck, of Ohio, then offered a resolution, severely censuring Mr. Harris, declaring him to be an unworthy member of the

House, which was adopted. The proceedings were very turbulent, and the debates very sharp.

—THE heaviest freshet known in Virginia for ten years occurred this night on the line of the Orange and Alexandria road. Several bridges were seriously damaged, and one was washed away entirely.

—THIS morning, about two o'clock, a small tug was discovered approaching the flag-ship *Minnesota*, lying off Newport News, Va. She was hailed, and answered in reply to the question, "What boat is that?" "The Roanoke." Still approaching, she was warned to keep off or she would be fired upon. Regardless of the warning, she came on, drifting with the tide, and when quite near, steamed straight at the port-quarter, striking the *Minnesota* with a torpedo or infernal machine, which exploded, shaking the vessel with a terrible concussion from stem to stern, and throwing the tug several yards from the ship. Immediately steam was raised on the tug, and before any thing could be done by the people on board the flag-ship, the tug was safe off in the darkness.

The Government tug, laying alongside the flag-ship, that should have had steam up and given chase, as she was ordered on the spot, danced up and down on the disturbed waves, powerless for harm to the unknown midnight visitor.

—THE battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, was fought this day.—(*Doc.* 181.)

April 10.—The transport steamer, *General Hunter*, was destroyed by torpedoes in St. John's River, twelve miles above Jacksonville, Florida. The quartermaster of the steamer was killed. All others on board were saved.

—"We can hope no good results from trivial and light conduct on the part of our women," says the *Mobile News* of this date. "Instead of adorning their persons for seductive purposes, and tempting our officers to a course alike disgraceful and unworthy of women, whose husbands and brothers are in our armies, they had better exhort them to well-doing, than act as instruments of destruction to both parties. The demoralization among our women is becoming fearful. Before the war, no woman dared to demean herself lightly; but now a refined and pure woman can scarcely travel without seeing some of our officers with fine-looking ladies as companions. You are forced to sit at the tables

with them; you meet them wherever you go. Is it that we, too, are as wild as our enemies, scoffing at God and at all rules of social morality? For heaven's sake, let us frown down this growing evil, unless all mothers and fathers would have their daughters grow up in a pestilential atmosphere, which but to breathe is death. Is not the hand of the enemy enough to send destruction to our homes, or must we have disgrace added to death? The evil can only be remedied by banishing the frail sisters from society, and putting no man in position who is not moral. Are not the bright and shining examples of Lee, Jackson, Johnston, Wheeler, Maury, and many others, enough to teach aspirants for office, that pure and moral men can make generals? that it is not necessary to play lackey to fast women to gain their country's applause? Nor need they think they are not known. By their deeds we know them. Our President is a pure and moral man; were it not well for him to set an example, by discountenancing and refusing promotion to this set of moths? We have no laws to reach such a class but public opinion; then let that be used without mercy."—THE battle at Prairie D'Ann, Arkansas, took place this day.—(*Doc.* 130.)

April 11.—At Huntsville, Alabama, a caisson of *Croswell's* Illinois battery exploded, killing instantly privates *Jacob Englehart*, *John Olsin*, *Wm. Humphrey*, *David Roach*, *Wm. Mattison*, and *Horace Allen*, and wounding *George Barnes*, and *Wm. Regan*. Several of the bodies of the killed were blown to atoms, and portions were found five hundred feet distant. The horses attached to the caisson were killed. The railroad dépôt was badly shattered. One citizen had his thigh broken, and several others were slightly injured.—LAST night a gang of guerrillas burned two houses, and stole several horses on the Kentucky side of the river, opposite *Cairo, Ill.*—THE Mexican schooner *Juanita*, while attempting to evade the blockade, was captured and destroyed by the steamer *Virginia*, off *San Luis Pass, Texas.*—THE schooner *Three Brothers* was captured in the *Homasassa River*, by the National vessel *Nita*.

April 12.—The English steamer *Alliance*, while attempting to evade the blockade, was captured near *Dawfuskie Island*, in the *Savannah River, Ga.* Her cargo consisted of assorted stores for the rebel government.

—FORT PILLOW, Ky., garrisoned by loyal colored troops, under the command of Major Booth, was attacked by the rebel forces under General Forrest, and after a severe contest was surrendered to the rebels, who commenced an indiscriminate butchery of their prisoners, unparalleled in the annals of civilized warfare.—(*Doca 1 and 189.*)

—A DETACHMENT of the First Colorado cavalry had a fight with a party of Cheyennes on the north side of the Platte River, near Fremont's Orchard, eighty-five miles east of Denver, on the State road. Two soldiers were killed, and four wounded. Several of the Indians were also killed.—THE steamer Golden Gate, from Memphis for Fort Pillow, laden with boat-stores and private freight, was taken possession of by guerrillas to-night, at Bradley's Landing, fifteen miles above Memphis, Tenn. The boat, passengers, and crew were rifled of every thing.

April 13.—The rebel General Buford appeared before Columbus, Ky., and demanded its unconditional surrender. Colonel Lawrence, in command of the post, refused the demand, and the rebels retired.—THE ocean iron-clad steamer *Catawba* was successfully launched at Cincinnati, Ohio.—THE schooner *Mandoline* was captured in Atchafalaya Bay, Florida, by the National vessel *Nyanza*.—THE rebel sloop *Rosina* was captured by the *Virginia*, at San Luis Pass, Texas.

—LAST night the notorious bushwhacking gang of Shumate and Clark went to the house of an industrious, hard-working German farmer, named Kuntz, who lives some twenty-five to thirty miles from the mouth of Osage River, in Missouri, and demanded his money. He stoutly denied having any cash; but the fiends, not believing him, or perhaps knowing that he did have some money, deliberately took down a wood-saw which was hanging up in the cabin, and cut his left leg three times below and four times above the knee, with the saw. Loss of blood, pain, and agony made the poor fellow insensible, and he was unable to tell where the money was concealed. His mangled body was found to-day, life extinct. A boy who lived with him, succeeded in making his escape, terror-stricken, to give the alarm. After leaving Kuntz's, the gang went to an adjoining American farmer, and not succeeding in their demands for money, they destroyed every thing in and about the place, took the man out, and literally cut his head off.—*Missouri Democrat.*

—THE British schooner *Maria Alfred*, with an assorted cargo, intended for the rebels, was captured in latitude 28° 50' N., longitude 95° 5' W., by the National vessel *Rachel Seaman*.

April 14.—Major-General Alfred Pleasonton was assigned to duty as second in command of the Missouri department, by order of Major-General Rosecrans.

—AN expedition, under command of General Graham, consisting of the army gunboats, the Ninth New-Jersey, the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Massachusetts, the One Hundredth and the Eighteenth New-York regiments, and two sections of artillery, under Captain Easterly, left Fortress Monroe last night, and landed at different points. They concentrated at Smithfield, Va., this evening, and succeeded in routing the enemy, capturing one commissioned officer and five men—all wounded; also several horses and carriages, and some commissary stores. A rebel mail, and one piece of artillery, formerly taken from the gunboat *Smith Briggs*, were also captured. Fifty contrabands were brought off at the same time. The Union loss was one missing, and five slightly wounded.

—THIS morning, a force of confederate cavalry, estimated at some twenty in number, and supposed to be a portion of Captain Jumel's command, stationed on the Grosse Tête, appeared in front of the village and park on the opposite side of the Bayou Plaquemine, La., and a party being detailed, crossed over and set fire to all the cotton at that place, while parties were at the same time engaged in burning that on flat-boats at the village.—*Plaquemine Gazette and Sentinel.*

—COLONEL GALLUP, at Paintsville, Ky., while falling back to get an advantageous position, attacked one thousand rebels, killing and wounding twenty-five, including a rebel colonel, and capturing fifty rebels, one hundred horses, and two hundred saddles.

Near Shelbyville, the rebel advance ran into Colonel True's advance, which was going from West-Liberty to Shelbyville; Colonel True captured six rebels, and then pressed forward to join Colonel Gallup.

April 15.—The National gunboat *Chenango*, while proceeding to sea from New-York City to-day, burst one of her boilers, killing one man, and severely wounding thirty-two others.—A MEETING was held at Knoxville, Tenn., at which

resolutions offered by W. G. Brownlow were unanimously adopted, favoring emancipation, recommending a convention to effect it, and requesting Governor Johnson to call the same at the earliest period practicable, and indorsing the administration and war policy of President Lincoln. Governor Johnson made a powerful speech in support of the resolutions.—THE Ninth Connecticut and Eighth Vermont reenlisted veteran regiments arrived at New-Haven, Ct., this evening.—GENERAL JOHN W. GEARY, commanding Second division, Twelfth (afterward Twentieth) army corps, started from Bridgeport, Ala., on an expedition down the Tennessee, last Tuesday, taking with him one thousand men, and one gunboat. They shelled along the banks of the river, occasionally routing a party of guerrillas and rebel cavalry, until within eleven miles of Decatur. Here they came to a large force of infantry, artillery, and cavalry. It was nearly dark, and the General ordered the boat up the river again. But the rebels were not to be thus trifled with, and sent a battery of flying artillery up both sides of the river to head off the gunboat. The artillery went up the banks, and got in position to play when the Nationals passed; but the night was very dark, and the General with his men passed in safety. The expedition halted ten miles below Bridgeport, at a small village, and sent out a company as skirmishers. They went in the town, drove some rebel pickets, and captured a mail and seventeen thousand dollars in confederate money. They returned to camp this evening.

—A BODY of rebel cavalry made an attack on the National pickets at Bristoe Station, Va., killing one man, and wounding two others of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania regiment. They were driven off after a few shots had been exchanged, but carried their wounded with them.—THE notorious guerrilla Reynolda, and his command, was surprised by a party of National cavalry, near Knoxville, Tenn., and ten of them killed. Reynolds and fifteen others were captured, together with their horses, equipments, and arms.

—THE expedition to Smithfield, Va., which left Portsmouth day before yesterday, returned this day. A participant gives the following account of it:

“The expedition consisted of three regiments, the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Massachusetts, and the Ninth New-Jersey. Our regiment, the Twenty-third, alone landed at a point nine

miles above Smithfield. The others were to land below at that place. We took up our line of march, and within about one mile came upon the rebel signal corps, who gave us a volley and fled. We followed, meeting with no opposition for three miles, when we found them posted behind breastworks and reinforced. They were too strong for our skirmishers, and Captain Story, of company F, was ordered to charge the breastworks with his command, companies I and D, about fifty men; and lest this should seem small for two companies, I will say, our whole regiment only mustered three hundred men, and were put into six companies of fifty men each. We were ordered to fix bayonets, and then forward, every man's eye being on the breastworks as he advanced toward it, expecting to receive a volley; but the rebels fled without firing. We pressed after them; and a mile further came to a mill-dam, with a bridge to cross, and discovered a turn in the road on the opposite side, where the rebels had posted themselves to advantage. A company was ordered into the woods to keep up a fire on them. The videttes were on the road watching the movements of the enemy, but kept themselves well covered, as we had already found they were good shots, having had two men wounded before reaching their breastworks. At this point, Sergeant Thomas Porter, of company I, a daring and brave young man, ventured beyond the videttes to get a shot, when he fell mortally wounded, the ball entering his shoulder, passing entirely down the back, and was extracted near the side.

“At this time we heard firing in our rear, and feared that the guerrillas would give us trouble by attacking our rear-guard; but we were determined to clear our way in front first, and Captain Raymond was ordered to charge across the bridge at all hazards, and disperse the foe, which was handsomely done, capturing the officer of the signal corps and two of his men, while the rest scattered in all directions, we not losing a man. In the morning we were informed that the Colonel's orders were from General Graham, commanding the expedition, to reach Smithfield at such an hour, expecting we should meet with little or no opposition; but, as the prospect was, that every mile was not only to be disputed, but that we were going to have considerable trouble in our rear with the guerrillas, the Colonel concluded to fall back to the river, under the protection of the gunboats, as we had already three wounded men to get there, and no ambulance to

convey them in. On turning back to the breastworks from which we drove the rebels, we took a different road from the one we came up in the morning, but had not gone far, before the guerrillas were following us, and a rear-guard was taken from company F, and they had something to do to keep them back, continually exchanging shots. The rebels were bold and daring; they knew every turn in the road, and would watch their chance to ride up and give us a shot, whenever opportunity offered. When within a half-mile of the river where we halted, Corporal Hiram B. Lord, of Newburyport, was wounded in the thigh, the ball passing in one side and out of the other.

"We came to the river-bank and stacked our arms in front of the residence of General F. M. Boykin, who was a noted politician of the democratic school, as letters found on his premises proved. This place has of late been made the headquarters of the rebel signal corps. Here was found a brass field-cannon in good order. A few rods from here is a fort which was erected at the outbreak of the rebellion, and was to command not only the river, but all approaches to it by land. In it were a number of large guns dismounted, and ten so damaged that they will never be of any use again. It looks as if it had been deserted for some time. Just before dark, our regiment took up its quarters in this fort, as it was thought it would be a good position, in case the enemy should come upon us in force. We had not been in the fort more than two hours, before we were ordered to go aboard the transport, and that night moved down to Smithfield; and the next forenoon the other part of the expedition came out, and we all returned to Portsmouth. A Lieutenant, belonging to frigate Minnesota who accompanied the expedition to Smithfield, was killed, and also an officer of the Ninth New-Jersey killed, and one private wounded. I believe those were all the casualties they met with. The Twenty-third had one mortally wounded, Porter, of company I; two seriously, Lord, of company I, Symonds, of company C; one slightly, Osborn, company G; and one wounded and taken prisoner, Thomas, of company F, who was sent with the quartermaster and another man to signalize the gunboats of our whereabouts. What damage we did the rebels we do not know. The other part of the expedition took some prisoners, two of them wounded; whether they killed any I did not

learn. I think this expedition is the second made under the command of Brigadier-General Graham."

—A FORAGE-TRAIN belonging to the National forces under the command of Colonel Williams, of the Kansas infantry, was attacked and captured at a point about eight miles from Camden, Ark., by a portion of the rebel forces under General Price.—*Leavenworth Conservative*.

—THE Richmond *Examiner* contained the following review of the situation: "Whilst the black cloud is slowly gathering on the horizon which will soon overspread the heavens, and, amid roaring thunder, discharge its flashes of lightning, a silence full of awe reigns through all nature, unbroken except by the painful sighing of the wind and a faint muttering in the distance. Such is the apparent quiet that oppresses our mind, and makes us bend low before the fearful storm that we feel in our heart is not afar off. Even the busy hum of preparation is hushed; what man can do to prepare for the fearful day has been done, and the South, at least, stands ready, like the strong man armed; the good knight, with the sword loose in its sheath, his harness bright and his heart full strong. Our men, after all their struggles and buffetings, ridled with wounds, broken by sickness, tried by cares, overcast by checks, are yet undaunted and unwavering; and once more, after imploring the Most High for his blessing, cast off the dust and ashes from their head, and rise at the call of danger, hopeful and confident as when they buckled on their maiden swords. People and army, one soul and one body, feel alike in their innermost hearts that when the clash comes, it will be a struggle for life or death.

"So far, we feel sure of the issue. All else is mystery and uncertainty. Where the first blow will fall, when the two armies of Northern Virginia will meet each other face to face; how Grant will try to hold his own against the master spirit of Lee, we cannot even surmise. But it is clear to the experienced eye that the approaching campaign will bring into action two new elements not known heretofore in military history, which may not unlikely decide the fate of the gigantic crusade. The enemy will array against us his new iron-clads by sea, and his colored troops on land.

"Europe will watch with nervous interest the first great trials made of these improved moni-

tors, if it should be our good fortune to finish and equip our own vessels of that class in time to meet them on equal terms. For since Aboukir and Trafalgar—a longer pause than was ever before known in the history of Europe—there have been no great naval fights, where fleets have met and the empire of the ocean has been at stake. Great wars have been carried on by land, but the sea has not been the scene of like great conflicts. During this long truce, two new elements—steam and improved projectiles—have entirely changed the conditions of such contests.

"Vessels have become independent in their movements. Wind or tide may aid or impede, but they are no longer essential, and steam enables them to approach each other at will, untrammelled by external agencies. The power of the engines of war which they carry has steadily increased; and in precise proportion as the projectile gained in weight and distance, the means of defence were improved in the armament of vessels. Thus, we have now guns of a calibre unknown since the first days of artillery, and ships armed like the mailed knights of the middle ages. They promise a truly fearful character for the result of the first hostile meeting on a large scale.

"The experiments heretofore made with iron-clad vessels have been but very imperfect trials. During the Crimean war certain 'floating batteries' of the French attacked the very strong batteries of Kinsburn, and silenced them with apparent ease. They were, however, mere iron boxes, having neither masts nor yards, and, in fact, in no point like the iron-clads of our day, with their plate armor at the sides and their turrets on deck. A trial on a larger scale was contemplated against the forts of Venice, when peace came and resigned them to the dockyard.

"In our navy, also, the vessels of the enemy have, with the exception of the fight with the *Merrimac*, attempted only the reduction of stone walls at Charleston. Successful in beating down brick and mortar, and reducing granite to atoms, their projectiles have been found powerless against sand-bags and heaps of rubbish. The only serious encounter that can be called a fair trial of iron-clads resulted in the destruction of the monitor *Keokuk*, by the superiority of our projectiles—steel bolts and spherical shot—devised by Brooke, the ingenious inventor of the deep-sea sounding-line. The Yankee gunboats occasionally, with their light draughts and powerful guns

on pivots, have ascended our rivers with impunity, frightened the people on shore, and controlled the country for miles around. The *prestige* that attended them at first, and cost us so dear, has, however, completely vanished. Like every dreaded danger, they succumbed as they were fairly looked in the face. Now we know fully their vulnerability, and the perils of a water transport for troops, with their helplessness when attacked in boats.

"Since the first trials, however, the Yankees have made great efforts to remedy the evils that attended their early iron-clads—their want of buoyancy, their sinking too deep forward to approach well at certain landings, the necessity to tow them out at sea, and their slowness, which would embarrass the fleet to which they may be attached. They claim now to possess vessels as buoyant and free in motion as ordinary steamers, impenetrable to any known projectile, including the new Whitworth arms, and provided with a heavier armament than the last built iron-clads of the English. These they propose to carry into our harbors, and if we there can meet them, a conflict such as the world has not seen yet will take place. The famous deeds of our noble *Merrimac* will be repeated, and England especially will watch the result with intense interest, as she well knows that these Yankee iron-clads were, in reality, not built for us, but for British ports and British vessels. After Mr. Seward's insolent despatch to Mr. Adams, which Earl Russell so conveniently ignored, they are amply forewarned.

"Another fleet of smaller but equally dangerous vessels has been built in the interior of the country, and there is no doubt that the Yankees will again send out the fleet of light gunboats, well armed and iron-clad, to force their way into regions otherwise inaccessible, to carry war to waters where they are least expected, and to overcome shore defences by a tempest of converging fire. They will again try to illustrate the powerful aid which a land army may receive from the kindred branch afloat, manœuvring on its flank, and supporting it by bold demonstrations. It is fortunate for us that we are both forewarned and forearmed. We have been steadily informed of the powerful engines of war prepared for our destruction. We have had our successes on the *Lower James* and in Charleston harbor.

"We have, just in time, received the instructive account of the first trial of an English-built iron-clad, the Danish monitor *Rolf Krake*, before



Prussian batteries, and may derive great comfort from the severe punishment she has received by guns far inferior to those we hold in readiness. For we also have not been idle, and both afloat and on shore all is prepared to resist attack and to meet the foe on his own terms. Our rivers also will have less to fear, for repeated triumphs and captures have taught us the value of horse-artillery and light movable batteries against the best-armed boats. Still, the conflict will be fierce and full of interest, not only to those who are engaged in it, but to all observers. Our fate is at stake; but we may, in all probability, have to perform the rehearsal of a fearful tragedy soon to be enacted on a still vaster stage, amid the crash of ancient empires and the uprising of powerful races in the old world.

"The other new feature likely to give a strange coloring to the summer's campaign is the large force of armed blacks which our enemy is practising to employ. They have apparently reconsidered their first plan of using them mainly for garrison duty, and we see them, in Virginia and other points of attack, place them in the van, or send them, well mounted, on foraging expeditions, in order thus to harden them for war. Whilst it cannot be expected that they will ever fight with the bravery or gallantry of our own men, we are disposed to believe that they will be as soldiers but little inferior to the riff-raff of Germany and Ireland, which enters so largely into the composition of the Northern army. The history of war teaches us that the most indifferent material may be made useful by careful association, and it is a maxim of common experience that those who will not fight alone and by themselves, will stand their ground, if properly supported and surrounded by large numbers. It is never wise to despise an enemy, least of all when he is as yet untried."

April 16.—The report of the United States Commissary of Prisoners was made public. It showed that the number of rebel officers and men captured by the National troops since the beginning of the war was one lieutenant-general, five major-generals, twenty-five brigadier-generals, one hundred and eighty-six colonels, one hundred and forty-six lieutenant-colonels, two hundred and forty-four majors, two thousand four hundred and ninety-seven captains, five thousand eight hundred and eleven lieutenants, sixteen thousand five hundred and sixty-three non-commissioned officers, one hundred and twenty-one thousand one

hundred and fifty-six privates, and five thousand eight hundred citizens. Of these, there remained on hand at the date of the report twenty-nine thousand two hundred and twenty-nine officers and men, among whom were one major-general and seven brigadiers. There had been one hundred and twenty-one thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven rebels exchanged against one hundred and ten thousand eight hundred and sixty-six Union men returned.

April 17.—Fort Gray, near Plymouth, North-Carolina, garrisoned by National troops under the command of Captain Brown, of the Eighty-fifth New-York regiment, was attacked by a force of rebels belonging to the command of General Pickett, who was repulsed after having made several attempts to carry the position by assault.—An unsuccessful attempt to capture the steamer Luminary was made by the rebels at a point thirty-five miles below Memphis, on the Mississippi River.—The English schooner Lily was captured by the gunboat Owasco, off Velasco, Texas.

—A riot occurred in Savannah, Georgia, this day. Women collected in a body, with arms, and marched the streets in a procession, demanding bread or blood. They seized food wherever it could be found. The soldiers were called out, and, after a brief conflict, the most active and prominent leaders were put in jail.

April 18.—This day at noon, three guerrillas were discovered in the town of Hunneville, on the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, forty miles west of Hannibal, Mo. A dozen of the citizens, some armed, mustered to capture them. They had been purchasing stores, and were then at the saloon of a Union citizen, Mr. Dieman. On the approach of the squad, the guerrillas drew in defence, closed doors, and fired upon the citizens, wounding a militia captain, but not dangerously. They also fired upon Dieman, inflicting a severe wound. The citizens fired, killing two of the guerrillas, and wounding the third, who succeeded in escaping from the house and the vicinity.—The Maryland State Fair, for the benefit of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, was opened with appropriate ceremonies at Baltimore. A speech was made by President Lincoln, in which he referred to the changes that had taken place in Baltimore during the past three years, and to the Fort Pillow massacre, which he said should be amply retaliated.—The rebel schooner Good Hope was captured and destroyed at sea, by the

Borden, who accompanied him on shore. In Parrot's Creek, eight seamen, led by Acting Ensign Nelson, chased six of the rebel cavalry.

"Yesterday afternoon, as the Eureka got within thirty yards of the shore, just below Urbanna, where I had sent her to capture two boats hauled up there, a large number of rebels, lying in ambush, most unexpectedly opened upon her with rifles, and a piece of light artillery. Thus taken by surprise, Acting Ensign Mallock displayed admirable presence of mind, and I think not more than five seconds had elapsed before he returned the fire from his light twelve-pounder, and with small-arms; and, although the little Eureka, with officers and men, has but sixteen souls on board, for some ten minutes (during which time the fight lasted) she was one sheet of flame, the twelve-pounder being fired about as fast as a man would discharge a pocket-pistol. The rebels were well thrashed, and I think must have suffered considerably. They fortunately fired too high, so that their shells and bullets passed over the Eureka without injury to the vessel or crew. It was quite a gallant affair, and reflects a great deal of credit upon both officers and men of the Eureka, a list of whom I herewith inclose.

"This morning, April twenty-second, observing a party of eighteen men at a distance of about two miles from this ship, with muskets slung over their backs, crawling on their hands and knees to get a shot at some of our men then on shore, I directed a shell to be thrown at them from a one-hundred pounder Parrott gun, which struck and exploded right in their midst, killing and wounding, I think, a large number of them, as only four were seen after the explosion, who were, as might be supposed, running inland at the top of their speed.

"Lieutenant Commander Eastman, who had the detailing of the various expeditions, well sustained, in the performance of this duty, the reputation which he had already acquired as an officer of marked energy and ability.

"I have it from the best authority that the rebels have placed torpedoes in the Rappahannock, just above Bohler's Rocks, where this flotilla was anchored; off Fort Lowry, off Brooks's Barn, opposite the first house above Leedstown, and at Layton's, somewhat higher up. All these are on the port hand going up. Others are said to be placed at various points in the river, from Fort Lowry to Fredericksburgh. They have also been placed in the Piankatank River, and in many of the creeks emptying into Chesapeake Bay."

—MAJOR-GENERAL J. G. TOTTEN died at Washington City this day.

—"THE capture of Richmond," said the Columbus, Ga., *Times*, of this day, "would prove of greater importance to our enemies, in a political point of view, than any other sense. With our capital in their possession, we would find additional influence brought to bear against us abroad; but as a material loss, its fall would in no manner compare with the disadvantages which would result from a defeat of General Johnston, and the occupation of Georgia that would follow. The first point is near our boundary lines; the second is our great centre. To lose the one would be as the loss of a limb; should we be driven from the other, it would be a terrible blow at our most vital point. This we must admit, and our enemy knows it."—A PARTY of six rebel guerrillas were captured near Morrisville, Va. They had attacked a National picket-station, and killed one man a short time previous.

April 23.—This morning a party of rebels attacked the National pickets at Nickajack Trace, and after compelling them to surrender, committed the most flagrant outrages upon them. A correspondent at Chattanooga, Tenn., gives the following particulars of the affair: "Sixty-four men, detailed from the Ninety-second Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel D. F. Sheets, commanding, were doing picket-duty near Lyle's farm, under command of Lieutenant Horace C. Scoville, company K. Eighteen of the men were placed in reserve near the farm, the rest were distributed at seven different posts.

"The supposition is, that a regiment of rebel infantry crossed Taylor's Ridge during the night, about five miles from Ringgold, and formed a line, extending from the base of the ridge to the Alabama road. This line faced south, being in the rear of our pickets. Another regiment crossed the ridge higher up the valley, and faced west. A body of cavalry (probably two companies) came on our pickets from the south, and a smaller body advanced from the direction of Leet's farm. Thus were our men nearly surrounded by the wily enemy, before the attack commenced, and the assault was made simultaneously upon all the posts. The enemy's cavalry first assailed our videttes, who retired, fighting desperately, until reinforced from the reserve, when the rebels were temporarily repulsed. Advancing again in still larger numbers, they forced our men to fall back. But the latter soon found their retreat cut off by the infantry which had

formed in their rear, and barricaded the road. Such was the disposition of the rebel force, that the reserve at Lyle's house, now reduced to nine men, were cut off from the remainder. Consequently, there was nothing left for our brave fellows but to surrender, or cut their way out, each man fighting for himself. They resolved to attempt the latter. Some desperate hand-to-hand contests ensued, and some chivalric daring was displayed, which the historian will never record. Of the sixty-four men, thirty-four escaped death or capture; and with heroic determination not to return to camp until relieved, they reoccupied the ground from which they had been driven, although they knew not at what moment the enemy might return to the attack, and kill or capture the remainder of them. Of that heroic band not a man came to camp without orders. Five were killed, four mortally wounded, three severely wounded, and eighteen missing. Lieutenant Scoville was wounded and captured. The rebel loss in killed and wounded must at least have equalled our own, and we took one prisoner.

"The men speak in high terms of Lieutenant Scoville's conduct until he was wounded; and I am informed that Colonel Sheets speaks highly of Sergeant Strock, of company C, and Sergeant Hine, of company E, who saved most of their men, and commanded the party who reoccupied the field.

"From the statements of wounded soldiers, and of citizens living near the roads along which the enemy retired, I gather the following facts, and offer no comment.

"A citizen saw a rebel officer shoot down one of our men, after he had surrendered and marched some distance with his captors. The only excuse for the vile outrage was, that the poor fellow could not keep up with the fiends who had taken him prisoner. After the officer had shot the man, the citizen heard one of the rebel scoundrels say: 'That's right, Cap, give it to him again!'

"William Chattannach, or Chattnach, a private in company B, after surrendering, was marched off with several others upon the double-quick, until totally unable to go further. A rebel lieutenant then came up to him, and shot him twice, the first time inflicting a slight, the second a mortal wound. He then left him, supposing he had killed him. Shortly after, two rebels came up to him and robbed him of his pocket-book and boots. One of them said, 'Let's scalp the —— Yankee!' but did not execute the

proposition. This statement was taken from poor Chattannach's dying lips.

"Reginald O'Connor, company B, was shot for the same reason, after being captured.

"George A. Springer and John Craddock, company E; George Marle, company F; and William Reynolds, company I, all make similar statements with regard to themselves.

"William Hills, company K, was found dead a mile from the post where he had stood on picket during the night. A lady living near where he was posted, declared, that she saw him pursued by some rebel cavalrymen. On being overtaken, he at once handed over his gun to one of the savages, who immediately fired the contents of the same into Hill's body, killing him instantly.

"In the case of O'Connor, three soldiers who saw the murder, declare, upon oath, that it was also committed by a rebel officer.

"Such are some of the details of this stupendous crime, whose atrocity is perhaps unsurpassed even by the bloody murders recently committed by these rebel miscreants in West-Tennessee and Kentucky.

"The following list of killed and wounded is nearly complete. Killed: Garner McKeel, company E; William Hills, company K; John Douns, company B; William Gifford, company H.

"Wounded: Reginald O'Connor, company B, fatally; William Chattannach, company B, fatally; G. A. Springer, company E, fatally; John Craddock, company E, severely, not dangerously; George Marle, company F, fatally; D. W. Butler, company A, dangerously; James Rhoades and William Reynolds, company I, both fatally.

"Of these killed and wounded, two had not surrendered when shot; seven were either killed or wounded (all but one, mortally) after they had surrendered to the enemy as prisoners of war; the circumstances connected with the shooting of the other three have not been definitely ascertained. Of the facts connected with these horrid outrages, there is no room to doubt. They are taken mostly from the affidavits of dying men—the surest testimony in the world."

April 24.—The steamer John J. Roe was burned by the rebels at a point below Natchez, on the Mississippi.—A SCOUTING-PARTY of the First Michigan cavalry, sent out from Alexandria, Va., under command of Lieutenant Jackson, came across a band of rebel guerrillas, about nine miles up the Occoquan road, when a brisk skirmish ensued. Four of the rebels were

wounded and taken prisoners. Lieutenant Jackson had two of his men slightly wounded, and succeeded in capturing one horse.—GOVERNOR BROUGH issued an order, calling the National Guard of Ohio into active service for one hundred days.

April 25.—To-day a wagon-train, consisting of two hundred and forty wagons, returning to Pine Bluffs, Arkansas, together with the escort, under the command of Colonel Drake, comprising the Twenty-sixth Iowa regiment, the Seventy-seventh Ohio regiment, and the Forty-third Indiana regiment, with four pieces of artillery, was captured by the rebels.

—A PARTY of rebels, in an attempt to surprise the National pickets, on the King's Road, near Jacksonville, Florida, were surrounded and captured by the Seventy-fifth Ohio mounted infantry.

April 26.—General Steele evacuated Camden, Arkansas, and commenced his march to Little Rock, on account of a want of supplies.—(*Doc. 130.*)

April 27.—Acting Master Hill, commanding the United States steamer Currituck, of the Potomac flotilla, succeeded in destroying two thousand bushels of grain, which was in process of transportation to Richmond.—*Com. Parker's Report.*

—THE English schooner O.K. was captured by the National vessel Union, off the coast of Florida.—THE army under General Banks, including the forces of General A. J. Smith, returned to Alexandria, La.—(*Doc. 131.*)

April 28.—Brigadier-General Devens, with a brigade of cavalry, on a reconnoissance to Madison Court-House, Va., surprised a party of thirty

rebels in that place, and succeeded in capturing the whole of them.

April 29.—The English schooner Miriam was captured in lat. 25° 25' N. long. 84° 30', W., by the National vessel Honeysuckle.

—AN expedition, under the command of Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Hooker, sent to Carter's Creek from the Potomac flotilla, succeeded in destroying eleven boats and canoes, a large quantity of grain, and a number of log-huts, which had been used as barracks by the rebel soldiers. In approaching these, Acting Master Street, who had charge of the landing party, consisting of twenty-five seamen, fell in with a company of rebel cavalry, who, mistaking his force for the advance-guard of a much larger one, put spurs to their horses and fled. Lieutenant Hooker well planned the expedition, and Acting Master Street displayed boldness and decision in carrying it out.—*Com. Parker's Report.*

—CONSIDERABLE excitement was caused in Richmond, Va., to-day, by the presence of the rebel government impressing agents for the collection of horses for the use of General Lee's army.

April 30.—A company for the establishment of a volunteer rebel navy was organized in Richmond, Va., with a capital of ten millions of dollars, one million five hundred thousand of which had been paid in.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

—GENERAL STEELE, on his retreat from Camden, Ark., crossed the Saline River. Before crossing, he was attacked by the rebels, under General Fagan, and lost several men, among them Major Atkinson and Lieutenant Henry, both of whom were killed.—THE schooner Judson was captured off Mobile Bar, Ala., by the steamer Connemaugh.

DOCUMENTS AND NARRATIVES.

Doc. 1.

THE FORT PILLOW MASSACRE.

April 18, 1864. The Joint Committee on the Conduct and Expenditures of the War, to whom was referred the Resolution of Congress instructing them to investigate the late Massacre at Fort Pillow, designated two members of the Committee—Messrs. Wade and Gooch—to proceed forthwith to such places as they might deem necessary, and take testimony. That Sub-Committee having discharged that duty, returned to this city, and submitted to the Joint Committee a Report, with accompanying papers and testimony. The Report was read and adopted by the Committee, whose Chairman was instructed to submit the same, with the testimony, to the Senate, and Mr. Gooch to the House, and ask that the same be printed.

MESSRS. WADE and GOOCH, the sub-committee appointed by the Joint Committee on the Conduct and Expenditures of the War, with instructions to proceed to such points as they might deem necessary for the purpose of taking testimony in regard to the massacre at Fort Pillow, submitted the following report to the Joint Committee, together with the accompanying testimony and papers:

In obedience to the instruction of this Joint Committee adopted on the eighteenth ultimo, your Committee left Washington on the morning of the nineteenth, taking with them the stenographer of this Committee, and proceeded to Cairo and Mound City, Illinois; Columbus, Kentucky; and Fort Pillow and Memphis, Tennessee; at each of which places they proceeded to take testimony.

Although your Committee were instructed to inquire only in reference to the attack, capture, and massacre of Fort Pillow, they have deemed it proper to take some testimony in reference to the operations of Forrest and his command immediately preceding and subsequent to that horrible transaction. It will appear, from the testimony thus taken, that the atrocities committed at Fort Pillow were not the result of passions excited by the heat of conflict, but were the results of a policy deliberately decided upon and unhesi-

tatingly announced. Even if the uncertainty of the fate of those officers and men belonging to colored regiments who have heretofore been taken prisoners by the rebels has failed to convince the authorities of our Government of this fact, the testimony herewith submitted must convince even the most skeptical that it is the intention of the rebel authorities not to recognize the officers and men of our colored regiments as entitled to the treatment accorded by all civilized nations to prisoners of war. The declarations of Forrest and his officers, both before and after the capture of Fort Pillow, as testified to by such of our men as have escaped after being taken by him; the threats contained in the various demands for surrender made at Paducah, Columbus, and other places; the renewal of the massacre the morning after the capture of Fort Pillow; the statements made by the rebel officers to the officers of our gunboats who received the few survivors at Fort Pillow—all this proves most conclusively the policy they have determined to adopt.

The first operation of any importance was the attack upon Union City, Tennessee, by a portion of Forrest's command. The attack was made on the twenty-fourth of March. The post was occupied by a force of about five hundred men, under Colonel Hawkins, of the Seventh Tennessee Union cavalry. The attacking force was superior in numbers, but was repulsed several times by our forces. For the particulars of the attack, and the circumstances attending the surrender, your Committee would refer to the testimony herewith submitted. They would state, however, that it would appear from the testimony that the surrender was opposed by nearly if not quite all the officers of Colonel Hawkins's command. Your Committee think that the circumstances connected with the surrender are such that they demand the most searching investigation by the military authorities, as, at the time of the surrender, but one man on our side had been injured.

On the twenty-fifth of March, the enemy, under the rebel Generals Forrest, Buford, Harris, and Thompson, estimated at over six thousand men, made an attack on Paducah, Kentucky, which post was occupied by Colonel S. G. Hicks, Fortieth Illinois regiment, with six hundred and fifty-five men. Our forces retired into Fort Anderson, and there made their stand—assisted by some gunboats belonging to the command of

Captain Shirk of the navy—successfully repelling the attacks of the enemy. Failing to make any impression upon our forces, Forrest then demanded an unconditional surrender, closing his communication to Colonel Hicks in these words: "If you surrender you shall be treated as prisoners of war, but if I have to storm your works you may expect no quarter." This demand and threat was met by a refusal on the part of Colonel Hicks to surrender, he stating that he had been placed there by his Government to defend that post, and he should do so. The rebels made three other assaults that same day, but were repulsed with heavy loss each time, the rebel General Thompson being killed in the last assault. The enemy retired the next day, having suffered a loss estimated at three hundred killed, and from one thousand to one thousand two hundred wounded. The loss on our side was fourteen killed and forty-six wounded.

The operations of the enemy at Paducah were characterized by the same bad faith and treachery that seem to have become the settled policy of Forrest and his command. The flag of truce was taken advantage of there, as elsewhere, to secure desirable positions which the rebels were unable to obtain by fair and honorable means; and also to afford opportunities for plundering private stores as well as Government property. At Paducah the rebels were guilty of acts more cowardly, if possible, than any they have practised elsewhere. When the attack was made the officers of the Fort and of the gunboats advised the women and children to go down to the river for the purpose of being taken across out of danger. As they were leaving the town for that purpose, the rebel sharp-shooters mingled with them, and, shielded by their presence, advanced and fired upon the gunboats, wounding some of our officers and men. Our forces could not return the fire without endangering the lives of the women and children. The rebels also placed women in front of their lines as they moved on the Fort, or were proceeding to take positions, while the flag of truce was at the Fort, in order to compel our men to withhold their fire, out of regard for the lives of the women who were made use of in this most cowardly manner. For more full details of the attack, and the treacherous and cowardly practices of the rebels there, your Committee refer to the testimony herewith submitted.

On the thirteenth of April, the day after the capture of Fort Pillow, the rebel General Buford appeared before Columbus, Kentucky, and demanded its unconditional surrender. He coupled with that demand a threat that if the place was not surrendered, and he should be compelled to attack it "no quarter whatever should be shown to the negro troops." To this Colonel Lawrence, in command of the post, replied, that "surrender was out of the question," as he had been placed there by his government to hold and defend the place, and should do so. No attack was made, but the enemy retired, having taken advantage of the flag of truce to seize some horses of Union

citizens which had been brought in there for security.

It was at Fort Pillow, however, that the brutality and cruelty of the rebels were most fearfully exhibited. The garrison there, according to the last returns received at headquarters, amounted to nineteen officers and five hundred and thirty-eight enlisted men, of whom two hundred and sixty-two were colored troops, comprising one battalion of the Sixth United States heavy artillery, (formerly called the First Alabama artillery,) of colored troops, under command of Major L. F. Booth; one section of the Second United States light artillery, colored, and one battalion of the Thirtieth Tennessee cavalry, white, commanded by Major W. F. Bradford. Major Booth was the ranking officer, and was in command of the post.

On Tuesday, the twelfth of April, (the anniversary of the attack on Fort Sumter, in April, 1861,) the pickets of the garrison were driven in just before sunrise, that being the first intimation our forces there had of any intention on the part of the enemy to attack that place. Fighting soon became general, and about nine o'clock Major Booth was killed. Major Bradford succeeded to the command, and withdrew all the forces within the fort. They had previously occupied some intrenchments at some distance from the fort, and further from the river.

This Fort was situated on a high bluff, which descended precipitately to the river's edge, the side of the bluff on the river side being covered with trees, bushes, and fallen timber. Extending back from the river, on either side of the Fort, was a ravine or hollow—the one below the Fort containing several private stores and some dwellings, constituting what was called the town. At the mouth of that ravine, and on the river bank, were some government buildings containing commissary and quartermaster's stores. The ravine above the Fort was known as Cold Creek ravine, the sides being covered with trees and bushes. To the right, or below and a little to the front of the Fort, was a level piece of ground, not quite so elevated as the Fort itself, on which had been erected some log huts or shanties, which were occupied by the white troops, and also used for hospital and other purposes. Within the Fort tents had been erected, with board floors, for the use of the colored troops. There were six pieces of artillery in the Fort, consisting of two six-pounders, two twelve-pounder howitzers, and two ten-pounder Parrotts.

The rebels continued their attack, but, up to two or three o'clock in the afternoon, they had not gained any decisive success. Our troops, both white and black, fought most bravely, and were in good spirits. The gunboat No. Seven (New Era) Captain Marshall, took part in the conflict, shelling the enemy as opportunity offered. Signals had been agreed upon by which the officers in the Fort could indicate where the guns of the boat could be most effective. There being but one gunboat there, no permanent impression appears to have been produced upon the enemy

for as they were shelled out of one ravine, they would make their appearance in the other. They would thus appear and retire as the gunboat moved from one point to the other. About one o'clock the fire on both sides slackened somewhat, and the gunboat moved out in the river, to cool and clean its guns, having fired two hundred and eighty-two rounds of shell, shrapnel, and canister, which nearly exhausted its supply of ammunition.

The rebels having thus far failed in their attack, now resorted to their customary use of flags of truce. The first flag of truce conveyed a demand from Forrest for the unconditional surrender of the Fort. To this, Major Bradford replied, asking to be allowed one hour to consult with his officers and the officers of the gunboat. In a short time a second flag of truce appeared, with a communication from Forrest, that he would allow Major Bradford twenty minutes in which to move his troops out of the Fort, and if it was not done within that time an assault would be ordered. To this, Major Bradford returned the reply that he would not surrender.

During the time these flags of truce were flying, the rebels were moving down the ravine and taking positions from which the more readily to charge upon the Fort. Parties of them were also engaged in plundering the government buildings of commissary and quartermaster's stores, in full view of the gunboat. Captain Marshall states that he refrained from firing upon the rebels, although there were thus violating the flag of truce, for fear that, should they finally succeed in capturing the Fort, they would justify any atrocities they might commit by saying that they were in retaliation for his firing while the flag of truce was flying. He says, however, that when he saw the rebels coming down the ravine above the Fort, and taking positions there, he got under way and stood for the Fort, determined to use what little ammunition he had left in shelling them out of the ravine; but he did not get up within effective range before the final assault was made.

Immediately after the second flag of truce retired, the rebels made a rush from the positions they had so treacherously gained and obtained possession of the Fort, raising the cry of "No quarter!" But little opportunity was allowed for resistance. Our troops, black and white, threw down their arms, and sought to escape by running down the steep bluff near the Fort, and secreting themselves behind trees and logs, in the bushes, and under the brush—some even jumping into the river, leaving only their heads above the water, as they crouched down under the bank.

Then followed a scene of cruelty and murder without a parallel in civilized warfare, which needed but the tomahawk and scalping-knife to exceed the worst atrocities ever committed by savages. The rebels commenced an indiscriminate slaughter, sparing neither age nor sex, white nor black, soldier or civilian. The officers and men seemed to vie with each other in the devilish

work; men, women, and even children, wherever found, were deliberately shot down, beaten, and hacked with sabres; some of the children not more than ten years old were forced to stand up and face their murderers while being shot; the sick and the wounded were butchered without mercy, the rebels even entering the hospital-building and dragging them out to be shot, or killing them as they lay there unable to offer the least resistance. All over the hillside the work of murder was going on; numbers of our men were collected together in lines or groups and deliberately shot; some were shot while in the river, while others on the bank were shot and their bodies kicked into the water, many of them still living but unable to make any exertions to save themselves from drowning. Some of the rebels stood on the top of the hill or a short distance down its side, and called to our soldiers to come up to them, and as they approached, shot them down in cold blood; if their guns or pistols missed fire, forcing them to stand there until they were again prepared to fire. All around were heard cries of "No quarter!" "No quarter!" "Kill the damned niggers; shoot them down!" All who asked for mercy were answered by the most cruel taunts and sneers. Some were spared for a time, only to be murdered under circumstances of greater cruelty. No cruelty which the most fiendish malignity could devise was omitted by these murderers. One white soldier who was wounded in one leg so as to be unable to walk, was made to stand up while his tormentors shot him; others who were wounded and unable to stand were held up and again shot. One negro who had been ordered by a rebel officer to hold his horse, was killed by him when he remounted; another, a mere child, whom an officer had taken up behind him on his horse, was seen by Chalmers, who at once ordered the officer to put him down and shoot him, which was done. The huts and tents in which many of the wounded had sought shelter were set on fire, both that night and the next morning, while the wounded were still in them—those only escaping who were able to get themselves out, or who could prevail on others less injured than themselves to help them out; and even some of those thus seeking to escape the flames were met by those ruffians and brutally shot down, or had their brains beaten out. One man was deliberately fastened down to the floor of a tent, face upward, by means of nails driven through his clothing and into the boards under him, so that he could not possibly escape, and then the tent set on fire; another was nailed to the side of a building outside of the fort, and then the building set on fire and burned. The charred remains of five or six bodies were afterward found, all but one so much disfigured and consumed by the flames that they could not be identified, and the identification of that one is not absolutely certain, although there can hardly be a doubt that it was the body of Lieutenant Akerstrom, Quartermaster of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, and a native Tennessean;

several witnesses who saw the remains, and who were personally acquainted with him while living, have testified that it is their firm belief that it was his body that was thus treated.

These deeds of murder and cruelty ceased when night came on, only to be renewed the next morning, when the demons carefully sought among the dead lying about in all directions for any of the wounded yet alive, and those they found were deliberately shot. Scores of the dead and wounded were found there the day after the massacre by the men from some of our gunboats who were permitted to go on shore and collect the wounded and bury the dead. The rebels themselves had made a pretence of burying a great many of their victims, but they had merely thrown them, without the least regard to care or decency, into the trenches and ditches about the Fort, or the little hollows and ravines on the hill-side, covering them but partially with earth. Portions of heads and faces, hands and feet, were found protruding through the earth in every direction. The testimony also establishes the fact that the rebels buried some of the living with the dead, a few of whom succeeded afterward in digging themselves out, or were dug out by others, one of whom your committee found in Mound City hospital, and there examined. And even when your Committee visited the spot, two weeks afterward, although parties of men had been sent on shore from time to time to bury the bodies unburied and rebury the others, and were even then engaged in the same work, we found the evidences of this murder and cruelty still most painfully apparent; we saw bodies still unburied (at some distance from the Fort) of some sick men who had been met fleeing from the hospital and beaten down and brutally murdered, and their bodies left where they had fallen. We could still see the faces, hands, and feet of men, white and black, protruding out of the ground, whose graves had not been reached by those engaged in reintering the victims of the massacre; and although a great deal of rain had fallen within the preceding two weeks, the ground, more especially on the side and at the foot of the bluff where the most of the murders had been committed was still discolored by the blood of our brave but unfortunate men, and the logs and trees showed but too plainly the evidences of the atrocities perpetrated there.

Many other instances of equally atrocious cruelty might be enumerated, but your Committee feel compelled to refrain from giving here more of the heart-sickening details, and refer to the statements contained in the voluminous testimony herewith submitted. Those statements were obtained by them from eye-witnesses and sufferers; many of them, as they were examined by your Committee, were lying upon beds of pain and suffering, some so feeble that their lips could with difficulty frame the words by which they endeavored to convey some idea of the cruelties which had been inflicted on them, and which they had seen inflicted on others.

How many of our troops thus fell victims to

the malignity and barbarity of Forrest and his followers cannot yet be definitely ascertained. Two officers belonging to the garrison were absent at the time of the capture and massacre. Of the remaining officers but two are known to be living, and they are wounded and now in the hospital at Mound City. One of them, Captain Potter, may even now be dead, as the surgeons, when your committee were there, expressed no hope of his recovery. Of the men, from three hundred to four hundred are known to have been killed at Fort Pillow, of whom, at least, three hundred were murdered in cold blood after the post was in possession of the rebels, and our men had thrown down their arms and ceased to offer resistance. Of the survivors, except the wounded in the hospital at Mound City, and the few who succeeded in making their escape unhurt, nothing definite is known; and it is to be feared that many have been murdered after being taken away from the Fort.

In reference to the fate of Major Bradford, who was in command of the Fort when it was captured, and who had up to that time received no injury, there seems to be no doubt. The general understanding everywhere seemed to be that he had been brutally murdered the day after he was taken prisoner.

There is some discrepancy in the testimony, but your committee do not see how the one who professed to have been an eye-witness of his death could have been mistaken. There may be some uncertainty in regard to his fate.

When your committee arrived at Memphis, Tennessee, they found and examined a man (Mr. McLagan) who had been conscripted by some of Forrest's forces, but who, with other conscripts, had succeeded in making his escape. He testifies that while two companies of rebel troops, with Major Bradford and many other prisoners, were on their march from Brownsville to Jackson, Tennessee, Major Bradford was taken by five rebels—one an officer—led about fifty yards from the line of march, and deliberately murdered in view of all there assembled. He fell—killed instantly by three musket-balls, even while asking that his life might be spared, as he had fought them manfully, and was deserving of a better fate. The motive for the murder of Major Bradford seems to have been the simple fact that, although a native of the South, he remained loyal to his government. The testimony herewith submitted contains many statements made by the rebels that they did not intend to treat "home-made Yankees," as they termed loyal Southerners, any better than negro troops.

There is one circumstance connected with the events herein narrated which your committee cannot permit to pass unnoticed. The testimony herewith submitted discloses this most astounding and shameful fact: On the morning of the day succeeding the capture of Fort Pillow, the gunboat Silver Cloud, (No. 28,) the transport Platte Valley, and the gunboat New Era, (No. 7,) landed at Fort Pillow under flag of truce, for the purpose of receiving the few wounded there and

burying the dead. While they were lying there, the rebel General Chalmers and other rebel officers came down to the landing, and some of them went on the boats. Notwithstanding the evidences of rebel atrocity and barbarity with which the ground was covered, there were some of our army officers on board the Platte Valley so lost to every feeling of decency, honor, and self-respect, as to make themselves disgracefully conspicuous in bestowing civilities and attention upon the rebel officers, even while they were boasting of the murders they had there committed. Your Committee were unable to ascertain the names of the officers who have thus inflicted so foul a stain upon the honor of our army. They are assured, however, by the military authorities that every effort will be made to ascertain their names and bring them to the punishment they so richly merit.

In relation to the reinforcement or evacuation of Fort Pillow, it would appear from the testimony that the troops there stationed were withdrawn on the twenty-fifth of January last, in order to accompany the Meridian expedition under General Sherman. General Hurlbut testifies that he never received any instructions to permanently vacate the post, and deeming it important to occupy it, so that the rebels should not interrupt the navigation of the Mississippi by planting artillery there, he sent some troops there about the middle of February, increasing their number afterward until the garrison amounted to nearly six hundred men. He also states that as soon as he learned that the place was attacked, he immediately took measures to send up reinforcements from Memphis, and they were actually embarking when he received information of the capture of the Fort.

Your Committee cannot close this report without expressing their obligations to the officers of the army and navy, with whom they were brought in contact, for the assistance they rendered. It is true your Committee were furnished by the Secretary of War with the fullest authority to call upon any one in the army for such services as they might require, to enable them to make the investigation devolved upon them by Congress, but they found that no such authority was needed. The army and navy officers at every point they visited evinced a desire to aid the committee in every way in their power; and all expressed the highest satisfaction that Congress had so promptly taken steps to ascertain the facts connected with this fearful and bloody transaction, and the hope that the investigation would lead to prompt and decisive measures on the part of the government. Your Committee would mention more particularly the names of General Mason Brayman, Military Commandant at Cairo; Captain J. H. Odlin, his Chief of Staff; Captain Alexander M. Pennock, United States navy, Fleet Captain of Mississippi squadron; Captain James W. Shirk, United States navy, commanding Seventh district Mississippi squadron; Surgeon Horace Wardner, in charge of Mound City general hospital; Captain Thomas M. Farrell, United

States navy, in command of gunboat Hastings, (furnished by Captain Pennock to convey the Committee to Fort Pillow and Memphis;) Captain Thomas Pattison, Naval Commandant at Memphis; General C. C. Washburne, and the officers of their commands, as among those to whom they are indebted for assistance and attention.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. F. WADE,
D. W. GOOCH.

Adopted by the committee as their report.

B. F. WADE,
Chairman.

TESTIMONY.

CAIRO, ILLINOIS, April 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General Mason Brayman sworn and examined by the Chairman.

Question. What is your rank and position in the service?

Answer. Brigadier-General of volunteers; have been in command of the district of Cairo since March nineteenth, 1864.

Question. What was the extent of your district when you assumed command, and what your available force?

Answer. The river, from Paducah to Island Number Ten, inclusive, about one hundred and sixty miles, and adjacent portions of Tennessee and Kentucky. My available force for duty, as appears from tri-monthly report of March twentieth, as follows:

Paducah, officers and men,	408
Cairo, "	281
Columbus, "	998
Hickman, "	51
Island No. Ten, "	162
Union City, "	479

Aggregate, 2829

Question. What was the character of your force and the condition of your command at that time?

Answer. Three fourths of the men were colored, a portion of them not mustered into service, and commanded by officers temporarily assigned, awaiting commission. Of the white troops about one half at the posts on the river were on duty as provost-marshals' guards and similar detached duties, leaving but a small number in condition for movement. The fortifications were in an unfinished condition; that at Cairo rendered almost useless by long neglect. Many of the guns were dismounted, or otherwise unfit for service, and the supply of ammunition deficient and defective. A body of cavalry at Paducah were not mounted, and only part of those at Union City. I had not enough mounted men within my reach for orderlies.

Question. What is the character of the public property and interests intrusted to your care?

Answer. Paducah commands the Ohio. In hostile hands, the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers are no longer ours. Mound City, eight miles above Cairo, is the great naval dépôt for the Western fleet. Gunboats there receive their

armaments, crews, and supplies. An average of probably five million dollars of public property is constantly at that point; I found it guarded by, perhaps, fifty men of the veteran reserve corps, not referring to gunboats lying there. Cairo, at the confluence of the great rivers, is the narrow gateway through which all military and naval operations of the Mississippi valley must be made. I cannot compute the amount or value of shipping and property at all times at this point. The Committee must observe that the loss of Mound City and Cairo would paralyze the Western army and navy. The points below Columbus and Island Ten are fortified places; while holding them, the rebels had control of the river. It required a prodigious effort to dislodge them. To concede to them any point on the river, even for a week, would bring disaster. Furthermore, the rebels now control Western Kentucky; they are murdering, robbing, and driving out the loyal men; they avow their determination to permit the loyal men to take no part in the approaching elections. Unless protected in their effort to protect themselves, the Union men must give way, and the country remain under insurrectionary control.

Question. Did you consider your force, as stated, adequate to the protection of your district?

Answer. Wholly inadequate, considering the interests at stake, and the hostile forces within attacking distance.

Question. When did you first hear that Forrest was advancing?

Answer. On March twenty-third, four days after I took command, Colonel Hicks, at Paducah, and Colonel Hawkins at Union City, advised me by telegraph of the presence in their neighborhood of armed bands, both fearing an attack. At night of the same day, Colonel Hawkins reported Forrest at Jackson, sixty-one miles south, with seven thousand men; and again that he expected an attack within twenty-four hours. He wanted reinforcements.

Question. Had you the means of reinforcing him?

Answer. Of my own command, I had not one hundred and fifty available men; however, some regiments and detachments of General Veatch's division had arrived and awaited the arrival of boats from St. Louis to carry them up the Tennessee. General Veatch had gone to Evansville, Indiana. Simultaneously with the reports from Hicks and Hawkins, I received from General Sherman, then at Nashville, this despatch: "Has General Veatch and command started up the Tennessee? If not, start them up at once." Down to this time it was uncertain whether Union City or Paducah was the real object of attack. Late in the evening I applied to Captain Fox, General Veatch's Assistant Adjutant-General, to have two thousand men in readiness to move during the night, if wanted, promising to have them back in time to embark, on arrival of their transports. I telegraphed Hawkins that he would receive aid, directing him to "fortify

and keep well prepared." About half-past four o'clock of the morning of the twenty-fourth, I was satisfied that Union City was the point of attack. Boats were impressed, four regiments were embarked, and I left at ten; disembarked at Columbus, and arriving within six miles of Union City at four P.M., where I learned that a surrender had taken place at eleven A.M., and the garrison marched off. I turned back, and at three the next morning turned over General Veatch's men, ready to go up the Tennessee.

Question. Why did you not pursue Forrest?

Answer. For three reasons: First, his force was all cavalry; mine all infantry. Second, he was moving on Paducah, and, while I could not overtake him by land, I could head him by the rivers. Third, another despatch from General Sherman reached me as I was going out from Columbus, prohibiting me from diverting the troops bound up the Tennessee from that movement on account of the presence of Forrest. My purpose was to save Union City, bring in its garrison, and have General Veatch's men back in time for their boats. While I was willing to risk much to secure a garrison supposed to be yet engaged in gallant defence, I could do nothing to mitigate the accomplished misfortune of a surrender.

Question. Do you think the surrender premature?

Answer. The garrison was within fortifications; the enemy had no artillery. A loss of one man killed and two or three wounded does not indicate a desperate case. The rebels were three times repulsed. A flag of truce followed, and a surrender.

Question. How large was the attacking party?

Answer. I judge fifteen hundred, the largest portion of Forrest's force being evidently on the way to Paducah.

Question. How large was his entire force?

Answer. Apparently six thousand five hundred.

Question. When was Paducah attacked?

Answer. About three P.M., the next day, March twenty-fifth.

Question. Was Paducah reinforced previous to the attack?

Answer. It was not. I had no men to send, but sent supplies.

Question. Where was General Veatch's command?

Answer. Embarking for the Tennessee.

Question. Was Paducah well defended?

Answer. Most gallantly, and with success. The conduct of Colonel Hicks and his entire command was noble in the highest degree.

Question. How did his colored troops behave?

Answer. As well as the rest. Colonel Hicks thus refers to them in his official report: "I have been one of those men who never had much confidence in colored troops fighting, but those doubts are now all removed, for they fought as bravely as any troops in the fort."

Question. Why was the city shelled and set on fire?

Answer. Our small force retired within the fort; the rebels took possession of the town, and from adjacent buildings their sharp-shooter's fired upon us. It was necessary to dislodge them. The gunboats Peosta, Captain Smith, and Paw-Paw, Captain O'Neal, and the Fort drove them out, necessarily destroying property. Most of the inhabitants being still rebel sympathizers, there was less than the usual regret in performing the duty.

Question. What became of the enemy after the repulse?

Answer. They went south, and on the twenty-sixth I was notified by Colonel Hicks and by Colonel Lawrence that they were approaching Columbus.

Question. What was done?

Answer. I went to Columbus again, with such men as could be withdrawn from Cairo, and awaited an attack, but none was made. We were too strong, of which rebels in our midst had probably advised them.

Question. Do you permit rebels to remain with your lines?

Answer. Of course; after they have taken the oath.

Question. What is done in case they violate, by acting as spies, for instance?

Answer. I don't like to acknowledge that we swear them over again, but that is about what it amounts to.

Question. What became of your garrison at Hickman?

Answer. It was but fourteen miles from Union City; too weak for defence, and unimportant. Having no reinforcements to spare, I brought away the garrison.

Question. Was Union City important as a military post?

Answer. I think not, except to keep the peace and drive out guerrillas. The railroad was operated to that point at the expense of the Government, being used in carrying out supplies, which went mostly into disloyal hands, or were seized by Forrest. The road from Paducah to Mayfield was used by its owners. Enormous quantities of supplies needed by the rebel army were carried to Mayfield and other convenient points, and passed into the hands of the rebel army. I found this abuse so flagrant and dangerous that I made a stringent order stopping all trade. I furnish a copy herewith, making it part of my answer, (Exhibit A.)

Question. What, in your opinion, is the effect of free trade in Western Kentucky and Tennessee?

Answer. Pernicious beyond measure; corrupting those in the public service, and furnishing needed supplies to enemies. I am in possession of intercepted correspondence, showing that while the trader who has taken the oath and does business at Paducah gets permits to send out supplies, several wagons at a time, his partner is receiving them within the rebel lines under permits issued by Forrest. A public officer is now under arrest and held for trial for covering up

smuggling of contraband goods under permits, and sharing the profits. Pretended loyal men and open enemies thus combined, and the rebel army gets the benefit. We are supplying our enemies with the means of resistance.

Question. Could not the rebels have been sooner driven out of your neighborhood?

Answer. They could by withdrawing men from duties which are presumed to be of greater importance. That point was settled by my superior officers. Forrest's force was near Mayfield, about equidistant from Paducah, Cairo, and Columbus, only a few hours from either. He was at the centre, I going round the edge of a circle. I could only watch the coming blow and help each weak point in turn. One evening, for instance, I sent four hundred men to Columbus, expecting trouble there, and the next morning had them at Paducah, seventy-five miles distant.

Question. Had you instructions as to the presence of that force so near you?

Answer. Not specific. General Sherman, on the twenty-third of March, telegraphed that he was willing that Forrest should remain in that neighborhood if the people did not manifest friendship, and on April thirteenth he expressed a desire that Forrest should prolong his visit until certain measures could be accomplished. I think General Sherman did not purpose to withdraw a heavy force to pursue Forrest, having better use for them elsewhere, and feeling that we had force enough to hold the important points on the river. It may be that the strength of the enemy and the scattered condition of our small detachments was not fully understood. We ran too great a risk at Paducah. Nothing but great gallantry and fortitude saved it from the fate of Fort Pillow.

Question. What information had you of the attack of Fort Pillow?

Answer. Fort Pillow is one hundred and seventy miles below here, not in my district, but Memphis. On April thirteenth, at six p.m., I telegraphed General Sherman as follows:

"The surrender of Columbus was demanded and refused at six this morning. Women and children brought away. Heavy artillery firing this afternoon. I have sent reinforcements. Paducah also threatened. No danger of either, but I think that Fort Pillow, in the Memphis district, is taken. General Shepley passed yesterday and saw the flag go down, and thinks it a surrender. I have enough troops now from below, and will go down, if necessary, to that point. Captain Pennock will send gunboats. If lost, it will be retaken immediately."

I was informed, in reply, that Fort Pillow had no guns or garrison; had been evacuated; that General Hurlbut had force for its defence, etc. I understand that Fort Pillow had been evacuated and reoccupied, General Sherman not being aware of it. On the fourteenth he again instructed me as follows:

"What news from Columbus? Don't send men from Paris to Fort Pillow. Let General

Hurlbut take care of that quarter. The Cairo troops may reinforce temporarily at Paducah and Columbus, but should be held ready to come up the Tennessee. One object that Forrest has is to induce us to make these detachments, and prevent our concentrating in this quarter."

Question. Did you have any conversation with General Shepley in relation to the condition of the garrison at Fort Pillow when he passed by that point? If so, state what he said. What force did General Shepley have with him? Did he assign any reason for not rendering assistance to that garrison? If so, what was it?

Answer. General Shepley called on me. He stated that as he approached Fort Pillow, fighting was going on; he saw the flag come down "by the run," but could not tell whether it was lowered by the garrison, or by having the haliards shot away; that soon after another flag went up in another place. He could not distinguish its character, but feared that it was a surrender, though firing continued. I think he gave the force on the boat as two batteries and two or three hundred infantry. When he came away, the firing was kept up, but not as heavily as at first. He was not certain how the fight was terminating. In answer to a question of mine, he said the batteries on board could not have been used, as the bluff was too steep for ascent, or to admit of firing from the water's edge, and the enemy above might have captured them. This was about the substance of our conversation.

Question. What information have you relative to the battle and massacre at Fort Pillow, particularly what transpired after the surrender?

Answer. That place not being in my district, official reports did not come to me. However, under instructions from General Sherman, I detailed officers, and collected reports and sworn proofs for transmission to him, also to the Secretary of War. Having furnished the Secretary of War with a duplicate copy for the use of your Committee if he so desired, I refer to that for the information I have on the subject.

Question. Do you consider the testimony thus furnished entirely reliable?

Answer. "In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established." Here are scores of them, living and dying. There are doubtless errors as to time and place, and scenes witnessed from different points of observation, but in the main I regard the witnesses honest and their accounts true.

Question. What did you learn concerning violations of the flag of truce?

Answer. I learn from official sources that at Paducah, Columbus, Union City, and Fort Pillow, the rebels moved troops, placed batteries, formed new lines, advanced, robbed stores and private houses, stole horses and other property, while protected by flags of truce. J. W. McCord and Mrs. Hannah Hammond state, in writing, that at Paducah they forced five women nurses

at the hospital out in front of their line, and kept them there for an hour, thus silencing our guns. Mrs. Hammond was one of the five. Reference is made to testimony furnished on the subject, and to official reports when transmitted to the War Department.

Question. What information have you as to the intention of the enemy to perpetrate such acts as the massacre at Fort Pillow?

Answer. I furnish the correspondence growing out of demands to surrender at Union City, Paducah, and Columbus, showing premeditation on the part of officers in command of the rebel army.

[Take in from reports of Lieutenant Gray, Colonel Hicks, and Colonel Lawrence, with which the Committee is furnished. See Appendix.]

Question. Has there been coöperation and harmony among commanders since these troubles began?

Answer. Entire and in every respect, so far as I know. Officers of the army in charge of troops temporarily here gave all the aid possible. They were under orders which prevented their going out in pursuit of Forrest, but they gave me detachments to guard our river posts when threatened.

Question. What have been the relations existing generally between you and Captain Pennock, of the navy, Fleet Captain of the Mississippi squadron?

Answer. Captain Pennock is commandant of the naval station at Cairo and Mound City, and I understand represents Admiral Porter in his absence. Our relations have been cordial, and we have coöperated in all movements. The aid given by his gunboats has been prompt, ample, and very efficient. His admirable judgment and ready resources have always been available.

Question. During the operations consequent upon the movements of Forrest, did you or did you not receive cordial coöperation and support from Lieutenant Commander Shirk, commanding the Seventh division Mississippi squadron?

Answer. I can only repeat my answer to the last question. Lieutenant Shirk is an admirable officer, vigilant, brave, and of exceedingly safe judgment.

MOUND CITY, Illinois, April 22, 1864.

Surgeon Horace Wardner sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Have you been in charge of this hospital, Mound City Hospital?

Answer. I have been in charge of this hospital continually since the twenty-fifth of April, 1863.

Question. Will you state, if you please, what you know about the persons who escaped from Fort Pillow? And how many have been under your charge?

Answer. I have received thirty-four whites, twenty-seven colored men, and one colored woman; and seven corpses of those who died on their way here.

Question. Did any of those you have mentioned escape from Fort Pillow?

Answer. There were eight or nine men, I forget the number, who did escape and come here; the others were paroled. I learned the following facts about that: The day after the battle a gunboat was coming up, and commenced shelling the place; the rebels sent a flag of truce for the purpose of giving over into our hands what wounded remained alive; a transport then landed, and sent out details to look about the grounds and pick up the wounded there, and bring them on the boat. They had no previous attention.

Question. They were then brought under your charge?

Answer. They were brought immediately to this hospital.

Question. Who commanded that boat?

Answer. I forget the naval officer's name.

Question. How long after the capture of the place did he come along?

Answer. That was the next day after the capture.

Question. Did all who were paroled in this way come under your charge, or did any of them go to other hospitals?

Answer. None went to other hospitals that I am aware of.

Question. Please state their condition.

Answer. They were the worst butchered men I have ever seen. I have been in several hard battles, but I have never seen men so mangled as they were; and nearly all of them concur in stating that they received all their wounds after they had thrown down their arms, surrendered, and asked for quarters. They state that they ran out of the Fort, threw down their arms, and ran down the bank to the edge of the river, and were pursued to the top of the bank and fired on from above.

Question. Were there any females there?

Answer. I have one wounded woman from there.

Question. Were there any children or young persons there?

Answer. I have no wounded children or young persons from there.

Question. Those you have received were mostly combatants, or had been?

Answer. Yes, sir; soldiers, white or colored.

Question. Were any of the wounded here in the hospital in the Fort, and wounded while in the hospital?

Answer. I so understand them.

Question. How many in that condition did you understand?

Answer. I learned from those who came here that nearly all who were in the hospital were killed. I received a young negro boy, probably sixteen years old, who was in the hospital there sick with fever, and unable to get away. The rebels entered the hospital, and with a sabre backed his head, no doubt with the intention of splitting it open. The boy put up his hand to

protect his head, and they cut off one or two of his fingers. He was brought here insensible, and died yesterday. I made a post-mortem examination, and found that the outer table of the skull was incised, the inner table was fractured, and a piece driven into the brain.

Question. This was done while he was sick in the hospital?

Answer. Yes, sir, unable to get off his bed.

Question. Have you any means of knowing how many were murdered in that way?

Answer. No positive means, except the statement of the men.

Question. How many do you suppose from the information you have received?

Answer. I suppose there were about four hundred massacred—murdered there.

Question. What proportion white, and what proportion colored, as near as you could ascertain?

Answer. The impression I have, from what I can learn, is, that all the negroes were massacred except about eighty, and all the white soldiers were killed except about one hundred, or one hundred and ten.

Question. We have heard rumors that some of these persons were buried alive; did you hear any thing about that?

Answer. I have two in the hospital here who were buried alive.

Question. Both colored men?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How did they escape?

Answer. One of them I have not conversed with personally; the other I have. He was thrown into a pit, as he states, with a great many others, white and black, several of whom were alive; they were all buried up together. He lay on the outer edge, but his head was nearer the surface; he had one well hand, and with that hand he was able to work a place through which he could breathe, and in that way he got his head out; he lay there for some twenty-four hours, and was finally taken out by somebody. The others, next to him, were buried so deep that they could not get out, and died.

Question. Did you hear any thing about any of them having been thrown into the flames and burned?

Answer. I do not know any thing about that myself. These men did not say much, and in fact I did not myself have time to question them very closely.

Question. What is the general condition now of the wounded men from Fort Pillow under your charge?

Answer. They are in as good condition as they can be; probably about one third of them must die.

Question. Is your hospital divided into wards, and can we go through and take the testimony of these men, ward by ward?

Answer. It is divided into wards. The men from Fort Pillow are scattered through the hospital, and isolated to prevent erysipelas. If I

should crowd too many badly wounded men in one ward, I would be likely to get the erysipelas among them, and lose a great many of them.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Are the wounds of these men such as men usually receive in battle?

Answer. The gunshot wounds are ; the sabre cuts are the first I have ever seen in the war yet. They seem to have been shot with the intention of hitting the body. There are more body wounds than in an ordinary battle.

Question. Just as if they were close enough to select the part of the body to be hit?

Answer. Yes, sir. Some of them were shot with pistols by the rebels standing from one foot to ten feet of them.

The Committee then proceeded to the various wards, and took the testimony of such of the wounded as were able to bear the examination.

The testimony of the colored men is written out exactly as given, except that it is rendered in a grammatical form, instead of the broken language some of them used.

MOUND CITY HOSPITAL, ILLINOIS, April 22, 1864.

Elias Falls, (colored,) private, company A, Sixth United States heavy artillery, or First Alabama artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when the battle took place there, and it was captured by the rebels?

Answer. I was there ; I was a cook, and was waiting on the captain and major.

Question. What did you see done there? What did the rebels do after they came into the Fort?

Answer. They killed all the men after they surrendered, until orders were given to stop; they killed all they came to, white and black, after they had surrendered.

Question. The one the same as the other?

Answer. Yes, sir, till he gave orders to stop firing.

Question. Till who gave orders?

Answer. They told me his name was Forrest.

Question. Did you see any body killed or shot there?

Answer. Yes, sir ; I was shot after the surrender, as I was marched up the hill by the rebels.

Question. Where were you wounded?

Answer. In the knee.

Question. Was that the day of the fight?

Answer. The same day.

Question. Did you see any men shot the next day?

Answer. I did not.

Question. What did you see done after the place was taken?

Answer. After peace was made, some of the secesh soldiers came around cursing the boys that were wounded. They shot one of them about the hand, aimed to shoot him in the head, as he lay on the ground, and hit him in the hand ; and an officer told the secesh soldier if he

did that again he would arrest him, and he went off then.

Question. Did they burn any buildings?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Was any body burned in the buildings?

Answer. I did not see any body burned ; I saw them burn the buildings ; I was not able to walk about ; I staid in a building that night with some three or four white men.

Question. Do you know any thing about their going into the hospital and killing those who were there sick in bed?

Answer. We had some three or four of our men there, and some of our men came in and said they had killed two women and two children.

Duncan Harding, (colored,) private, company A, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Were you in Fort Pillow at the time it was captured?

Answer. Yes, sir ; I was a gunner Number Two at the gun.

Question. What did you see there?

Answer. I did not see much until next morning. I was shot in the arm that evening ; they picked me up and marched me up the hill, and while they were marching me up the hill they shot me again through the thigh.

Question. Did you see any body else shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. The next morning I saw them shoot down one corporal in our company.

Question. What was his name?

Answer. Robert Winston.

Question. Did they kill him?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What were you doing at the time?

Answer. I was lying down.

Question. What was the corporal doing?

Answer. When the gunboats commenced firing he was started off with them, but he would not go fast enough, and they shot him dead.

Question. When you were shot the last time, had you any arms in your hands?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Had the corporal any arms in his hands?

Answer. No, sir ; nothing.

By the Chairman :

Question. What do you know about any buildings being burned?

Answer. I saw them burn the buildings ; and that morning as I was going to the boat I saw one colored man who was burned in the building.

Question. When was that building burned?

Answer. The next morning.

Question. The morning after the capture?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How did you get away?

Answer. I started off with the rebels ; we were all lying in a hollow to keep from the shells ; as their backs were turned to me, I crawled up in some brush and logs, and they all left ; when

night come I came back to the river-bank, and a gunboat came along.

Question. Were any officers about when you were shot last?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you know any of them?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did they say any thing against it?

Answer. No, sir; only: "Kill the God damned nigger."

Nathan Hunter, (colored,) private, company D, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Were you in Fort Pillow when it was captured?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did you see done there?

Answer. They went down the hill, and shot all of us they saw; they shot me for dead, and I lay there until the next morning when the gunboat came along. They thought I was dead and pulled my boots off. That is all I know.

Question. Were you shot when they first took the Fort?

Answer. I was not shot until we were done fighting.

Question. Had you any arms in your hands when you were shot?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. How long did you lie where you were shot?

Answer. I lay there from three o'clock until after night, and then I went up in the guard-house and staid there until the next morning when the gunboat came along.

Question. Did you see any others shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; they shot down a whole parcel along with me. Their bodies were lying there along the river-bank the next morning. They kicked some of them into the river after they were shot dead.

Question. Did you see that?

Answer. Yes, sir; I thought they were going to throw me in too; I slipped away in the night.

By the Chairman:

Question. Did you see any man burned?

Answer. No, sir; I was down under the hill next the river.

Question. They thought you were dead when they pulled your boots off?

Answer. Yes, sir; they pulled my boots off, and rolled me over, and said they had killed me.

Sergeant Benjamin Robinson, (colored,) company D, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow in the fight there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did you see there?

Answer. I saw them shoot two white men

right by the side of me after they had laid their guns down. They shot a black man clear over into the river. Then they halloosed to me to come up the hill, and I came up. They said: "Give me your money, you damned nigger." I told them I did not have any. "Give me your money, or I will blow your brains out." Then they told me to lie down, and I laid down, and they stripped every thing off me.

Question. This was the day of the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Go on. Did they shoot you?

Answer. Yes, sir. After they stripped me and took my money away from me they dragged me up the hill a little piece, and laid me down flat on my stomach; I laid there till night, and they took me down to an old house, and said they would kill me the next morning. I got up and commenced crawling down the hill; I could not walk.

Question. When were you shot?

Answer. About three o'clock.

Question. Before they stripped you?

Answer. Yes, sir. They shot me before they said "come up."

Question. After you had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; they shot pretty nearly all of them after they surrendered.

Question. Did you see any thing of the burning of the men?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you see them bury any body?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did they bury any body who was not dead?

Answer. I saw one of them working his hand after he was buried; he was a black man. They had about a hundred in there, black and white. The major was buried on the bank, right side of me. They took his clothes all off but his drawers; I was lying right there looking at them. They had my captain's coat, too; they did not kill my captain; a lieutenant told him to give him his coat, and then they told him to go down and pick up those old rags and put them on.

Question. Did you see any body shot the day after the battle?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. How did you get away?

Answer. A few men came up from Memphis, and got a piece of plank and put me on it, and took me down to the boat.

Question. Were any rebel officers around when the rebels were killing our men?

Answer. Yes, sir; lots of them.

Question. Did they try to keep their men from killing our men?

Answer. I never heard them say so. I know General Forrest rode his horse over me three or four times. I did not know him until I heard his men call his name. He said to some negro men there that he knew them; that they had been in his nigger-yard in Memphis. He said he was not worth five dollars when he started, and had got rich trading in negroes.

Question. Where were you from?

Answer. I came from South-Carolina.

Question. Have you been a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Daniel Tyler, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In Mississippi.

Question. Have you been a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you in Fort Pillow at the time it was captured by the rebels?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When were you wounded?

Answer. I was wounded after we all surrendered; not before.

Question. At what time?

Answer. They shot me when we came up the hill from down by the river.

Question. Why did you go up the hill?

Answer. They called me up.

Question. Did you see who shot you?

Answer. Yes, sir; I did not know him.

Question. One of the rebels?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How near was he to you?

Answer. I was right at him; I had my hand on the end of his gun.

Question. What did he say to you?

Answer. He said: "Whose gun are you holding?" I said: "Nobody's." He said, "God damn you, I will shoot you," and then he shot me. I let go, and then another one shot me.

Question. Were many shot at the same time?

Answer. Yes, sir, lots of them; lying all round like hogs.

Question. Did you see any one burned?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you see any body buried alive?

Answer. Nobody but me.

Question. Were you buried alive?

Answer. Yes, sir; they thought they had killed me. I lay there till about sundown, when they threw us in a hollow, and commenced throwing dirt on us.

Question. Did you say any thing?

Answer. No, sir; I did not want to speak to them. I knew if I said any thing they would kill me. They covered me up in a hole; they covered me up, all but one side of my head. I heard them say they ought not to bury a man who was alive. I commenced working the dirt away, and one of the secesh made a young one dig me out. They dug me out, and I was carried not far off to a fire.

Question. How long did you stay there?

Answer. I staid there that night and until the next morning, and then I slipped off. I heard them say the niggers had to go away from there before the gunboat came, and that they would kill the niggers. The gunboat commenced shelling up there, and they commenced moving off. I heard them up there shooting. They wanted me to go with them, but I would not go. I turned

around and came down to the river-bank, and got on the gunboat.

Question. How did you lose your eye?

Answer. They knocked me down with a carbine, and then they jabbed it out.

Question. Was that before you were shot?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. After you had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; I was going up the hill; a man came down and met me; he had his gun in his hand, and whirled it around and knocked me down, and then took the end of his carbine and jabbed it in my eye, and shot me.

Question. Were any of their officers about there then?

Answer. I did not see any officers.

Question. Were any white men buried with you?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were any buried alive?

Answer. I heard that one white man was buried alive; I did not see him.

Question. Who said that?

Answer. A young man; he said they ought not to have done it. He staid in there all night; I do not know as he ever got out.

John Haskins, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when it was captured?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did you see done there?

Answer. After we had surrendered they shot me in the left arm. I ran down the river and jumped into the water; the water ran over my back; six or seven more men came around there, and the secesh shot them right on the bank. At night I got into a coal-boat and cut it loose, and went down the river.

Question. Did you see any body else killed after they had surrendered?

Answer. A great many; I could not tell how many.

Question. Did they say why they killed our men after they had surrendered?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. How many did you see killed after they surrendered?

Answer. Six or eight right around me, who could not get into the water as I did; I heard them shooting above, too.

Question. Did they strip and rob those they killed?

Answer. Yes, sir; they ran their hands in my pockets—they thought I was dead—they did all in the same way.

Question. What time were you shot?

Answer. After four o'clock.

Question. How long after you had surrendered?

Answer. Just about the time we ran down the hill.

Question. Did you have any arms in your hands when you were shot?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Do you know any thing about their killing any body in the hospital?

Answer. I could not tell any thing about that.

Question. Do you know any thing about their burning buildings?

Answer. Yes, sir; they burned the lieutenant's house, and they said they burned him in the house.

Question. He was a white man?

Answer. Yes, sir; Quartermaster of the Thirtieth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Did you see them kill him?

Answer. No, sir; I did not see them kill him; I saw the house he was in on fire.

Question. Do you know any thing about their burying any body before they were dead?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Where are you from?

Answer. From Tennessee.

Question. Have you been a slave.

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How long have you been in the army?

Answer. About two months.

Thomas Adison, (colored,) private, company C, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In South-Carolina. I was nineteen years old when I came to Mississippi. I was forty years old last March.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when it was captured?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When were you wounded—before or after you surrendered?

Answer. Before.

Question. What happened to you after you were wounded?

Answer. I went down the hill after we surrendered; then they came down and shot me again in my face, breaking my jaw-bone.

Question. How near was the man to you?

Answer. He shot me with a revolver, about ten or fifteen feet off.

Question. What happened to you then?

Answer. I laid down, and a fellow came along and turned me over and searched my pockets and took my money. He said: "God damn his old soul; he is sure dead now; he is a big, old, fat fellow."

Question. How long did you lay there?

Answer. About two hours.

Question. Then what was done with you?

Answer. They made some of our men carry me up the hill to a house that was full of white men. They made us lie out doors all night, and said that the next morning they would have the doctor fix us up. I went down to a branch for some water, and a man said to me, "Old man, if you stay here they will kill you, but if you get into the water till the boat comes along they

may save you;" and I went off. They shot a great many that evening.

Question. The day of the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir. I heard them shoot little children not more than that high, (holding his hand off about four feet from the floor,) that the officers had to wait upon them.

Question. Did you see them shoot them?

Answer. I did not hold up my head.

Question. How did you know that they shot them then?

Answer. I heard them say, "Turn around so that I can shoot you good;" and then I heard them fire, and then I heard the children fall over.

Question. Do you know that those were the boys that waited upon the officers?

Answer. Yes, sir; one was named Dave, and the other was named Anderson.

Question. Did you see them after they were shot?

Answer. No, sir; they toted them up the hill before me, because they were small. I never saw folks shot down so in my life.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Do you know of any body being buried alive?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Do you know of any one being burned?

Answer. They had a whole parcel of them in a house, and I think they burned them. The house was burned up, and I think they burned them in it.

Question. Were the men in the house colored men?

A. No, sir. The rebels never would have got the advantage of us if it had not been for the houses built there, and which made better breast-works for them than we had. The major would not let us burn the houses in the morning. If they had let us burn the houses in the morning, I do not believe they would ever have whipped us out of that place.

Manuel Nichols, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Were you in the late fight at Fort Pillow?

A. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you wounded there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When?

Answer. I was wounded once about a half an hour before we gave up.

Question. Did they do any thing to you after you surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; they shot me in the head under my left ear, and the morning after the fight they shot me again in the right arm. When they came up and killed the wounded ones, I saw some four or five coming down the hill. I said to one of our boys: "Anderson, I expect if those

fellows come here they will kill us." I was lying on my right side, leaning on my elbow. One of the black soldiers went into the house where the white soldiers were. I asked him if there was any water in there, and he said yes; I wanted some, and took a stick and tried to get to the house. I did not get to the house. Some of them came along, and saw a little boy belonging to company D. One of them had his musket on his shoulder, and shot the boy down. He said: "All you damned niggers come out of the house; I am going to shoot you." Some of the white soldiers said: "Boys, it is only death, any how; if you don't go out they will come in and carry you out." My strength seemed to come to me as if I had never been shot, and I jumped up and ran down the hill. I met one of them coming up the hill; he said, "Stop!" but I kept on running. As I jumped over the hill, he shot me through the right arm.

Question. How many did you see them kill after they had surrendered?

Answer. After I surrendered I did not go down the hill. A man shot me under the ear, and I fell down and said to myself: "If he don't shoot me any more this won't hurt me." One of their officers came along and hallooed, "Forrest says no quarter! no quarter!" and the next one hallooed: "Black flag! black flag!"

Question. What did they do then?

Answer. They kept on shouting. I could hear them down the hill.

Question. Did you see them bury any body?

Answer. Yes, sir; they carried me around right to the corner of the Fort, and I saw them pitch men in there.

Question. Was there any alive?

Answer. I did not see them bury any body alive.

Question. How near to you was the man who shot you under the ear?

Answer. Right close to my head. When I was shot in the side, a man turned me over, and took my pocket-knife and pocket-book. I had some of these brass things that looked like cents. They said: "Here's some money; here's some money." I said to myself: "You got fooled that time."

Arthur Edwards, (colored,) private, company C, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In Mississippi.

Question. Were you in Fort Pillow when it was taken?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Tell what you saw there?

Answer. I was shot after I surrendered.

Question. When?

Answer. About half-past four o'clock.

Question. Where were you when you were shot?

Answer. I was lying down behind a log.

Question. Where were you shot?

Answer. In the head first, then in the shoulder, then in my right wrist; and then in the head again, about half an hour after that.

Question. How many men shot at you?

Answer. One shot at me three times, and then a lieutenant shot at me.

Question. Did they say any thing when they shot you?

Answer. No, sir, only I asked them not to shoot me, and they said: "God damn you, you are fighting against your master."

Question. How near was the man to you when he shot you?

Answer. He squatted down, and held his pistol close to my head.

Question. How near was the officer to you when he shot you?

Answer. About five or ten feet off; he was sitting on his horse.

Question. Who said you were fighting against your master?

Answer. The man that shot me.

Question. What did the officer say?

Answer. Nothing but "You God damned nigger." A captain told him not to do it, but he did not mind him; he shot me, and run off on his horse.

Question. Did you see the captain?

Answer. Yes, sir; he and the captain were side by side.

Question. Did you know the captain?

Answer. No, sir.

Q. How long did you stay there?

Answer. Until next morning about nine o'clock.

Question. How did you get away?

Answer. When the gunboat commenced shelling I went down the hill, and staid there until they carried down a flag of truce. Then the gunboat came to the bank, and a secesh lieutenant made us go down to such a place, and told us to go no further, or we would get shot again. Then the gunboat men came along to bury the dead, and told us to go on the boat.

Question. Did you see any body shot after they had surrendered, besides yourself?

Answer. Yes, sir; they shot one right by me, and lots of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. After they had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Do you know whether any were buried alive?

Answer. Not that I saw.

Question. Did you see any body buried?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you see any body shot the day after the fight?

Answer. No, sir.

Charles Key, (colored,) private, company D, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In South-Carolina.

Question. Have you been a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. In Tennessee.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did you see done there after the fight was over?

Answer. I saw nothing, only the boys run down the hill, and they came down and shot them.

Question. Were you wounded before or after you surrendered?

Answer. After the surrender, about five o'clock.

Question. Did you have your gun in your hands when you were wounded?

Answer. No, sir; I threw my gun into the river.

Question. How did they come to shoot you?

Answer. I was in the water, and a man came down and shot me with a revolver.

Question. Did you see any body else shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; right smart of them, in an old coal-boat. I saw one man start up the bank after he was shot in the arm, and then a fellow knocked him back into the river with his carbine, and then shot him. I did not go up the hill after I was shot. I laid in the water like I was dead until night, and then I made up a fire and dried myself, and staid there till the gunboat came along.

Question. Did they shoot you more than once?

Answer. No, sir.

Henry Christian, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In East-Tennessee.

Question. Have you been a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. At Corinth, Mississippi.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When were you wounded?

Answer. A little before we surrendered.

Question. What happened to you afterward?

Answer. Nothing; I got but one shot, and dug right out over the hill to the river, and never was bothered any more.

Question. Did you see any men shot after the place was taken?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where?

Answer. Down to the river.

Question. How many?

Answer. A good many; I don't know how many.

Question. By whom were they shot?

Answer. By secesh soldiers; secesh officers shot some up on the hill.

Question. Did you see those on the hill shot by the officers?

Answer. I saw two of them shot.

Question. What officers were they?

Answer. I don't know whether he was a lieutenant or captain.

Question. Did the men who were shot after they had surrendered have arms in their hands?

Answer. No, sir; they throw down their arms.

Question. Did you see any shot the next morning?

Answer. I saw two shot; one was shot by an officer—he was standing, holding the officer's horse, and when the officer came and got his horse he shot him dead. The officer was setting fire to the houses.

Question. Do you say the man was holding the officer's horse, and when the officer came and took his horse he shot the man down?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw that with my own eyes; and then I made away into the river, right off.

Question. Did you see any buried?

Answer. Yes, sir; a great many, black and white.

Question. Did you see any buried alive?

Answer. I did not see any buried alive.

Aaron Fentis, (colored,) company D, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where were you from?

Answer. Tennessee.

Question. Have you been a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. At Corinth.

Question. Who was your captain?

Answer. Captain Carron.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did you see done there?

Answer. I saw them shoot two white men, and two black men, after they had surrendered.

Question. Are you sure they were shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir. Some were in the river swimming out a piece, when they were shot; and they took another man by the arm, and held him up, and shot him in the breast.

Question. Did you see any others shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw two wounded men shot the next morning; they were lying down when the secesh shot them.

Question. Did the rebels say any thing when they were shooting our men?

Answer. They said they were going to kill them all; and they would have shot us all if the gunboat had not come along.

Question. Were you shot?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When?

Answer. After the battle, the same evening.

Question. Where were you shot?

Answer. Right through both legs.

Question. How many times were you shot?

Answer. Only once, with a carbine. The man stood right close by me.

Question. Where were you?

Answer. On the river-bank.

Question. Had you arms in your hands?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. What did the man say who shot you?

Answer. He said they were going to kill us all.

Question. Did you see any men buried?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you see any body burned?

Answer. No, sir; I did not see that. Where I was, was a good piece off from where they had the battle.

Question. Do you know how many of your company got away?

Answer. I do not think any of my company got away.

Question. How many were killed before they surrendered?

Answer. I don't know how many; a good many, I think.

Question. Would you have surrendered, if you had known what they were going to do to you?

Answer. No, sir.

George Shaw, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you raised?

A. In Tennessee.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. At Fort Pillow.

Question. Were you there at the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When were you shot?

Answer. About four o'clock in the evening.

Question. After you had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where were you at the time?

Answer. About ten feet from the river-bank.

Question. Who shot you?

Answer. A rebel soldier.

Question. How near did he come to you?

Answer. About ten feet.

Question. What did he say to you?

Answer. He said: "Damn you, what are you doing here?" I said: "Please don't shoot me." He said: "Damn you, you are fighting against your master." He raised his gun and fired, and the bullet went into my mouth and out the back part of my head. They threw me into the river, and I swam around and hung on there in the water until night.

Question. Did you see any body else shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; three young boys, lying in the water, with their heads out; they could not swim. They begged them as long as they could, but they shot them right in the forehead.

Question. How near to them were they?

Answer. As close as that stone, (about eight or ten feet.)

Question. How old were the boys?

Answer. Not more than fifteen or sixteen years old. They were not soldiers, but contraband boys, helping us on the breastworks.

Question. Did you see any white men shot?

Answer. No, sir. I saw them shoot three men the next day.

Question. How far from the Fort?

Answer. About a mile and a half; after they had taken them back as prisoners.

Question. Who shot them?

Answer. Private soldiers. One officer said: "Boys, I will have you arrested, if you don't quit killing them boys." Another officer said: "Damn it, let them go on; it isn't our law to take any niggers prisoners; kill every one of them." Then a white man took me to wait on him a little, and sent me back to a house about two hundred yards, and told me to stay all night. I went back and staid until about a half an hour by sun.

Another man came along and said: "If you will go home with me I will take good care of you, if you will stay and never leave." I did not know what to do, I was so outdone; so I said: "If you will take care of me, I will go." He carried me out about three miles, to a place called Bob Greene's. The one who took me there left me, and two others came up, and said: "Damn you, we will kill you, and not be fooling about any longer." I said: "Don't shoot me." One of them said: "Go out and hold my horse." I made a step or two, and he said: "Turn around; I will hold my horse, and shoot you, too." I no sooner turned around than he shot me in the face. I fell down as if I was dead. He shot me again, and hit my arm, not my head. I laid there until I could hear him no more, and then I started back. I got back into Fort Pillow about sun up, and wandered about there until a gunboat came along, and I came up on that with about ten others.

Major Williams, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In Tennessee and North-Mississippi.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. In Memphis.

Question. Who was your captain?

Answer. Captain Lamburg.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Was your captain with you?

Answer. No, sir; I think he was in Memphis.

Question. Who commanded your company?

Answer. Lieutenant Hunter and Sergeant Fox were all the officers we had.

Question. What did you see done there?

Answer. We fought them right hard during the battle, and killed some of them. After a time they sent in a flag of truce. They said af-

terward that they did it to make us stop firing until their reinforcements could come up. They said that they never could have got in if they had not done that; that we had whipped them; that they had never seen such a fight.

Question. Did you see the flag of truce?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did they do when the flag of truce was in?

Answer. They kept coming up nearer and nearer, so that they could charge quick. A heap of them came up after we stopped firing.

Question. When did you surrender?

Answer. I did not surrender until they all run.

Question. Were you wounded then?

Answer. Yes, sir; after the surrender.

Question. At what time of day was that?

Answer. They told me it was about half after one o'clock. I was wounded. Immediately we retreated.

Question. Did you have any arms in your hands when they shot you?

Answer. No, sir; I was an artillery man, and had no arms.

Question. Did you see the man who shot you?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you hear him say any thing?

Answer. No, sir; I heard nothing. He shot me, and it was bleeding pretty free, and I thought to myself: "I will make out it was a dead shot, and may be I will not get another."

Question. Did you see any others shot?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Was there any thing said about giving quarter?

Answer. Major Bradford brought in a black flag, which meant no quarter. I heard some of the rebel officers say: "You damned rascals, if you had not fought us so hard, but had stopped when we sent in a flag of truce, we would not have done any thing to you." I heard one of the officers say, "Kill all the niggers;" another one said: "No; Forrest says take them and carry them with him to wait upon him and cook for him, and put them in jail and send them to their masters." Still they kept on shooting. They shot at me after that, but did not hit me; a rebel officer shot at me. He took aim at my side; at the crack of his pistol I fell. He went on and said: "There's another dead nigger."

Question. Was there any one shot in the hospital that day?

Answer. Not that I know of. I think they all came away and made a raft and floated across the mouth of the creek, and got into a flat bottom.

Question. Did you see any buildings burned?

A. I staid in the woods all day Wednesday. I was there Thursday and looked at the buildings. I saw a great deal left that they did not have a chance to burn up. I saw a white man burned up who was nailed up against the house.

Question. A private or an officer?

Answer. An officer; I think it was a lieutenant in the Tennessee cavalry.

Question. How was he nailed?

Answer. Through his hands and feet right against the house.

Question. Was his body burned?

Answer. Yes, sir; burned all over—I looked at him good.

Question. When did you see that?

Answer. On the Thursday after the battle.

Question. Where was the man?

Answer. Right in front of the Fort.

Question. Did any one else that you know see the body nailed up there?

Answer. There was a black man there who came upon the same boat I was on.

Question. Was he with you then?

Answer. Yes, sir; and there were some five or six white people there, too, from out in the country, who were walking over the place.

Alexander Nayron, (colored,) private, company C, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In Mississippi.

Question. Have you been a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. At Lagrange, last August.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the attack?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When were you wounded?

Answer. After the fight.

Question. About what time?

Answer. About three o'clock, I reckon.

Question. Where were you when you were wounded?

Answer. Down at the river, lying down by the side of a log. They came there and told me to get up, and as I got up, they shot me.

Question. Who shot you, an officer or private?

Answer. A private.

Question. How many times were you shot?

Answer. But once; they shot me in my head, and thought they had killed me.

Question. Did you see any others shot there?

Answer. Yes, sir; several other black men with me.

Question. Did you see any small boys shot?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you go back from the river after you were shot?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. You remained there until you were brought away by the gunboat?

Answer. Yes, sir. I saw several of our boys shot while they were fighting. They said, when they shot me, that they were allowed to kill every damned nigger in the Fort—not spare one.

Question. You saw nobody buried or burned?

Answer. No, sir; I saw them throw several in the water.

Question. Were they all dead that were thrown in?

Answer. Yes, sir; about dead.

Eli Carlton, (colored,) private, company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman :

Question. Where were you raised ?

Answer. In East-Tennessee.

Question. Have you been a slave ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Who was your master ?

Answer. Major Fleming. I was sold once ; I have had two masters.

Question. Where did you join the army ?

Answer. At Corinth, Mississippi, about a year ago.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow the time it was taken ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State what happened there ?

Answer. I saw twenty-three men shot after they surrendered ; I made twenty-four ; seventeen of them laid right around me dead, and six below me.

Question. Who shot them ?

Answer. The rebels ; some white men were killed.

Question. How many white men were killed ?

Answer. Three or four.

Question. Killed by the privates ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; I did not see any officers kill any.

Question. Were the white men officers or privates ?

Answer. Privates.

Question. Were the men who shot you near to you ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; ten or fifteen steps off.

Question. Were you shot with a musket or a pistol ?

Answer. With a musket. I was shot once on the battle-field before we surrendered. They took me down to a little hospital under the hill. I was in the hospital when they shot me a second time. Some of our privates commenced talking. They said : " Do you fight with these God damned niggers ? " they said : " Yes. " Then they said, " God damn you, then, we will shoot you, " and they shot one of them right down. They said, " I would not kill you, but, God damn you, you fight with these damned niggers, and we will kill you ; " and they blew his brains out of his head. They then went around and counted them up ; I laid there and made eighteen who were there, and there were six more below me. I saw them stick a bayonet in the small part of the belly of one of our boys, and brake it right off — he had one shot then.

Question. Did you see any of our men shot the next day ?

Answer. No, sir ; but I heard them shooting. I hid myself in the bushes before the next morning. I left a fellow lying there, and they came down and killed him during the night. I went down there the next morning and he was dead.

Question. Did you see any of our folks buried by the rebels ?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you see any buildings burned up ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; most all were burned up.

Question. Were any persons in them when they were burned ?

Answer. I heard so. I went to the quarters and staid about a house there. One of the rebels told me that he should take me out the next morning and kill me. He went out and I slipped out into the bushes, and laid there until the gun-boat came. I saw them take the quartermaster ; they said : " Here is one of our men ; let us take him up and fix him. " A white man told me the next day that they burned him.

Question. Was he wounded ?

No, sir ; he walked right straight. He had three stripes on his arm. I knew him well ; I worked with him. He was a small fellow, weak and puny.

Sandy Cole, (colored,) private, company D, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Where were you born ?

Answer. In Tennessee.

Question. Have you been a slave ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the late fight there ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When were you wounded ?

Answer. After I started down the hill, after the surrender. They shot me through the thigh and through the arm.

Question. Who shot you ?

Answer. A secesh private.

Question. How near was he to you ?

Answer. About ten feet.

Question. Did he say any thing to you ?

Answer. No, sir. I went to the river and kept my body in the water, and my head under some brush.

Question. Did you see any body else shot ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; I saw some of them shot right through the head.

Question. How many did you see shot ?

Answer. Some seven or eight.

Jacob Thompson, (colored,) sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Were you a soldier at Fort Pillow ?

Answer. No, sir ; I was not a soldier ; but I went up in the Fort and fought with the rest. I was shot in the hand and the head.

Question. When were you shot ?

Answer. After I surrendered.

Question. How many times were you shot ?

Answer. I was shot but once ; but I threw my hand up, and the shot went through my hand and my head.

Question. Who shot you ?

Answer. A private.

Question. What did he say?

Answer. He said: "God damn you, I will shoot you, old friend."

Question. Did you see any body else shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; they just called them out like dogs, and shot them down. I reckon they shot about fifty, white and black, right there. They nailed some black sergeants to the logs, and set the logs on fire.

Question. When did you see that?

Answer. When I went there in the morning I saw them; they were burning all together.

Question. Did they kill them before they burned them?

Answer. No, sir; they nailed them to the logs; drove the nails right through their hands.

Question. How many did you see in that condition?

Answer. Some four or five; I saw two white men burned.

Question. Was there any one else there who saw that?

Answer. I reckon there was; I could not tell who.

Question. When was it that you saw them?

Answer. I saw them in the morning after the fight; some of them were burned almost in two. I could tell they were white men, because they were whiter than the colored men.

Question. Did you notice how they were nailed?

Answer. I saw one nailed to the side of a house; he looked like he was nailed right through his wrist. I was trying then to get to the boat when I saw it.

Question. Did you see them kill any white men?

Answer. They killed some eight or nine there. I reckon they killed more than twenty after it was all over; called them out from under the hill, and shot them down. They would call out a white man and shoot him down, and call out a colored man and shoot him down; do it just as fast as they could make their guns go off.

Question. Did you see any rebel officers about there when this was going on?

Answer. Yes, sir; old Forrest was one.

Question. Did you know Forrest?

Answer. Yes, sir; he was a little bit of a man. I had seen him before at Jackson.

Question. Are you sure he was there when this was going on?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you see any other officers that you knew?

Answer. I did not know any other but him. There were some two or three more officers came up there.

Question. Did you see any buried there?

Answer. Yes, sir; they buried right smart of them. They buried a great many secesh, and a great many of our folks. I think they buried more secesh than our folks.

Question. How did they bury them?

Answer. They buried the secesh over back of

the Fort, all except those on Fort Hill; them they buried up on top of the hill where the gunboats shelled them.

Question. Did they bury any alive?

Answer. I heard the gunboat men say they dug out two who were alive.

Question. You did not see them?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. What company did you fight with?

Answer. I went right into the Fort and fought there.

Question. Were you a slave or a free man?

Answer. I was a slave.

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In old Virginia.

Question. Who was your master?

Answer. Colonel Hardgrove.

Question. Where did you live?

Answer. I lived three miles the other side of Brown's Mills.

Question. How long since you lived with him?

Answer. I went home once and staid with him awhile, but he got to cutting up and I came away again.

Question. What did you do before you went into the fight?

Answer. I was cooking for company K, of Illinois cavalry; I cooked for that company nearly two years.

Question. What white officers did you know in our army?

Answer. I knew Captain Meltop and Colonel Ransom; and I cooked at the hotel at Fort Pillow, and Mr. Nelson kept it. I and Johnny were cooking together. After they shot me through the hand and head, they beat up all this part of my head (the side of his head) with the breech of their guns.

Ransom Anderson, (colored,) company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. In Mississippi.

Question. Were you a slave?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. At Corinth.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Describe what you saw done there?

Answer. Most all the men that were killed on our side were killed after the fight was over. They called them out and shot them down. Then they put some in the houses and shut them up, and then burned the houses.

Question. Did you see them burn?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were any of them alive?

Answer. Yes, sir; they were wounded, and could not walk. They put them in the houses, and then burned the houses down.

Question. Do you know they were in there?

Answer. Yes, sir; I went and looked in there.

Question. Do you know they were in there when the house was burned?

Answer. Yes, sir; I heard them hallooing there when the houses were burning.

Question. Are you sure they were wounded men, and not dead, when they were put in there?

Answer. Yes, sir; they told them they were going to have the doctor see them, and then put them in there and shut them up, and burned them.

Question. Who set the house on fire?

Answer. I saw a rebel soldier take some grass and lay it by the door, and set it on fire. The door was pine plank, and it caught easy.

Question. Was the door fastened up?

Answer. Yes, sir; it was barred with one of those wide bolts.

Sergeant W. P. Walker, (white,) sworn and examined:

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. In what capacity did you serve in the army?

Answer. I was a sergeant in the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, company D.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the fight there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you state what took place there?

Answer. In the morning the pickets ran in. We were sent out a piece as skirmishers. They kept us out about a couple of hours, and then we retreated into the Fort. The firing kept up pretty regular until about two o'clock, when a flag of truce came in. While the flag of truce was in, the enemy was moving up and taking their positions; they were also pilfering and searching our quarters.

Question. They finally took the Fort?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What happened then?

Answer. They just shot us down without showing us any quarter at all. They shot me, for one, after I surrendered; they shot me in the arm, and the shoulder, and the neck, and in the eye.

Question. How many times did they shoot you?

Answer. They shot me in the arm and eye after I surrendered; I do not know when they shot me in the other places.

Question. Who shot you?

Answer. A private shot me with a pistol; there were a great many of us shot.

Question. What reason did he give for shooting you after you had surrendered?

Answer. A man came down the hill and said that General—some one; I could not understand the name—said that they should shoot every one of us, and take no prisoners, and then they shot us down.

Question. How did you escape?

Answer. They thought they had killed me. They searched my pockets half a dozen times, or more, and took my pocket-book from me.

Question. Did you see any body else shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw several shot right around me.

Question. Did they shoot all, colored and white?

Answer. They shot all where I was. When they turned in and went to shooting white men, they scattered and ran, and then they shot them down.

Question. Did you see them do any thing besides shooting them?

Answer. I saw some knock them over the heads with muskets, and some stick sabres into them.

Question. Did you see any thing of any burning or burying alive?

Answer. No, sir; I did not see that.

Question. Were any of the rebel officers about while this was going on?

Answer. Not where I was; I was down under the hill then. The niggers first ran out of the Fort, and then, when they commenced shooting us, we ran down under the hill, and they followed us up and shot us. They came back the next day and shot several wounded negroes.

Question. Did you see that?

Answer. I was lying in a house, but I heard the negroes begging, and heard the guns fired; but I did not see it.

Jason Loudon sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. To what company and regiment did you belong?

Answer. To company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you wounded there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. When?

Answer. In the evening, after I surrendered.

Question. Where were you?

Answer. At the Fort.

Question. State what happened when you were wounded.

Answer. Nothing; only they were going around shooting the men down. They shot a sergeant by the side of me twice after he had surrendered.

Question. Who shot him?

Answer. A secesh private.

Question. How near was that to you?

Answer. About ten steps off.

Question. Did he say any thing to him?

Answer. He commenced cursing, and said they were going to kill every one of us.

Question. How many did you see shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. I saw five or six shot.

James Walls, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company did you belong?

Answer. To company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Under what officers did you serve?

Answer. I was under Major Bradford and Captain Potter.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State what you saw there of the fight, and what was done after the place was captured?

Answer. We fought them for some six or eight hours in the Fort, and when they charged our men scattered and ran under the hill; some turned back and surrendered, and were shot. After the flag of truce came in I went down to get some water. As I was coming back I turned sick, and laid down behind a log. The secesh charged, and after they came over I saw one go a good ways ahead of the others. One of our men made to him and threw down his arms. The bullets were flying so thick there I thought I could not live there, so I threw down my arms and surrendered. He did not shoot me then, but as I turned around he or some other one shot me in the back.

Question. Did they say any thing while they were shooting?

Answer. All I heard was, "Shoot him, shoot him!" "Yonder goes one!" "Kill him, kill him!" That is about all I heard.

Question. How many do you suppose you saw shot after they surrendered?

Answer. I did not see but two or three shot around me. One of the boys of our company, named Taylor, ran up there, and I saw him shot and fall. Then another was shot just before me, like—shot down after he threw down his arms.

Question. Those were white men?

Answer. Yes, sir. I saw them make lots of niggers stand up, and then they shot them down like hogs. The next morning I was lying around there waiting for the boat to come up. The secesh would be prying around there, and would come to a nigger and say: "You an't dead, are you?" They would not say any thing; and then the secesh would get down off their horses, prick them in their sides, and say: "Damn you, you an't dead; get up." Then they would make them get up on their knees, when they would shoot them down like hogs.

Question. Do you know of their burning any buildings?

Answer. I could hear them tell them to stick torches all around, and they fired all the buildings.

Question. Do you know whether any of our men were in the buildings when they were burned?

Answer. Some of our men said some were burned; I did not see it, or know it to be so myself.

Question. How did they bury them—white and black together?

Answer. I don't know about the burying; I did not see any buried.

Question. How many negroes do you suppose were killed after the surrender?

Answer. There were hardly any killed before the surrender. I reckon as many as two hundred were killed after the surrender, out of about three hundred that were there.

Question. Did you see any rebel officers about while this shooting was going on?

Answer. I do not know as I saw any officers about when they were shooting the negroes. A captain came to me a few minutes after I was shot; he was close by me when I was shot.

Question. Did he try to stop the shooting?

Answer. I did not hear a word of their trying to stop it. After they were shot down, he told them not to shoot them any more. I begged him not to let them shoot me again, and he said they would not. One man, after he was shot down, was shot again. After I was shot down, the man I surrendered to went around the tree I was against and shot a man, and then came around to me again and wanted my pocket-book. I handed it up to him, and he saw my watch-chain and made a grasp at it, and got the watch and about half the chain. He took an old Barlow knife I had in my pocket. It was not worth five cents; was of no account at all, only to cut tobacco with.

William L. McMichael, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. To what company and regiment did you belong?

Answer. To company D, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you shot after you had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir. They shot the most after they had surrendered. They sent in a flag of truce for a surrender, and the Major would not surrender. They made a charge and took the Fort, and then we threw down our arms; but they just shot us down.

Question. Were you shot after you surrendered, or before?

Answer. Afterward.

Question. How many times were you shot?

Answer. I was shot four times.

Question. Did you see any others shot?

Answer. I saw some shot; some negroes.

Isaac J. Leadbetter sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. To company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. How long have you been in the army?

Answer. Only about two months.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the fight there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you state what took place after the Fort was taken?

Answer. They shot me after I surrendered.

I saw them shoot down lots after they surrendered. They would hold up their hands and cry to them not to shoot, but they shot them just the same.

Question. How many do you suppose you saw shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. More than twenty, I reckon.

Question. Did you hear of the rebels doing any thing else to them beyond shooting them?

Answer. I heard of their burning some, but I did not see it.

Question. How many times were you shot?

Answer. I was shot twice, and a ball slightly grazed my head.

Question. Were you shot after you had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you see the man who shot you?

Answer. I saw the man who shot me the last time in the side with a revolver.

Question. Did he say any thing to you?

Answer. He did not say any thing until he shot me. He then came down to where I was, and finding I was not dead, he cursed me, and said he would shoot me again. He was fixing to shoot me again, when one of the boys standing by told him not to shoot me again.

Question. Did they rob you after they had shot you?

Answer. Yes, sir; they took every thing I had, even to my pocket-knife.

Question. You say you heard about the burning?

Answer. Yes, sir, I heard about it; but I did not see it.

Question. Did you see any of the rebel officers about while this shooting was going on?

Answer. None there that I knew. I did not see them until they carried me up on the bluff.

Question. Did they shoot any after they fell wounded?

Answer. I saw them shoot one man in the head after he fell.

D. W. Harrison sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company D, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. I had been driving a team and acting as a soldier. I took my gun that morning and went out in line. They then wanted a train to haul some ammunition and provisions in the Fort. The rebels were throwing balls around there. I kept hauling, I think, five loads. The rest of the wagons would not go back after they had hauled one load; and after I had hauled five loads I concluded I would not haul any more. I went down under the hill and got with two men there close under a log. It was but a few minutes before the men came over the hill like sheep over a brush fence, when I saw white men and negroes getting shot down.

I threw up my hands and said: "Don't shoot me; I surrender." One of them said: "Go on up the hill." I started, but did not get more than two steps before I was shot in the shoulder; I fell, and while I was undertaking to get up again I was hit in the body; and this arm that was hit fell over behind me. A rebel came along with a canteen, and I motioned to him and told him I wanted a little water. He said: "Damn you; I have nothing for you fellows; you Tennesseesans pretend to be men, and you fight side by side with niggers; I have nothing for you." About that time another one came up with his pistol drawn, and asked if I had any money. I told him I had a little, and he told me to give it to him. I told him my shoulder was hurt, and he must take it himself. He turned me over and took about ninety dollars and my watch. Another man, who was a man, came along and brought me some water.

Question. Did you see any others shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; one of the two who was under the log with me was killed. I don't know whether the other man was killed or not.

William A. Dickey, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when it was taken by the rebels?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. In what company and regiment?

Answer. Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Will you state what happened there, especially after the Fort was taken?

Answer. After the breastworks were charged I first noticed the colored soldiers throwing down their arms and running down the bluff. After the rebels got inside, the white troops saw that there was no mercy shown, and they threw down their arms and ran down the bluff, too; and they were at the same time shot and butchered. I ran myself, but carried my gun with me down the bluff, and hid myself behind a tree close to the edge of the river. I staid there some time, and saw my partner shot, and saw men shot all around me. I saw one man shoot as many as four negroes just as fast as he could load his gun and shoot. After doing this he came to me. As he turned around to me I begged him not to shoot me. He came to me and I gave him my gun, and he took my caps, saying he wanted them to kill niggers. I begged him to let me go with him, as I would be exposed there; but he said: "No, stay there." He made me stay there and would not let me go with him. Another man came along, and I asked him to spare my life, and he did so. I asked him to let me go with him, but he refused me and ordered me to stay with my wounded partner, who was lying in some brush. I crawled in the brush to him. He was suffering very much, and I unloosed his belt, and took his cartridge-box and put it under his head. Some rebels under the hill spied us moving in the brush and ordered us to come out.

My partner could not come out, but I came out. They ordered me to come to them. I started after one of them, begging him at the same time not to shoot me. I went, I suppose, eight or ten steps, when he shot me. I fell there, and saw but little more after that. As I was lying with my face toward the river I saw some swimming and drowning in the river, and I saw them shoot some in the river after that.

Woodford Cooksey, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong ?

Answer. Company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Where you in the fight at Fort Pillow ?

Answer. Yes, sir; from six o'clock in the morning until about four o'clock in the evening.

Question. State what took place after the Fort was taken by the rebels.

Answer. There were a great many white men shot down, and a great many negroes.

Question. That you saw ?

Answer. That I saw myself.

Question. Were you wounded there ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. At what time ?

Answer. After four o'clock ; after we gave up.

Question. How came they to shoot you after you had surrendered ?

Answer. I can't tell ; it was about like shooting the balance of them.

Question. Do you know who shot you ?

Answer. It was a white man. He shot me with a musket loaded with a musket-ball and three buck-shot.

Question. Did you have any arms in your hands when you were shot ?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did the one who shot you say any thing to you ?

Answer. I was lying down. He said : " Hand me up your money, you damned son of a bitch." I only had four bits—two bits in silver and two in paper. I handed it up to him. He said he had damned nigh a notion to hit me in the head on account of staying there and fighting with the niggers. He heard a rally about the bank and went down there. They were shooting and throwing them in the river. A part of that night and the next morning they were burning houses, and burying the dead, and stealing goods. The next morning they commenced on the negroes again, and killed all they came across, as far as I could see. I saw them kill eight or ten of them the next morning.

Question. Do you know whether any wounded soldiers were burned in any of those buildings ?

Answer. I do not. I was not in any of the shanties after they were fired.

Question. Did you see them bury any of the dead ?

Answer. No, sir ; I was lying outside of the Fort.

Question. Did they bury the white and black together, as you understood ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; they were burying pretty much all night.

Question. How many whites and blacks do you suppose were killed after they had surrendered ?

Answer. I had a mighty poor chance of finding out. But I don't think they killed less than fifty or sixty, probably more ; I cannot say how many. It was an awful time, I know.

Question. How many did you see killed ?

Answer. I saw them kill three white men and seven negroes the next morning.

Question. Did you see them shoot any white men the day after the fight ?

Answer. No, sir. I saw one of them shoot a black fellow in the head with three buck-shot and a musket-ball. The man held up his head, and then the fellow took his pistol and fired that at his head. The black man still moved, and then the fellow took his sabre and stuck it in the hole in the negro's head and jammed it way down, and said : " Now, God damn you, die ! " The negro did not say any thing, but he moved, and the fellow took his carbine and beat his head soft with it. That was the next morning after the fight.

Lieutenant McJ. Leming, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Were you in the fight at Fort Pillow ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What is your rank and position ?

Answer. I am a First Lieutenant and Adjutant of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry. A short time previous to the fight I was Post-Adjutant at Fort Pillow, and during most of the engagement I was acting as Post-Adjutant. After Major Booth was killed, Major Bradford was in command. The pickets were driven in just before sunrise, which was the first intimation we had that the enemy were approaching. I repaired to the Fort, and found that Major Booth was shelling the rebels as they came up toward the outer intrenchments. They kept up a steady fire by sharp-shooters behind trees and logs and high knolls. The Major thought at one time they were planting some artillery, or looking for places to plant it. They began to draw nearer and nearer, up to the time our men were all drawn into the Fort. Two companies of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry were ordered out as sharp-shooters, but were finally ordered in. We were pressed on all sides.

I think Major Booth fell not later than nine o'clock. His Adjutant, who was then Acting Post Adjutant, fell near the same time. Major Bradford then took the command, and I acted as Post-Adjutant. Previous to this, Major Booth had ordered some buildings in front of the Fort to be destroyed, as the enemy's sharp-shooters were

endeavoring to get possession of them. There were four rows of buildings, but only the row nearest the Fort was destroyed; the sharpshooters gained possession of the others before they could be destroyed. The fight continued, one almost unceasing fire all the time, until about three o'clock. They threw some shells, but they did not do much damage with their shells.

I think it was about three o'clock that a flag of truce approached. I went out, accompanied by Captain Young, the Provost-Marshal of the post. There was another officer, I think, but I do not recollect now particularly who it was, and some four mounted men. The rebels announced that they had a communication from General Forrest. One of their officers there, I think, from his dress, was a colonel. I received the communication, and they said they would wait for an answer. As near as I remember, the communication was as follows:

"HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE CAVALRY,
NEAR FORT PILLow, April 12, 1864."

"As your gallant defence of the Fort has entitled you to the treatment of brave men, (or something to that effect,) I now demand an unconditional surrender of your force, at the same time assuring you that they will be treated as prisoners of war. I have received a fresh supply of ammunition, and can easily take your position.

N. B. FORREST.

"Major L. F. Booth,
"Commanding United States Forces."

I took this message back to the Fort. Major Bradford replied that he desired an hour for consultation and consideration with his officers and the officers of the gunboat. I took out this communication to them, and they carried it back to General Forrest. In a few minutes another flag of truce appeared, and I went out to meet it. Some one said, when they handed the communication to me: "That gives you twenty minutes to surrender; I am General Forrest." I took it back. The substance of it was, "Twenty minutes will be given you to take your men outside of the Fort. If in that time they are not out, I will immediately proceed to assault your works," or something of that kind. To this Major Bradford replied: "I will not surrender." I took it out in a sealed envelope, and gave it to him. The General opened it and read it. Nothing was said; we simply saluted, and they went their way, and I returned back into the Fort.

Almost instantly the firing began again. We mistrusted, while this flag of truce was going on, that they were taking horses out at a camp we had. It was mentioned to them, the last time that this and other movements excited our suspicion, that they were moving their troops. They said that they had noticed it themselves, and had it stopped; that it was unintentional on their part, and that it should not be repeated.

It was not long after the last flag of truce had retired, that they made their grand charge. We kept them back for several minutes. What was called — brigade or battalion attacked the centre of the Fort where several companies of

colored troops were stationed. They finally gave way, and, before we could fill up the breach, the enemy got inside the Fort, and then they came in on the other two sides, and had complete possession of the Fort. In the mean time nearly all the officers had been killed, especially of the colored troops, and there was no one hardly to guide the men. They fought bravely indeed until that time. I do not think the men who broke had a commissioned officer over them. They fought with the most determined bravery, until the enemy gained possession of the Fort. They kept shooting all the time. The negroes ran down the hill toward the river, but the rebels kept shooting them as they were running; shot some again after they had fallen; robbed and plundered them. After every thing was all gone, after we had given up the Fort entirely, the guns thrown away and the firing on our part stopped, they still kept up their murderous fire, more especially on the colored troops, I thought, although the white troops suffered a great deal. I know the colored troops had a great deal the worst of it. I saw several shot after they were wounded; as they were crawling around, the secesh would step out and blow their brains out.

About this time they shot me. It must have been four or half-past four o'clock. I saw there was no chance at all, and threw down my sabre. A man took deliberate aim at me, but a short distance from me, certainly not more than fifteen paces, and shot me.

Question. With a musket or pistol?

Answer. I think it was a carbine; it may have been a musket, but my impression is, that it was a carbine. Soon after I was shot I was robbed. A secesh soldier came along, and wanted to know if I had any greenbacks. I gave him my pocket-book. I had about a hundred dollars, I think, more or less, and a gold watch and gold chain. They took every thing in the way of valuables that I had. I saw them robbing others. That seemed to be the general way they served the wounded, so far as regards those who fell in my vicinity. Some of the colored troops jumped into the river, but were shot as fast as they were seen. One poor fellow was shot as he reached the bank of the river. They ran down and hauled him out. He got on his hands and knees, and was crawling along, when a secesh soldier put his revolver to his head, and blew his brains out. It was about the same thing all along, until dark that night.

I was very weak, but I finally found a rebel who belonged to a society that I am a member of, (the Masons,) and he got two of our colored soldiers to assist me up the hill, and he brought me some water. At that time it was about dusk. He carried me up just to the edge of the Fort, and laid me down. There seemed to be quite a number of dead collected there. They were throwing them into the outside trench, and I heard them talking about burying them there. I heard one of them say: "There is a man who is not quite dead yet." They buried a number there; I do not know how many.

I was carried that night to a sort of little shanty that the rebels had occupied during the day with their sharp-shooters. I received no medical attention that night at all. The next morning early I heard the report of cannon down the river. It was the gunboat 28 coming up from Memphis; she was shelling the rebels along the shore as she came up. The rebels immediately ordered the burning of all the buildings, and ordered the two buildings where the wounded were to be fired. Some one called to the officer who gave the order and said there were wounded in them. The building I was in began to catch fire. I prevailed upon one of our soldiers who had not been hurt much to draw me out, and I think others got the rest out. They drew us down a little way, in a sort of gully, and we lay there in the hot sun without water or any thing.

About this time a squad of rebels came around, it would seem for the purpose of murdering what negroes they could find. They began to shoot the wounded negroes all around there, interspersed with the whites. I was lying a little way from a wounded negro, when a secesh soldier came up to him and said: "What in hell are you doing here?" The colored soldier said he wanted to get on the gunboat. The secesh soldier said, "You want to fight us again, do you? Damn you, I'll teach you," and drew up his gun and shot him dead. Another negro was standing up erect a little way from me; he did not seem to be hurt much. The rebel loaded his gun again immediately. The negro begged of him not to shoot him, but he drew up his gun and took deliberate aim at his head. The gun snapped, but he fixed it again, and then killed him. I saw this. I heard them shooting all around there—I suppose killing them.

By the Chairman:

Question. Do you know of any rebel officers going on board our gunboat after she came up?

Answer. I don't know about the gunboat, but I saw some of them on board the Platte Valley, after I had been carried on her. They came on board, and I think went in to drink with some of our officers. I think one of the rebel officers was General Chalmers.

Question. Do you know what officers of ours drank with them?

Answer. I do not.

Question. You know that they did go on board the Platte Valley and drink with some of our officers?

Answer. I did not see them drinking at the time, but I have no doubt they did; that was my impression from all I saw, and I thought our officers might have been in better business.

Question. Were our officers treating these rebel officers with attention?

Answer. They seemed to be; I did not see much of it, as they passed along by me.

Question. Do you know whether or not the conduct of the privates, in murdering our sol-

diers after they had surrendered, seemed to have the approval of their officers?

Answer. I did not see much of their officers, especially during the worst of those outrages; they seemed to be back.

Question. Did you observe any effort on the part of their officers to suppress the murders?

Answer. No, sir; I did not see any where I was first carried; just about dusk, all at once several shots were fired just outside. The cry was: "They are shooting the darkey soldiers." I heard an officer ride up and say: "Stop that firing; arrest that man." I suppose it was a rebel officer, but I do not know. It was reported to me, at the time, that several darkeys were shot then. An officer who stood by me, a prisoner, said that they had been shooting them, but that the General had had it stopped.

Question. Do you know of any of our men in the hospital being murdered?

Answer. I do not.

Question. Do you know any thing of the fate of your Quartermaster, Lieutenant Akerstrom?

Answer. He was one of the officers who went with me to meet the flag of truce the last time. I do not know what became of him; that was about the last I saw of him. I heard that he was nailed to a board and burned, and I have very good reason for believing that was the case, although I did not see it. The First Lieutenant of company D of my regiment says that he has an affidavit to that effect of a man who saw it.

Question. Have you any knowledge in relation to any of our men being buried alive?

Answer. I have not, other than I have stated.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. How long had your regiment been in Fort Pillow?

Answer. We reached there the eighth of February. There were no other troops there then, and we held the place alone for some time.

By the Chairman:

Question. By whom were you ordered there?

Answer. By General W. S. Smith, Chief of Cavalry, and also by General Hurlbut.

Question. What other troops were there at the time of the fight?

Answer. Four companies of the Sixth United States heavy artillery, (colored,) and a battery called now, I think, the Second United States light artillery. It was before the First Tennessee light artillery, colored.

Question. What was about the number of our force there?

Answer. Not far from five hundred men.

Question. Do you know what became of Major Bradford?

Answer. He escaped unhurt, as far as the battle was concerned. I was told the next morning on the boat that he had been paroled. I did not see him after that night.

Question. Do you know why you were left unsupported, as you were, when it was known that Forrest was in your vicinity?

Answer. I do not know why, unless it was thought that he would not attack us. I think it was supposed that he was going to make an attack on Memphis.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What do you estimate Forrest's force to have been?

Answer. From all I could see and learn, I should suppose he had from seven thousand to ten thousand men.

Question. Is there any thing further you desire to state?

Answer. I heard some of the rebels talking during the night after the fight. They said we ought to have surrendered when we had the opportunity, but that they supposed the Yankees were afraid the colored troops would not be treated as prisoners of war; and they intimated that they would not be; and said it was bad enough to give to the "home-made Yankees"—meaning the Tennessee soldiers—treatment as soldiers, without treating the negroes so too.

On the morning of the fight there was so much hurry and confusion that our flag was not raised for a time; we had been firing away an hour before I happened to notice that our flag was not up. I ordered it to be raised immediately, and our troops set up vociferous cheers, especially the colored troops, who entered into the fight with great energy and spirit.

Question. How many officers of your regiment were left alive?

Answer. Only two, immediately after the surrender, that I know of. We had ten officers in our regiment, and eight were in the battle, only two of whom remained alive.

Question. Were those who were killed, killed before or after the Fort was captured?

Answer. I don't know of but one who was killed before we were driven from the Fort.

Question. Was Captain Potter, who is now lying here unable to speak, shot before or after the surrender?

Answer. He was shot in the early part of the engagement. I have been told that Major Bradford was afterward taken out by the rebels and shot; that seems to be the general impression, and I presume it was so.

MOORE CITY, April 23, 1864.

Nathan G. Fulks, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company D, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Where are you from?

Answer. About twenty miles from Columbus, Tennessee.

Question. How long have you been in the service?

Answer. Five months, the first of May.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the fight there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you state what happened to you there?

Answer. I was at the corner of the Fort when they fetched in a flag for a surrender. Some of them said the Major stood awhile, and then said he would not surrender. They continued to fight awhile; and after a time the Major started and told us to take care of ourselves, and I and twenty more men broke for the hollow. They ordered us to halt, and some of them said: "God damn 'em, kill 'em! kill 'em!" I said, "I have surrendered." I had thrown my gun away then. I took off my cartridge-box and gave it to one of them, and said, "Don't shoot me;" but they did shoot me, and hit just about where the shoe comes up on my leg. I begged them not to shoot me, and he said: "God damn you, you fight with the niggers, and we will kill the last one of you!" Then they shot me in the thick of the thigh, and I fell; and one set out to shoot me again, when another one said: "Don't shoot the white fellows any more."

Question. Did you see any person shot besides yourself?

Answer. I didn't see them shot. I saw one of our fellows dead by me.

Question. Did you see any buildings burned.

Answer. Yes, sir. While I was in the Major's headquarters they commenced burning the buildings, and I begged one of them to take me out and not let us burn there; and he said: "I am hunting up a piece of yellow flag for you." I think we would have whipped them if the flag of truce had not come in. We would have whipped them if we had not let them get the dead-wood on us. I was told that they made their movement while the flag of truce was in. I did not see it myself, because I had set down, as I had been working so hard.

Question. How do you know they made their movement while the flag of truce was in?

Answer. The men that were above said so. The rebels are bound to take every advantage of us. I saw two more white men close to where I was lying. That makes three dead ones, and myself wounded.

Francis A. Alexander, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company C, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the fight there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Who commanded your regiment?

Answer. Major Bradford commanded the regiment, and Lieutenant Logan commanded our company.

Question. By what troops was the Fort attacked?

Answer. Forrest was in command. I saw him.

Question. Did you know Forrest?

Answer. I saw him there, and they all said it was Forrest. Their own men said so.

Question. By what troops was the charge made?

Answer. They were Alabamians and Texans.

Question. Did you see any thing of a flag of truce?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State what was done while the flag of truce was in?

Answer. When the flag of truce came up our officers went out and held a consultation, and it went back. They came in again with a flag of truce; and while they were consulting the second time their troops were coming up a gap or hollow, where we could have them cut them to pieces. They tried it before, but could not do it. I saw them come up there while the flag of truce was in the second time.

Question. That gave them an advantage?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you wounded there?

Answer. Not in the Fort. I was wounded after I left the fort, and was going down the hill.

Question. Was that before or after the Fort was taken?

Answer. It was afterward.

Question. Did you have any arms in your hand at the time they shot you?

Answer. No, sir; I threw my gun away, and started down the hill, and got about twenty yards, when I was shot through the calf of the leg.

Question. Did they shoot you more than once?

Answer. No, sir; they shot at me, but did not hit me more than once.

Question. Did they say why they shot you after you had surrendered?

Answer. They said afterward they intended to kill us all for being there with their niggers.

Question. Were any rebel officers there at the time this shooting was going on?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did they try to stop it?

Answer. One or two of them did.

Question. What did the rest of them do?

Answer. They kept shouting and hallooing at the men to give no quarter. I heard that cry very frequent.

Question. Was it the officers that said that?

Answer. I think it was. I think it was them, the way they were going on. When our boys were taken prisoners, if any body came up who knew them, they shot them down. As soon as ever they recognized them, wherever it was, they shot them.

Question. After they had taken them prisoners?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you know any thing about their shooting men in the hospitals?

Answer. I know of their shooting negroes in there. I don't know about white men.

Question. Wounded negro men?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Who did that?

Answer. Some of their troops. I don't know which of them. The next morning I saw several black people shot that were wounded, and some that were not wounded. One was going down the hill before me, and the officer made him come

back up the hill; and after I got in the boat I heard them shooting them.

Question. You say you saw them shoot negroes in the hospital the next morning?

Answer. Yes, sir; wounded negroes who could not get along; one with his leg broke. They came there the next day and shot him.

Question. Do you know any thing about their burning buildings and the hospital?

Answer. I expect they burned the hospital after we got out. They said they would not while we wounded ones were in there. The hospital we were in was standing when I went down the hill on the boat.

Question. You don't know what happened to it afterward?

Answer. I don't.

Question. Something has been said about men being nailed to the buildings, and then burned. Do you know any thing about that?

Answer. No, sir; I did not see that, but I heard some of them say they drove the negroes into the houses and then burned them.

Question. Did you see any thing about their burying them?

Answer. No, sir.

Wiley Robinson, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What State are you from?

Answer. Tennessee.

Question. When did you enlist?

Answer. I think about eight months ago.

Question. How old are you?

Answer. Eighteen years old the nineteenth of next May.

Question. What regiment and company were you in?

Answer. Company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the attack there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you wounded there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State all about that; when it was, etc.?

Answer. I was wounded once in the hand before I surrendered.

Question. Were you shot afterward?

Answer. Yes, sir; six times. I was shot twice in the foot, twice in the legs, and twice in the hands.

Question. Had you arms in your hands when they shot you?

Answer. We had retreated to the river-bank and thrown down our arms.

Question. What did they say when they shot you?

Answer. They swore at us, and then shot us.

Question. Did you see any of the rebel officers there?

Answer. Yes sir; I saw some, who came round and told them to kill us all.

Question. Did you see them shoot any body else besides yourself?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw them shoot one white man close beside me.

Question. Did they shoot you after you were down?

Answer. Yes, sir; through the leg with a musket.

Question. Did you see any negroes shot?

Answer. No, sir; I did not see any. I fell after they shot me, and did not see much.

Question. Were you there the next day after the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir; they took me on board the boat the next day about ten o'clock.

Question. Do you know whether they killed any persons in the hospital?

Answer. I know they killed one of our company in the hospital. They said they fired into the hospital.

Question. Do you know any thing about their burying any body alive?

Answer. No, sir.

Daniel Stamps, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. What was your position?

Answer. I was the company commissary sergeant.

Question. Where do you reside?

Answer. In Lauderdale County, Tennessee.

Question. What was your occupation?

Answer. I was a farmer.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when the fight was there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State what happened there.

Answer. The first thing, I went out sharp-shooting, and was out about two hours, and then was ordered in the Fort. I staid there, I reckon, about an hour. Then I was called out by Lieutenant Akerstrom, to go down alongside the bluff sharp-shooting again, because the rebels were coming down Cold Creek. We staid there all the time until they charged into the Fort. Then they all ran down under the hill, and we went down under the hill too. I reckon we staid there close on to an hour. They were shooting continually. I saw them shooting the white men there, who were on their knees, holding up their hands to them. I saw them make another man get down on his knees and beg of them, and they did not shoot him. I started out to go up the hill, and just as I started I was shot in the thigh. Pretty well toward the last of it, before I got shot, while I was down under the hill, a rebel officer came down right on top of the bluff, and halloed out to them to shoot and kill the last damned one of us.

Question. Do you know the rank of that officer?

Answer. I do not. I can't tell them as I can our officers. Their uniform is different. I went round on the hill then. I heard several of them

say it was General Forrest's orders to them to shoot us, and give us no quarter at all. I don't know whether they were officers who said so or not. I don't recollect any thing else particularly that I saw that night. The next morning they came round there again, shooting the negroes that were wounded. I saw them shoot some twenty or twenty-five negroes the next morning, who had been wounded, and had been able to get up on the hill during the night. They did not attempt to hurt us white men the next morning.

Question. Were any of their officers with the men who were round shooting the negroes the next morning?

Answer. One passed along on horseback, the only one I saw. He rode along while they were shooting the negroes, and said nothing to them. I said: "Captain, what are you going to do with us wounded fellows?" He said they were going to put us on the gunboats, or leave us with the gunboats. He had a feather in his cap, and looked like he might have been a captain. I don't know what he was. He was the only man I saw pass that looked like an officer while they were shooting the negroes.

Question. Where were you when the flags of truce were sent in?

Answer. I was down under the bluff sharp-shooting.

Question. Is there any thing else that you think of important to state?

Answer. I don't know that there is.

James P. Meador, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Do you live in Tennessee?

Answer. Yes, sir; I am a native of the State.

Question. Were you in Fort Pillow at the time of the attack there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you wounded there?

Answer. Yes, sir; twice.

Question. When?

Answer. Once before I surrendered and once afterward.

Question. Did you see any body shot besides yourself after he surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw lots of negroes shot, and some few white men, and I heard them shoot a great many. I was lying down under the bank.

Question. What were our men doing when they were shot?

Answer. They were begging for quarter when they shot them.

Question. Did you see any of them shot while begging for quarter?

Answer. Yes, sir; I heard an officer say: "Don't show the white men any more quarter than the negroes, because they are no better, and not so good, or they would not fight with the negroes." I saw them make one of our company

sergeants kneel down and ask for quarter, and another secesh soldier came up and snapped his pistol at him twice; but they told him not to shoot him. I saw them shoot others when they were kneeling down.

W. J. Mays, sworn and examined:

By the Chairman:

Q. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you in Fort Pillow when it was attacked?

Answer. Yes, sir

Question. State what happened there?

Answer. They attacked us about six o'clock in the morning. Sharp-shooting commenced early afterward, and kept coming closer and closer until the skirmishers were drawn in about ten o'clock. After that they made several efforts to gain the Fort, and could not get the position. Under this last flag of truce they gained the position they had been trying to get all day.

Question. Did you see them moving their troops when the flag of truce was in?

Answer. Yes, sir; I showed it to the boys.

Question. What was the movement?

Answer. The place was pretty well surrounded, but they were not on the ground they had been trying to get all day. Under that flag of truce they gained the place, some seventy-five yards from the Fort, and placed themselves under logs, with a better position.

Question. Are you sure this movement was made while the flag of truce was in?

Answer. I know it.

Question. Did others see it?

Answer. Yes, sir; two boys near me, who were both taken prisoners.

Question. Was any thing said about it at the time?

Answer. We spoke of it among ourselves at the time. We remarked that under the flag of truce they were only gaining the position they had been trying for all day. I was shot in the charge on the Fort. The place was then taken. I would not have fallen then, but our men after surrendering found no quarter shown them, and they flew down the bluff, and ran over me and kept me down for some time, until I bled so that I could not get up. I saw them shoot a great many after they surrendered. I saw them shoot four white men, and at least twenty-five blacks, some of them within twenty feet of me, while they were begging for quarter. They pulled one out of a hollow log by the foot and held him, when another shot him close by me. There were two negro women, and three little boys, some eight, nine, or twelve years old, about twenty-five steps from me. The secesh ran upon them and cursed them, and said, "Damn them;" they thought they were free to shoot them. All fell but one, a little fellow, and they took the breech of a gun and knocked him down. Then they followed up the men that were trying to get away

down the bluff, and some hours afterward they came back searching their pockets. They came on back then, looking over them, and I saw one man with a canteen, and asked him for a drink of water. His reply was to turn on me with his pistol presented, and shoot at me three times, saying: "God damn you; I will give you water." But he didn't hit me, though he threw the dirt over my face. I concluded it was best to lie still, and didn't move any more until after dark, and then I crawled in with some of the dead and laid there until about nine o'clock the next morning, when the gunboat came up, and I crawled down on the gunboat with a piece of white paper in my left hand, and made signs, and the boat came ashore, and I got on the boat. The general cry from the time they charged the Fort until an hour afterward was: "Kill 'em, kill 'em; God damn 'em; that's Forrest's orders, not to leave one alive." They were burning the buildings. They came with a chunk of fire to burn the building where I was in with the dead. They looked in and said, "These damned sons of bitches are all dead," and went off. I heard guns the next morning, but I was in there with the dead, and didn't see them shoot any body.

Question. Did you see any of the men in the Fort shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw four white men and twenty-five negroes that I spoke of that were shot in the Fort. The white men didn't commence flying from the Fort, though they threw their guns down, until they saw there was no quarter shown them.

James McCoy, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where do you reside?

Answer. When I am suffered to live at home, I live in Tennessee.

Question. You don't belong to the army?

Answer. No, sir; but I have been with the regiment six months. The head officers were old acquaintances of mine. I once lived with Major Bradford.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time the attack was made?

Answer. Yes, sir; I was in Fort Pillow at headquarters.

Question. Will you tell us what you observed there?

Answer. About daylight in the morning part of the pickets came in, and said the rebels had captured some of the pickets and were coming. I had not got out of bed then. Major Bradford was up immediately the alarm was given. I had had my hands mashed a few days before. Major Bradford told me I had better go on the gunboat, as I would be in the way, because I could not hold a gun. I went on board the gunboat, and about sunrise the firing commenced. The gunboat immediately played up and down the river, where I could see every thing going on at the Fort. I could not see over the bluff. Major Bradford had a flag, and stood on the edge of the bluff, and motioned to the gunboats where

to throw their shells. We had a great many guns on the boat, and about twenty used their guns all the time. The rebel sharp-shooters would come over the hill and shoot at the boat and every body that passed.

Question. Where were you when the flag of truce came in?

Answer. I was on the boat.

Question. What did you see?

Answer. As soon as the flag of truce came in the gunboat stopped firing. It was about three o'clock when it came in, and while it was in, the enemy were creeping up constantly, sharp-shooters and all, nearer and nearer. I saw a great many creeping on their hands and feet, getting up to the hill close to the Fort. I don't know what was back of that. Some men in the Fort told me that they had advanced and got close to the Fort before the flag of truce was taken out. I saw them gathering around there all the time, and all that time they were stealing from the commissary's stores, blankets and every thing else they could get at. I reckon I saw two hundred men climbing the hill with as much as they could carry on their backs, shoes, etc.

Question. Why did our officers permit that without firing on them?

Answer. The gunboat, I think, was almost out of ammunition, and had nothing to shoot; and none of them supposed the gunboat would stop shooting, but she ran out of ammunition.

Question. Were you there until the place was taken?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What happened after that?

Answer. About the time the rebels got over the Fort there was just a cloud of them, our men in the Fort running out. About five hundred secesh cavalry, as well as I could see, came up, and turned in to shooting them down just as fast as they could. I heard a great deal of screaming and praying for mercy. The negroes took a scare from that, and ran down the hill and into the river, but they kept shooting them. I was not more than four hundred yards off, on the gunboat. I don't suppose one of them got more than thirty yards into the river before they were shot. The bullets rained as thick in the water as you ever saw a hail-storm.

Question. Were those men armed who were shot?

Answer. No, sir; they threw down their arms.

Question. How many were shot?

Answer. I don't know how many. They lay thick there the next morning, beside those they had buried.

Question. You came back there the next morning?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What do you know about their burying men who were not dead?

Answer. I don't know any thing myself, only what I heard.

Question. Did you go up there where they had buried them.

Answer. No, sir.

Question. What did you hear about it.

Answer. I heard one of them say that he saw where a negro was buried, and saw a large mass of foam and dirt where somebody had been breathing through the earth. He brushed it off, and saw a negro there still breathing. I saw one or two who looked as if they had been buried when they came on board. I heard one ask them if they had been buried, and they said: "Very near it." I don't think they were wounded. One of them had been in the dirt. I don't know whether he played dead and was buried or not.

Question. Do you know any thing of their killing the men in the hospital?

Answer. Not of my own seeing. Mr. Akerstrom was in his office down under the hill after the flag of truce was in, and made some signs for us to come to him. Since that time I have been told that they wounded him, and then nailed him to a door, and burned him up, but I didn't see that myself.

Question. When did you hear about this nailing to a building and burning him up?

Answer. Since we came up here.

Question. Were you on board the gunboat the next day when some of the rebel officers came on board?

Answer. I was on board the Platte Valley.

Question. Did they come with a flag of truce?

Answer. A flag of truce was hoisted, and when we got in to the shore some of the rebel officers came on board the Platte Valley.

Question. How were they received by our officers?

Answer. Just as though there had been no fight. Some of the officers on the Platte Valley took one of the rebel officers up to the bar and treated him, and some would ask the rebel officers what made them treat our men as they did. He said they intended to treat all home-made Yankees just as they did the negroes. I went to Captain Marshall and asked him to let me shoot him. He said that the flag of truce was up, and it would be against the rules of war to shoot him.

Question. Do you know what officers treated him?

Answer. I don't know; they were all strangers to me. The gunboat first landed, and then the transport Platte Valley came up and took the prisoners, and then another boat came up and laid alongside of her. The three lay there together.

Question. Do you know of any thing further on the subject that is important?

Answer. I don't think of any thing now.

William E. Johnson, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what regiment do you belong?

Answer. I am a sergeant of company B, of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the attack there?

Answer. No, sir; I was at Memphis. I came

up to Fort Pillow the morning after the fight, on the Platte Valley, within some six or eight miles below Fort Pillow, and then got on the gunboat Twenty-eight.

Question. Did you go on shore at Fort Pillow?

Answer. No, sir; I saw some of the rebel officers come down and go on board the Platte Valley; and some of our officers were drinking with them, and making very free with them. I did not particularly notice what rank, but I took them to be captains and lieutenants.

Question. Did you hear the conversation between them?

Answer. They were making very free with one another, joking, talking, and running on. I did not feel right to see such going on, and did not go about them.

John W. Shelton, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where were you raised?

Answer. I was born in Arkansas, but raised principally in Tennessee.

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when the attack was made there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you wounded there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Before or after the surrender?

Answer. It was after I surrendered.

Question. Where were you when you were shot?

Answer. I was under the hill, going up the hill.

Question. What did they say when they shot you?

Answer. I asked them if they did not respect prisoners of war; they said "No, they did not," and kept on shooting; and they popped three or four caps in my face with a revolver after they had wounded me.

Question. Did you see them shoot any others after they had surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir, lots of them; negroes and white men both. They shot them down wherever they came to them.

Question. Were you there the next day after the battle?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you see them shoot any body the next day?

Answer. I saw them shoot negroes, not white men.

Question. How many did you see them shoot that day?

Answer. I saw them shoot five or six on the hill where I was; they said they shot all they could find.

Question. Were you in the hospital there?

Answer. I was in a house there with the wounded.

Question. Did you see them kill any body there that was wounded?

Answer. They took two negroes out and shot them.

Question. Did you see them burn any buildings the wounded were in?

Answer. Not the one we were in. I was told they fired some buildings that wounded negroes were in.

Question. Were you where they buried any of the killed?

Answer. I saw them bury some in a ditch in the evening.

Question. Did they separate the whites from the blacks?

Answer. I cannot tell; I was not close enough. I saw them carry them there and throw them in the ditch.

Question. Did you hear any thing about their nailing a man to a building and then setting it on fire?

Answer. I heard of it, but did not see it.

Question. When did you hear of it?

Answer. After I came up here.

John F. Ray, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when it was attacked?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. At what time were you wounded?

Answer. I was wounded about two o'clock, after the rebels got in the breastworks.

Question. Was it before or after you had surrendered?

Answer. It was after I threw down my gun, as they all started to run.

Question. Will you state what you saw there?

Answer. After I surrendered they shot down a great many white fellows right close to me—ten or twelve, I suppose—and a great many negroes, too.

Question. How long did they keep shooting our men after they surrendered?

Answer. I heard guns away after dark shooting all that evening, somewhere; they kept up a regular fire for a long time, and then I heard the guns once in a while.

Question. Did you see any one shot the next day?

Answer. I did not; I was in a house, and could not get up at all.

Question. Do you know what became of the quartermaster of your regiment, Lieutenant Akerstrom?

Answer. He was shot by the side of me.

Question. Was he killed?

Answer. I thought so at the time; he fell on his face. He was shot in the forehead, and I thought he was killed. I heard afterward he was not.

Question. Did you notice any thing that took place while the flag of truce was in?

Answer. I saw the rebels slipping up and getting in the ditch along our breastworks.

Question. How near did they come up?

Answer. They were right at us; right across from the breastworks. I asked them what they were slipping up there for. They made answer that they knew their business.

Question. Are you sure this was done while the flag of truce was in?

Answer. Yes, sir. There was no firing; we could see all around; we could see them moving up all around in large force.

Question. Was any thing said about it except what you said to the rebels?

Answer. I heard all our boys talking about it. I heard some of our officers remark, as they saw it coming, that the white flag was a bad thing; that they were slipping on us. I believe it was Lieutenant Akerstrom that I heard say it was against the rules of war for them to come up in that way.

Question. To whom did he say that?

Answer. To those fellows coming up; they had officers with them.

Question. Was Lieutenant Akerstrom shot before or after he had surrendered?

Answer. About two minutes after the flag of truce went back, during the action.

Question. Do you think of any thing else to state? If so, go on and state it.

Answer. I saw a rebel lieutenant take a little negro boy up on the horse behind him; and then I heard General Chalmers—I think it must have been—tell him to “take that negro down and shoot him,” or “take him and shoot him,” and he passed him down and shot him.

Question. How large was the boy?

Answer. He was not more than eight years old. I heard the lieutenant tell the other that the negro was not in the service; that he was nothing but a child; that he was pressed and brought in there. The other one said: “Damn the difference; take him down and shoot him, or he would shoot him.” I think it must have been General Chalmers. He was a smallish man; he had on a long gray coat, with a star on his coat.

Daniel H. Rankin, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company C, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the late attack there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you state what happened there?

Answer. The worst thing I saw was the rebels moving upon us while the flag of truce was up at the Fort. One part of their army moved right up on the brink of the ditch, and when the firing began, they rushed right into the Fort. Before that the rebels were off two or three hundred yards. They tried twice to make a charge, but

they did not succeed; they did not get within twenty or thirty steps of the Fort then. I saw a great many men shot after they surrendered, white and black both.

Question. Are you sure you saw the rebels moving up toward the Fort while the flag of truce was in?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw them.

Question. When were you shot?

Answer. After I surrendered.

Question. Where were you when you were shot?

Answer. About half-way down the bluff.

Question. Had you your gun when you were shot?

Answer. No, sir; if I had had my gun I would have shot the fellow who shot me. He was not more than ten steps from me. He was loading his gun, and I saw him shoot a man near me. As he fired at him I threw myself over the bluff, catching hold of a little locust. He aimed at my body and hit me in the leg. I then dropped down and got into the river, and afterward got out and crawled behind a stump with two of my company. Some darkeys came there, and we told them to go away; we saw the rebels were shooting them, and we allowed if they were not with us we might get clear. I went back to where I was shot, and some fellow fired at us, but did not hit us. We begged him not to shoot; that the place was surrendered to them. One of our fellows threw up his hands, but they fired at him and hit his arm. We were carried out about two miles from the Fort and then paroled.

Question. How long did you stay where you had been carried out from the Fort?

Answer. I staid there some eighteen or twenty hours; from about eight o'clock at night to about four o'clock the next evening. In that time my wound was dressed, and I was paroled somewhere between three and five o'clock. I got three of the rebels to help me up about a half a mile to a citizen's house, for I was not able to walk. I found out that the gunboat had a flag of truce, and I got an old man then in the house to saddle up a horse and carry me to the Fort. Two rebel doctors went along with me. When we got there a rebel lieutenant-colonel took my parole from me, said it was forged, and that he was going take me back. The doctors told him my parole was right, and that I was not able to travel. They took me down to the gunboat Number Twenty-eight, and then I went from that boat to gunboat Number Seven, and then I went on the flag-ship.

Lieutenant William Clary, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your rank and position in the service?

Answer. I am Second Lieutenant of company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when it was attacked?

Answer. No, sir; I was sent to Memphis the

day before, and returned to Fort Pillow the morning after the fight. I came up on gunboat Number Twenty-eight. The rebels were at Fulton, about two miles and a half below Fort Pillow. We fired at them, and the rebels at Fort Pillow heard it, and thought we were bringing up reinforcements, and then they set the town on fire.

Question. When did you get up there?

Answer. Early in the morning, or little after daylight.

Question. When did you land at Fort Pillow?

Answer. We got there about eight o'clock in the morning, and shelled there an hour or so. The rebels were occupying the Fort in large numbers. By and by the rebels came down with a flag of truce, and I went on shore to see what was wanting. One of the officers of the Sixth United States heavy artillery said he did not like to go on shore for fear the rebels would kill him. I went on shore with one of the naval officers and saw General Forrest's Adjutant-General, Major Anderson. He said if we would recognize the parole of Forrest we might take our wounded on the gunboat; and that was agreed upon. I rode all around the battle-ground, and saw some of our dead half-buried, and I saw five negroes burning. I asked Colonel Chalmers, the General's brother, if that was the way he allowed his men to do. He concluded that he could not control his men very well, and thought it was justifiable in regard to negroes; that they did not recognize negroes as soldiers, and he could not control his men. I did not see any white men burning there; if there were any, I did not recognize them as such. Their faces were burned, and some of them were sticking out of the tents and houses with their clothes partly burned. The negroes were lying upon the boards and straw in the tents which had been set on fire. It seemed to me as if the fire could not have been set more than half an hour before. Their flesh was frying off them, and their clothes were burning.

Question. How many did you see in that condition?

Answer. I saw five.

Question. Did they burn the hospital?

Answer. I saw the hospital burning, but I do not know whether they moved the sick out or not before they burned it. I understood the rebels went in where there were some twenty or thirty negroes sick, and hacked them over their heads with sabres and shot them. The negroes had been moved from the heights up on the hill into two large tents by us; but I do not think our men had been moved up there. I went through the hospital-tents up there the morning before I started down to Memphis, and saw them full of colored troops. Dr. Fitch told me that he had his hospital-flag on every bush around the bottom of the hill. At the commencement of the fight the Major had told him to take his instruments and his medicines down under the bluff and stick up flags there, and have the wounded taken down to him. But the Doctor

said they did not notice his flags at all; that some of his patients were wounded there. He was wounded himself and taken prisoner and paroled.

Question. Did you see them shoot any colored men that morning?

Answer. I saw them shoot one man just before we landed with a flag of truce. An escort of about twenty men rode up to a livery-stable and set it on fire. The gunboat fired at them but did not hit them, and they got on their horses and rode off at a trot. There were some paths down the hill, and a man came along down one of them; I saw them halt; the foremost one, an officer I think, pulled out a revolver and shot very deliberately at this man, and then they galloped off in quick time. He did not kill the man, however, for I saw him walking along afterward. I do not know whether the man was white or black.

Question. Did you hear any thing of their nailing men to a building and then burning it?

Answer. Yes, sir; I heard of it. And I heard a lady say that a man was nailed to a building that was burned. She said she was well acquainted with Lieutenant Akerstrom before the fight took place. Some one asked why he was not buried. Some of the rebels said he was a damned conscript that had run away from Forrest. But I never heard Lieutenant Akerstrom say any such thing.

Question. Who was that lady?

Answer. Mrs. Ruffin, the wife of Thomas Ruffin.

Question. Where is she now?

Answer. I think she is at Cairo now. Her husband did not get wounded, but he was sick. I heard an ensign on gunboat Twenty-eight invite General Chalmers and some of his aids-de-camp to come on board the gunboat, and I saw Major Anderson and several other confederate officers on the Platte Valley drinking at the bar, and I saw a couple of army officers drinking there with them, and there might have been some naval officers with them too, but I am not certain of that. The clerk of the Platte Valley, General Forrest's Adjutant-General, Major Anderson, and an ensign of gunboat Twenty-eight, took the names of the paroles. I did not take the names myself, because I was busily engaged going over the battle-field to find out if any of our men were left alive. I heard a great many rebel soldiers say they did not intend to recognize those black devils as soldiers. They said this to me as I was speaking about the slaughter there. They also expressed the opinion that if we had not been fighting with black troops they would not have hurt us at all; but they did not intend to give any quarter to negroes.

Dr. Stewart Gordon, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your position?

Answer. Acting Assistant Surgeon, United States army.

Question. Where are you now stationed?

Answer. I have charge of ward N, Mound City General Hospital.

Question. Is that the ward in which are the colored men we first examined yesterday?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Have you prepared a statement of the condition of the men in that ward whose testimony we have taken?

Answer. I have it here; it is a brief history of their cases, where they were wounded, how they were wounded, and the condition they are in.—(Appendix to this deposition.)

Question. Were you here in the hospital when those men were brought in?

Answer. I was.

Question. Had you any conversation with them then?

Answer. Yes, sir; with the greater part of them.

Question. Did you hear their testimony yesterday?

Answer. I did.

Question. Did the statements they made to us correspond with the statements they made to you when they were first brought here?

Answer. They did.

Question. So far as you can judge, from your experience as a medical man, are their statements in relation to their injuries corroborated by the appearance of the injuries themselves?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How many of those men have died since they have been received here?

Answer. Only one in my ward.

Question. How many are there now who you think will not recover?

Answer. I think there are three who will not recover; perhaps more.

Ward N.—Private Elias Falls, company A, First Alabama artillery, shot in arm while fighting, shot in thigh after being prisoner, flesh wound, condition favorable; private Duncan Harden, company A, First Alabama artillery, shot in arm while fighting, arm broke, shot in thigh after being prisoner, flesh wound, favorable; private Nathan Hunter, company D, First Alabama artillery, shot in side and hip after surrender, flesh wound, condition favorable; Sergeant Benjamin Robinson, company D, First Alabama artillery, shot in thigh and right leg after surrender, flesh wound, favorable; private Daniel Tylor, company B, First Tennessee artillery, shot in right shoulder, shot in right eye after surrender, destroying sight, unfavorable; private John Haskins, company B, First Tennessee artillery, shot in left arm after surrender, flesh wound, slight, favorable; private Thomas Adison, company C, First Alabama artillery, shot in nose and right eye after surrender, destroying sight, unfavorable; private Alfred Flake, company A, First Alabama artillery, shot in left hand while lying sick in hospital, flesh wound, unfavorable; private Manuel Nichols, company B, First Alabama artillery, shot in left side before, and right arm after surrender, flesh wound,

serious, unfavorable; private Arthur Edmonda, company C, First Alabama artillery, shot in head and right arm after surrender, causing fracture of arm, condition favorable; private Henry Hanks, company A, First Alabama artillery, shot in left side after surrender, wound serious, condition unfavorable; private Charles Key, company D, First Alabama artillery, shot in right arm after surrender, fracture of arm, condition favorable; private Henry Christon, company B, First Alabama artillery, shot in back before surrender, wound serious, rather favorable; private Aaron Fintis, company D, First Alabama artillery, shot in both legs after surrender, flesh wound, slight, condition favorable; private George Shaw, company B, First Tennessee artillery, shot in left side of head, shot in right wrist after surrender, not serious, favorable; private Major William, company B, First Tennessee artillery, shot through nose after surrender, not serious, condition favorable; officer's servant William Jerdon, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, shot in left ankle, amputation, shot in left arm, fracture of arm after surrender, very unfavorable; Corporal Alexander Naison, company C, First Alabama artillery, shot in right side of head after surrender, not serious, favorable; private Thomas Gadis, company C, First Alabama artillery, shot in right hip after surrender, serious, condition unfavorable; Corporal Eli Cothel, company B, First Alabama artillery, shot in right leg while fighting, shot in left arm after surrender, flesh wound, favorable; private Sandy Cole, company D, First Alabama artillery, shot in right thigh and arm after surrender, flesh wound, condition favorable; private Nathan Modley, company D, First Alabama artillery, shot in right knee after surrender, injury of joint, condition unfavorable; private John Holland, company B, First Tennessee artillery, shot in right thigh after surrender, flesh wound, condition favorable; private Robert Hall, company C, First Alabama artillery, sabre cut of head and left hand while lying sick in hospital, died.

STEWART GORDON,
Charge of Ward M.

Dr. William N. McCoy, sworn and examined.
By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your position in the service?

Answer. I am an Acting Assistant Surgeon, now stationed at Mound City General Hospital, in charge of wards L, K, I, and H. Wards L, K, and H have wounded in from Fort Pillow.

Question. Have you prepared a statement of the cases of those of your patients whom we examined here?

Answer. Yes, sir; here is a statement.—(See appendix to this deposition.)

Question. Did you have any conversation with those wounded men in relation to their injuries when they first came to the hospital?

Answer. I did to some extent.

Question. Have any of the wounded from Fort Pillow died in your wards?

Answer. One in ward H.

Question. Are there others who you think will not recover?

Answer. There are two whose recovery I think is doubtful.

Wounded in wards L, K. and H, United States General Hospital, Mound City, Illinois.—W. P. Walker, Sergeant company D, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received four wounds at Fort Pillow April twelfth, 1864. One ball passed through left arm near middle third, fracturing humerus. Second ball struck right side of neck, one and a half inch below mastoid process, and remaining in. Third ball made flesh wound in right shoulder. Fourth ball struck left eye, supposed by himself to be a glancing shot; eye totally destroyed. Done after the surrender.

Milas M. M. Woodside, a discharged soldier from the Seventh Tennessee cavalry, also from the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, wounded by two balls, first (pistol) ball striking just below insertion of deltoid muscle of right arm, and remaining in; second (musket) ball striking centre of right breast over third rib, and passing to the right and downward, emerged at inner border of the scapula, about six inches from point of entrance. Done after the surrender.

Jason London, private, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received a ball, which struck the dorsal side of right hand about the junction of carpal and metacarpal bones of index finger; emerged at carpal bone of thumb; then struck thigh in front, about six inches above knee-joint; passing over the bone, emerged on inner side. After being wounded, he was knocked down by one of the fiends with a musket. Done after the surrender.

David H. Taylor, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received five wounds. First (musket) ball passed in under the angle of right jaw, fracturing the symphysis, where it emerged. Second ball struck front of right shoulder-joint; emerged immediately behind caracoid process. Third ball entered three inches below, and a little to the right of entiform cartilage; passing downward, is lost. Fourth ball in left knee, fracturing inner condyle of femur, and passed into popliteal space. Fifth ball, upper part of middle third thigh; lost. Done after the surrender.

David W. Harrison, private, company D, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received three wounds. First (musket) ball passed from behind head of humerus, left side; emerged between clavicle and axilla, producing compound comminuted fracture of head and upper end of shaft of bone. Second ball struck left side two and a half inches above ilium; ball not found. Third ball entered at upper edge of scapula behind, passing under the bone is lost. Wounds received after the surrender.

James Calvin Goeforth, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received wound. Ball passed from right to left across the back, entering at upper part of scapula; emerged at a

point a little below and at the opposite side, (flesh wound.) Done after the surrender.

William A. Dickey, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, wounded after the surrender. Ball entered abdomen four inches to the right of umbilicus; ball lost.

Thomas J. Cartwright, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received a wound in left shoulder, striking pectoral muscle near axilla, fracturing clavicle; was extracted near the vertebral column at upper and outer border of scapula. Done before the surrender.

William L. McMichael, private, company C, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received five wounds. First ball glanced along the upper portion of right parietal bone, making wound (flesh) two and a half inches long. Second ball glanced ulnar side of left fore-arm at wrist-joint. Third ball struck left side of abdomen on a line from anterior superior process of ilium to symphysis pubis; ball not found. Fourth ball struck near the insertion of tensus of right side; passed downwards four inches; was extracted. Wounds received after the surrender of the Fort.

Isaac J. Leadbetter, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, received wound in left side. Musket-ball struck over eighth rib and plunged downward; is lost. Done after the surrender.

James Walla, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, was wounded by musket-ball striking over origin of gluteus minimus of left side, and passed upward and across, emerging eleven inches from point of entrance almost over the last rib of right side, and about two and a half inches from vertebral column. Done after the surrender. In charge of

WILLIAM N. MCCOY,
Acting Assistant Surgeon United States Army.

Dr. A. H. Kellogg, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the service?

Answer. I am an Acting Assistant Surgeon, in charge of wards E and F, Mound City General Hospital.

Question. Were you present yesterday when the testimony of the wounded men in your wards was taken?

Answer. I have but one under my charge who was wounded at Fort Pillow. I heard his testimony.

Question. Had you previously had any conversation with him in relation to the circumstances attending his being wounded?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did his statements to us yesterday correspond with the statements he made to you?

Answer. Yes, sir; except he gave a few more details yesterday as to what was said to him. He told me that he was wounded after he had surrendered.

Question. Have you prepared a statement of his case?

Answer. Yes, sir; here it is:

Woodford Cooksey, private, company A, Thirteenth regiment Tennessee cavalry, gunshot wound, with comminuted fracture of middle third of left femur, received at Fort Pillow, April twelfth, 1864, *after surrender*.

A. H. KELLOGG, M.D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U.S.A.

Doctor Charles H. Vail, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your rank and position in the service?

Answer. Acting Assistant Surgeon in charge of wards A, B, C, and D, Mound City General Hospital. The Adjutant of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry is in ward B.

Question. Have you prepared a statement of his case?

Answer. Yes, sir; and also of Captain Porter, who is in the same ward, and who was too weak to be examined this morning:

First Lieutenant Mack J. Seaming, Adjutant Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, gunshot wound of right side, received at Fort Pillow, April twelfth, 1864. Ball entered right side below inferior angle of scapula, between sixth and seventh rib, ranged down, and was lost in muscles near hip. Wounded after he had surrendered; shot by a man standing thirty feet above him on the bank. Present condition of patient good, with fair prospect of recovery.

Captain John H. Potter, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, wounded at Fort Pillow April twelfth, 1864. Ball fractured skull, carrying away a portion of left parietal and frontal bones, leaving brain exposed for a distance of an inch and a half; was wounded early in the fight by a sharp-shooter before the surrender. Present condition almost hopeless; has remained insensible ever since he was wounded.

CHARLES H. VAIL, M.D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon U.S.A., in charge of Officers' Ward.

Dr. J. A. C. McCoy, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your rank and position?

Answer. Acting Assistant Surgeon in charge of wards O, P, Q, and R, in Mound City General Hospital.

Question. Have you any of the wounded soldiers from Fort Pillow in your wards?

Answer. I have.

Question. Have you prepared a statement of their cases?

Answer. Yes, sir; I have two statements here prepared at different times; I will hand you both of them, as each one contains some particulars not in the other.

Ward Q.—John F. Ray, private, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot in popliteal space, ball lodged, done after surrender; John W. Shelton, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot through left leg, middle third, flesh wound, done after surrender; Joseph M. Green, private, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot in right shoulder, behind, ball escaping at mid-

dle of right arm, flesh wound, done after surrender; James H. Stout, private, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot in right leg, producing compound fracture of tibia, done after surrender; Thomas J. Thompson, private, company D, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot between sixth and seventh ribs, ball passing downward is lost, done after surrender; Daniel H. Rankin, private, company C, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot through left leg, flesh wound, done after surrender; Wiley Robinson, private, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot in right arm and right index finger, flesh wounds, shot through left index finger and through inferior lobe left lung, ball lodged, shot through left thigh and through left ankle, flesh wounds, all but one shot done after surrender; Daniel Stamps, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot through right thigh, flesh wound, done after surrender; James P. Meador, private, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot through inferior lobe of right lung and superior lobe of left lung, one shot after surrender; William J. Mays, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot through right axilla and side, flesh wounds, done just before surrender; James N. Taylor, private, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot in right hip, ball lodged, done after surrender; Francis A. Alexander, private, company C, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot through right leg, flesh wound, done after surrender; Nathan G. Fowlkes, private, company D, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot in left leg, compound fracture of both bones, done after surrender.

J. A. C. McCoy,
Acting Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

Francis A. Alexander, company C, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; Nathan G. Fowlkes, company D, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; Wiley Robinson, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot seven times, six times after surrender, dangerous; Daniel Stamps, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, severe; James P. Meador, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot twice, once after surrender, dangerous; James N. Taylor, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; William J. Mays, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once just before surrender, dangerous; John F. Ray, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; John W. Shelton, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; Thomas J. Thompson, company D, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; Joseph M. Green, company A, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; James H. Stout, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous; Daniel H. Rankin, company C, Thirteenth Tennessee, shot once after surrender, dangerous.

J. A. C. McCoy, M.D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

The following is a statement prepared by Dr. M. Black, of the cases under his charge:

Horton Casen, private, company A, First Ala-

bama infantry, wounded at Fort Pillow after surrender, gunshot wounds in hip and thigh; Jacob Thompson, waiter, company B, Eleventh Illinois cavalry, wounded at Fort Pillow after surrender, pistol-shots through thumb and head, and several blows with blunt instrument (says with a gun) on head and neck, dividing skin in several places; Henry Parker, company D, First Alabama, wounded at Fort Pillow after surrender, gunshot wound in hip; Ransom Anderson, company B, First Alabama artillery, wounded at Fort Pillow after surrender, sabre cuts on head and hand, and gunshot wounds in shoulder and chest; Mary Jane Robinson, wife of a soldier at Fort Pillow, wounded by a rebel after the surrender of the Fort, at a distance of ten yards, gunshot wound through both knees.

M. BLACK,
Acting Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

Surgeon Horace Wardner, recalled and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Have you heard our examination of the wounded in this hospital from Fort Pillow?

Answer. I have.

Question. Did you have any conversation with them when they were first brought to the hospital?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did the statements they made to you then correspond with their statements to us?

Answer. They did.

Question. Do the nature and character of their injuries sustain their statements in regard to their injuries?

Answer. The character of the injuries of these men corroborates their statements in regard to the treatment they received from the rebels.

MOUND CITY, Illinois, April 22, 1864.

Captain Alexander M. Pennock, United States Navy, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your rank and position in the navy?

Answer. I am a Captain in the United States navy; Fleet Captain of the Mississippi squadron, and commandant of the station of Cairo and Mound City.

Question. How long have you been in the naval service?

Answer. Since the first of April, 1828.

Question. Will you please state what services have been rendered by the naval forces here in checking and preventing the recent movements of the rebel Forrest and his command in this vicinity?

Answer. Two gunboats were at Paducah at the time the attack was made upon that place; they rendered efficient service there. On receiving information that Paducah had been attacked, or that there was a probability of its being attacked, I immediately went to Cairo from Mound City, with Captain Shirk, of the navy, and con-

ferred with General Brayman and General Veatch. A regiment was sent by General Veatch up to Paducah. An armed despatch boat was also sent up, with Captain Shirk on board, and Captain Odlin, Assistant Adjutant-General on General Brayman's staff, to ascertain the facts, and render such assistance as might be needed. I was informed by both Captain Shirk and Captain Odlin that the gunboats there, and the fort, had expended a great deal of ammunition, and were getting short of it. Ammunition both for the army and navy was immediately sent up; a division of gunboats from the Cumberland River, Captain Fitch commanding, came down after the fight, and reinforced Captain Shirk at Paducah.

Information having reached me that the rebels were crossing over into Illinois in small squads, four gunboats were stationed by the two above-named naval officers between Paducah and Mound City, to prevent their crossing, and orders were given them to destroy all ferries and skiffs—in fact, all means of communication across the Ohio River.

A gunboat had been stationed at Columbus, Kentucky. Hearing that the surrender of that place had been demanded, I despatched Captain Fitch with two of the Cumberland River boats, and another gunboat which was here for repairs, to Columbus, with orders if all was quiet there to go down the river as far as Hickman. I instructed him that the Mississippi River must be kept clear at all hazards. After having given this order, which was in writing, the captain of a steamboat came to me and informed me that Fort Pillow had been attacked, and that the captain of the gunboat stationed there sent word that he had expended nearly all his ammunition. I directed Captain Fitch, if he could be spared from Columbus, to go down to Fort Pillow with his three boats, and I immediately had placed on board a despatch-boat the ammunition required for the gunboat then at Fort Pillow. And boats have since been cruising up and down the Ohio River and the Mississippi River as far as Fort Pillow, for the purpose of giving convoy and keeping the river open. On the arrival of Captain Fitch near Fort Pillow, he found the enemy in force on this side of the Fort, behind wood-piles on the bank of the river; they were burning wood and barges there. They were shelled and driven off. Captain Fitch also prevented a detachment of rebels from crossing over to an island, where a number of transports and other boats had been detained, which the rebels desired to capture or destroy. He convoyed that fleet as far as Fort Pillow, clear of danger. Afterward three boats were sent down to Hickman, for the purpose of giving protection to such Union men as desired to leave and bring away their goods, and, if possible, to capture any rebels that might be in the place. A detachment of marines accompanied this expedition. The town was surrounded twice, once by day and once by night; the guerrillas had been in there, and escaped. The people of Hickman were warned

that if even a musket-shot was again fired at a transport or other boat, the place would be at once destroyed. These boats have been moving constantly day and night, and despatch-boats have been furnished by the navy to convey despatches for General Sherman and General Brayman, up the Tennessee River, or wherever they might require. I would add that when Captain Fitch returned from Fort Pillow he brought away with him refugees, women, and children, who had been left there, and ten wounded soldiers who had been there for two days.

Question. What, in your opinion, would be the competent military and naval force to protect the public property at Cairo and Mound City?

Answer. Two gunboats and two thousand men.

Question. State briefly your reason for believing so large a force is required for that purpose?

Answer. For the reason that we have public property extending along the river for seven miles, and we should be ready for any emergency.

Question. What amount of property would be destroyed here, should the enemy get possession long enough to destroy it?

Answer. It is difficult to estimate its value accurately. We have here a large number of guns, and all the ammunition and other supplies for the Mississippi fleet, consisting of at least one hundred vessels.

Question. What effect would the destruction or capture of this property have upon operations here in the West?

Answer. It would paralyze the fleet.

Question. For how long a time?

Answer. For the entire season, beside giving the enemy means to act more on the offensive—means enough to last them for a campaign.

Question. Is it also true that all the army supplies for the Western department pass through here?

Answer. To the best of my knowledge it is.

Question. What force have you here at Mound City now?

Answer. I have two gunboats, eighty-five marines, one hundred mechanics, who have been armed and drilled, one company of the invalid corps, and a detachment of convalescents from the hospital. Any other forces that may be here are merely temporary.

Question. What force have you at Cairo?

Answer. Seventy-odd marines. But those we have only to protect the wharf-boat and the inspection-boat, which have on board provisions, ship chandlery, etc. Admiral Porter has ordered me to move them up to this point whenever I can do so without detriment to the public service. I understand that there is a permanent garrison at Cairo of between three hundred and four hundred men. When General Brayman was compelled to reinforce Columbus, he was compelled to take away from there all except about one hundred and fifty men.

Captain James W. Shirk, United States navy, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the navy, and where are you stationed at this time?

Answer. I am a Lieutenant Commander, and commandant of the United States gunboat Tusculumbia, and the Seventh district of the Mississippi squadron, which extends from the headwaters of the Tennessee River to Cairo.

Question. How long have you been in service in the West?

Answer. I have been attached to this squadron since the sixth of September, 1862.

Question. You are acquainted with the immense amount of public property at Mound City and Cairo?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Do you consider that there is permanent force here, both naval and military, large enough for its protection?

Answer. I do not consider that there has been force enough here heretofore.

Question. What, in your judgment, would be a force sufficient to render that protection and security which the place ought to have?

Answer. I should think it would take a couple of gunboats, and at least two full regiments. The great danger to be apprehended here is from fire.

Question. Will you now state what services the navy has rendered in the late raids in this region of country?

Answer. I will state in regard to my own division. I returned to Paducah, from a trip up the Tennessee River, on the twenty-fifth of March, at noon. I immediately called upon Colonel Hicks, the commandant of that post, as was my custom, to hear what news he had. He informed me that the rebels had taken Union City the day before, and that he expected an attack there that night. As I had just come down from the southern part of Tennessee, and had heard nothing of Forrest there, and as I had been told so many times before without cause that the rebels were threatening to attack Paducah, I did not put much confidence in the report; at the same time, I did not wish to leave the place unprotected by gunboats, and I accordingly left the Peosta and the Pawpaw at that place, while I came down to Cairo to communicate with Captain Pennock and the authorities here, in order to find out whether or not there was any truth in the report. I left Paducah about one o'clock and arrived here about dark. Shortly after I arrived here the telegraphic operator at Metropolis telegraphed down that Paducah was in flames. Captain Pennock and I went down to Cairo to see Generals Brayman and Veatch. General Veatch ordered a regiment of his troops up to Paducah to reinforce Colonel Hicks, and I immediately started up in the despatch boat Volunteer with Captain Odlin, General Brayman's Assistant Adjutant-General. On our way up we destroyed several ferry-boats and

skiffs, in order to prevent the rebels crossing the river. We arrived at Paducah about daylight on the twenty-sixth of March. The enemy was in force about two miles and a half from town. It was reported to me by my subordinate officers that the enemy had attacked the place about three o'clock in the evening of the day before; that the Fort had been bravely defended and preserved by the gallantry of Colonel Hicks and his small garrison, assisted very materially by the two gunboats which I had left there; that Forrest had occupied the town; that about ten o'clock that night he had been driven out by the fire of the Peosta, she having gone up and shelled the town for that purpose. I placed myself in communication with Colonel Hicks on the morning of the twenty-sixth, and found that he was short of ammunition, as were also the gunboats. I immediately telegraphed to Captain Pennock to send up a full supply of ammunition for the two gunboats, and thirty thousand rounds of Enfield cartridges for Colonel Hicks. The supplies were sent up by him immediately, and reached us that evening. In the afternoon, about three o'clock, Colonel Hicks sent me a message that the enemy were forming in line of battle at the head of Jersey street, and requested me to open upon them with shell. I fired shell in that direction, and about four o'clock the enemy left in the direction of Mayfield. The captains of the Peosta and the Pawpaw both informed me that the day before the rebels took advantage of the presence of women there, behind whom they covered themselves and fired at the officers and men on the gunboats. The women came running down toward the Fort, and the rebels got behind them and fired at our people on the boats.

Question. And the boats could not fire upon the rebels without killing the women?

Answer. No, sir. And the rebels also took advantage of a flag of truce, while it was flying, to enter the town and plant their batteries there, and to get into brick houses on the levee, from which to fire on the gunboats, while the flag of truce was flying at the Fort. I returned that night at midnight to Cairo, and assisted Captain Pennock as much as I could in making preparations to take care of the public property, as I knew that some few stragglers had crossed the Ohio above, and we were fearful they would come down and burn the public property here. Again, on the twelfth of this month, I was at Paducah. The rebels were reported in force all around the town. I telegraphed to Captain Pennock, giving him that information, and also that in my opinion Colonel Hicks ought to be reinforced. Another regiment was immediately sent up by General Brayman, and Lieutenant Commander Fitch, commanding the Eighth district of the Mississippi squadron, by direction of Captain Pennock, sent four of his gunboats to report to me for duty. I made disposition of four gunboats, each with ten marines on board, to patrol between Paducah and Mound City. The enemy hovered around us until about noon of the fourteenth, when they made a dash upon the town, send-

ing in a flag of truce to Colonel Hicks, giving him one hour to remove the women and children from the town. I immediately ordered all the transports to the Illinois shore, and took the women and children over there. When the hour was up I was informed that the rebels were in Jersey, a suburb of the town, and Colonel Hicks wished me to go up there and shell them. I did so, with two gunboats, carrying long-range rifled guns, firing about one hundred and twenty rounds of shell, which fell in among them. The rebels retired, and encamped from three to six miles out of town that night. When the flag of truce was sent in to the Fort, squads of rebel cavalry came into town and stole all the Government horses there, and also a great many belonging to private citizens.

Question. Under the flag of truce?

Answer. Yes, sir; as the flag of truce came in and went to the Fort they came into the town.

Question. Is not that a direct and utter violation of the rules of warfare?

Answer. It is a direct violation of the flag of truce. I have had three or four boats up the Tennessee River all the time. There are three up there now, one having come out the day before yesterday. There were two to have started this morning at daylight, and I received a despatch this forenoon, saying that the enemy were reported to be crossing the Tennessee River at Birmingham and above, in force, from the west to the east side. I immediately telegraphed to Paducah and had two heavy gunboats go up to ascertain the truth of the report. I do not credit the story, but I have done all I possibly could do, with the limited number of boats at my command.

Question. How long have you been in the navy?

Answer. Fifteen years.

Question. You are acquainted with the administration of Captain Pennock, of the navy, here?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What do you say of it?

Answer. I do not think any one could have done more than Captain Pennock has done, with the means at his command.

Question. Why is it that we do not hear more of the transactions of the gunboats out here, while we hear so much of what the army does?

Answer. One reason is that there is a general order by Admiral Porter, prohibiting any newspaper reporter from going on board any vessel in the Mississippi squadron.

Question. Is there a cordial understanding and coöperation between the navy here and the military forces under General Brayman?

Answer. I think there is to a very great degree. I never saw more cordiality existing between officers of the different services. I would like to say further, that during this late raid I convoyed General Veatch's division up the Tennessee River. It was ordered up there by General Sherman to land at or near Savannah, and go out to Purdy and the Hatchie, in that way intending to catch Forrest. I afterward sent up another despatch of the same purport, from Gen-

eral Sherman to General Veatch, which reached him at the landing near Purdy. I sent up a third despatch to him, which was brought here by General Corse from General Sherman. That despatch never reached General Veatch for the reason that he had come back from Purdy, gone on up the Tennessee and disembarked his troops at Waterloo, Alabama, and was out of reach of my gunboats.

Captain Smith, commanding the Peosta, broke up a rebel recruiting office at Brooklyn, Illinois, a week ago last Sunday. The recruiting office was on board a trading vessel. He destroyed the boat, but saved seven new rebel uniforms that were on it. He could not discover the recruiting agent there, there being so many secesh sympathizers around there.

Question. In your opinion, has General Brayman acted with vigilance and activity, and done all he could with the forces intrusted to him, during these raids?

Answer. So far as I know, he has done all he could do.

CAIRO, ILLINOIS, April 24, 1864.

Major-General Steven A. Hurlbut, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the army?

Answer. I am a Major-General of volunteers, commanding the Sixteenth army corps.

Question. Where have you been stationed?

Answer. I have been stationed at Memphis for the last sixteen months.

Question. How long have you been stationed along the river?

Answer. Ever since the battle of Shiloh. I have commanded at Bolivar and Jackson, Tennessee, until about the twentieth of November, 1862, when I was ordered to Memphis.

Question. Now, with regard to this raid of Forrest, was that raid made in your department?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Please give us, in your own way, a brief account of that raid?

Answer. Forrest first crossed the Memphis and Charleston Railroad last December. I organized a force in Columbus and moved it down and drove him out. General Sherman then ordered all the available troops in my command to be got together—leaving very small garrisons at the important points—for the Meridian expedition. I marched and crossed there, and marched back again. Two divisions of my command were then detailed to go up Red River, under General Banks. As an auxiliary to the infantry movement to Meridian, General W. S. Smith came to Memphis and took command of all my cavalry and another brigade which he brought over, all amounting to about seven thousand effective men, to move across the country, drive the enemy's force out, cut his way across to Columbus and Aberdeen, and to go down to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and join us at Meridian. He failed to make that junction; was met by Forrest about West-Point, and for some reason or other (I do not know

what) retreated and fell back to Memphis. The effect of a retreat, at the rate at which they retreated, and the loss they met with, and the retreating before an inferior force, demoralized the cavalry very seriously. I returned to Memphis about the Three Points, marched, and found that Forrest was organizing a very considerable force, so far as I could find out, with the intention of moving up to West-Tennessee. I had orders from the War Department to send home all the veteran regiments (cavalry especially) as rapidly as possible. I took an inventory of my force, and found that I had about six thousand cavalry to two thousand two hundred horses, which limited the efficiency of the cavalry. I furloughed and sent home the Third Michigan, Second Iowa, Third, Sixth, Seventh, and Ninth Illinois, and distributed their horses among the men that were left, so as to keep men enough always, and more, to mount with horses. Forrest moved up, and crossed the line of the Charleston and Memphis Railroad, toward Jackson, Tennessee, and occupied it. General Grierson was directed by me to go out with his cavalry, feel him, attack him, and cripple him as much as possible. He went out, and reported that he was "a little too strong for him, and he could not touch him." My effective force at Memphis consisted of two thousand two hundred cavalry, two thousand one hundred white infantry, and two thousand four hundred colored infantry. I had the choice to move out a force sufficiently strong to attack Forrest and leave Memphis open, with its immense amount of government stores, ordnance, hospitals, and every thing of that nature. I became satisfied that if I moved out four thousand men, (which was the lowest I considered safe to send out,) and they should move out fifty or sixty miles into the country, the enemy, being all mounted, would turn that force and come in and occupy Memphis, which I considered would be a greater disaster than to allow Forrest to range in West-Tennessee. I therefore did not send them out, but I kept the cavalry out as far we could go, or dared go. It was not possible to divine precisely what Forrest's intentions were. My own opinion was, that it was his intention to organize a force, cross the Tennessee River, and operate upon General Sherman's line of communication. I was at Cairo at the time Union City was attacked. Four regiments and a battery of one of my divisions, which were ordered up the Tennessee River, were here also. I directed General Brayman to take them and throw them up to Columbus in rear of Forrest when he was at Paducah, but they were peremptorily ordered up the Tennessee River.

Question. Ordered up by General Sherman?

Answer. Yes, sir. The result was, that there was not force enough, in my opinion, in the command on the Mississippi River, from Paducah to Memphis, to operate upon Forrest with any prospect of success.

Question. What was the estimated strength of Forrest's forces?

Answer. Forrest's entire force, according to the best of my information, was between eight

thousand and nine thousand men altogether. That includes this division of Buford's that operated up here. I have somewhere among my papers a list of all his brigades. I know nearly all of them. I have run against nearly all of them. He had five of the oldest regiments in the confederate service detailed expressly for this purpose as a nucleus of his organization. These were troops that had seen a great deal of service along the line below Memphis—Chalmers's brigade, Ely's brigade, Bell's brigade, and McCullough's. I cannot estimate Forrest's force at less than between eight thousand and nine thousand men. The cause of this raid, unquestionably, was the fact that so large an amount of troops which had been holding this region of country had been removed—a portion of them up the Tennessee River to Decatur, and a portion up the Red River—also the fact that he knew perfectly well, from his spies at Memphis, the condition of our cavalry. Memphis, from the nature of the ground there, is a place that requires not less than five thousand men to garrison the outer line. It is the worst place to cover that I ever saw. We have a fort there that was built that would take seven thousand men as a reasonable amount to line the parapets. We have immense stores there, for from Memphis not only the Sixteenth and Seventeenth army corps are supplied, but General Steele's army at Little Rock are supplied from there also. We have large hospitals there, scattered all over the city. We have an unsteady and unreliable population; and the daily interior guard duty, for the city proper, requires over three hundred men. I considered then, and I consider now, that the removal of any force competent to make any serious impression upon Forrest would have imperilled Memphis; and I believe that was what General Forrest wanted done.

Question. How large a force did you retain there for the safety of that place?

Answer. I retained the infantry—four thousand men. I kept the cavalry out all the time as far as they could go.

Question. How came you to reoccupy Fort Pillow? Had it been abandoned?

Answer. No, sir. When I moved to Meridian, the Fifty-second Indiana regiment, which had been there, was withdrawn, and made a part of the expedition, and the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, which was recruiting, was moved down there as a recruiting point. I afterward reinforced it by sending up Major Booth with four companies of colored heavy artillery and six guns, and a section of light artillery, making in all about six hundred men.

Question. Do I understand you to say that the post had never been entirely abandoned?

Answer. No, sir. When the Fifty-second Indiana was taken away it was temporarily abandoned until the Thirteenth Tennessee came down to hold it as a recruiting point. I considered Fort Pillow as a place which ought to be held with a small garrison, and I think so yet, and

any navy officer or river man will tell you that the situation of the channel there requires it.

Question. I am not questioning that at all. I merely inquired as to the fact.

Answer. I sent Major Booth there because I had great confidence in him as a soldier. He was an old soldier who had served in the regular army, and I considered him the best man I had for that purpose. I received a report from him "that he could hold that post against any force for forty-eight hours," which was all I expected him to do, and if he had not been killed I think he would have held it. I have no doubt that his death was the immediate cause of the capture of the place.

Question. Just in this connection, please to state why you deemed it important to keep up a garrison at that place?

Answer. The steamboat channel at Fort Pillow runs right under the bluff, and brings every boat as it passes within musket-shot of the shore, and a couple of guns mounted up above there would stop most effectually the navigation of the river, and drive away any of the tin-clad gunboats we have, for a plunging fire would go right through them, and they could not get elevation enough to strike. The whole life of the army below, especially while these large movements were going on, depended upon an uninterrupted communication by the river, and the stopping that communication for two or three days might deprive us of necessary supplies just at the moment that they were required. These were my reasons for holding the place.

Question. What information have you in regard to the attack upon Fort Pillow; its capture, and the barbarities practised there?

Answer. I am not positive about dates, but my recollection is that Fort Pillow was attacked on the twelfth of April. Just about dusk of the twelfth a boat came down to Memphis from Fort Pillow, bringing information that the place was attacked, but that Major Booth was perfectly confident of being able to hold out until he could be reinforced. I immediately ordered a regiment to be got ready, with four days' rations and an extra supply of ammunition; took the steamer Glendale, dropped her down to Fort Pickering, and the regiment was in the very act of going on board when another boat came down with the information that the Fort was captured. The order to move up the regiment was countermanded, for there was no use in sending it then. There were at Fort Pillow two ten-pound Parrotts, two six-pounder field guns, and two twelve-pounder howitzers, and about six hundred men. I cannot tell precisely the number of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, for it was a recruiting regiment, and filling off and on. If the men had been left in the position in which they had been placed by Major Booth, and from which position he had already repelled an assault of the enemy, I think they would have been able to have held the Fort until reinforced. I believe that the ground there is so strong that six hundred men

with that artillery ought to have held it; but the command devolved upon a very good gentleman, but a very young officer, entirely inexperienced in these matters. The enemy rushed on the Fort from two or three directions, and confused him, I think, and broke him and carried it. The information which I have from all sources, official and otherwise, is that—whether by permission of their officers, or contrary to their permission, I cannot say—a butchery took place there that is unexampled in the record of civilized warfare. We always expect, in case of a place carried by assault, that some extravagance of passion will occur; but this seems to have been continued after resistance had ceased, when there was nothing to keep up the hot blood, and to have been of a nature brutal to an extent that is scarcely credible, and I have embodied in my official report to General McPherson (my present superior officer) my opinion that the black troops will hereafter be uncontrollable, unless the government take some prompt and energetic action upon the subject. I know very well that my colored regiments at Memphis, officers and men, will never give quarter.

Question. They never ought to.

Answer. They never will. They have sworn it; and I have some very good colored regiments there.

Question. What do you say of the fighting qualities of the colored troops?

Answer. That depends altogether upon their officers. If they are properly officered, they are just as good troops as any body has. I have two or three regiments at Memphis that I am willing to put anywhere that I would put any soldiers which I have ever seen, with the same amount of experience.

Question. Did you learn any thing of the particulars of those atrocities that were committed there at Fort Pillow?

Answer. I learned the particulars from the reports of the officers.

Question. Did you learn any thing about any flags of truce being taken advantage of?

Answer. They always do that; that is a matter of habit with them.

Question. And they took advantage of them in this case, as you learn?

Answer. Yes, sir; and they did it at Paducah, and they tried it at Columbus.

Question. Did you hear any thing about their setting fire to hospitals, while the wounded were in there?

Answer. I learn, from what I consider unquestionable authority, that bodies were found which had been wounded by musket-shots, and then their eyes bayoneted out; men wounded in a similar way, with their bowels cut open; and I have heard many other instances of equal barbarity.

Question. Did you hear, recently after that capture, of any body being nailed to a building and burned?

Answer. I heard that Lieutenant Akerstrom was so treated.

Question. Did you learn that from a source that you could give credit to?

Answer. I had no reason to doubt it, with the exception of the identification of the body. The fact that somebody was so treated, I consider to be sufficiently proven; the identification, I think, is doubtful.

Question. Is there any thing more you wish to state? If so, will you state it without further questioning?

Answer. I do not know that I can state any thing more than my opinion in regard to certain things that might have been done. I do not know that it is worth while to do that. As I am under censure myself, at present, I prefer not to.

Question. Will you give us a description of the situation of Fort Pillow?

Answer. It is a very difficult thing to describe. The original fortifications, as made by the rebels, were very much too large to be held by any force that we could spare. It was intended for a very large force; but there are two crowning heights—bold knobs—that stand up there, which command the entire region of approach, and which Major Booth was directed to occupy. He went up and examined the ground, and reported to me. A light work was thrown up upon one of them, and there was a portion of a work upon the other. The one to the south was not occupied during the fight; the one to the north of the ravine, which leads down to the landing, was occupied. That was the point which I considered should have been held; and I think yet it could have been, and would have been, if Major Booth had lived.

Question. Can you describe the position in which the men were placed by Major Booth?

Answer. Major Booth had his artillery upon this knoll, and held the slope of the hill with some rifle-pits. From these rifle-pits, as I am informed, he repulsed the enemy. The troops were afterward drawn in by Major Bradford, into the fortifications proper, and that was attacked on all sides. My opinion is, that Major Bradford lost his head—got confused. The rush was too strong for him. The amount of the enemy's force that actually attacked there I do not know, but from all the testimony I could get, I should judge it to have been not less than two thousand five hundred men.

Question. Who do you understand led the enemy's forces?

Answer. Forrest was there personally. I understand, however, that the main body of the force was Chalmers's command, who was also there. There was also a portion of Forrest's force there. Forrest will carry his men further than any other man I know of; he is desperate.

Question. Have we any force at Fort Pillow now?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Do you consider that a point which should be occupied by a force, in order to make the navigation of the river safe?

Answer. I do.

Question. What force do you deem should be placed there to hold it?

Answer. I think five hundred steady troops, properly supplied with artillery, and properly covered with works, could hold the place until reinforced—hold it, all that is necessary.

Question. Did you ever have any instructions or orders to evacuate Fort Pillow; or did you, at any time, ever propose to evacuate it?

Answer. I never had any orders to evacuate it. My orders from General Sherman were to hold certain fortified points on the river. I never had any instructions with regard to Fort Pillow one way or the other that I recollect. I considered it necessary to hold it, and never intended to abandon it.

Question. Had it been held by us for some considerable time?

Answer. It had been held since we first occupied the river.

Question. Do not the same reasons exist for holding it now that had existed during all that period?

Answer. The same. The reasons are geographical, and do not change.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Then I understand you to state that your instructions, in spirit, required you to hold it, and that it was necessary that it should be held?

Answer. My opinion is distinct that it should be held always, and there is nothing in my instructions that requires it to be abandoned. Some discretion, I suppose, belongs to an officer in charge of as much range as I have had to hold; and I certainly should not abandon that place, if I had troops to hold it.

By the Chairman:

Question. Will you tell us what you know about the attack on Union City?

Answer. Colonel Hawkins, of the Seventh Tennessee regiment, was at Union City as an advanced post. He had in round numbers about six hundred men. He was threatened by about one thousand five hundred, I should think. They attacked him, and were repulsed. General Brayman moved from here with two thousand troops, and got down as far as the bridge, six miles from Union City, before Hawkins surrendered. They commenced the flag of truce operation on him, when they found they could do nothing else, threatening to open upon him with artillery, and to give no quarter. Contrary to the entreaties, prayers, and advice of all his officers, and all his men, he did surrender his post, with a relieving force within six miles of him; and surrendered it, as I have no doubt, from pure cowardice.

Question. Was he aware of the reinforcements approaching?

Answer. I think so, but I will not be positive. General Brayman can tell more about that than I can. I was at Columbus when General Brayman returned.

Question. Where is Colonel Hawkins now?

Answer. He is a prisoner. This is the second time he has surrendered to Forrest.

Captain Thomas P. Gray, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your rank and position in the army?

Answer. For the last four months I have been holding the place of captain in the Seventh Tennessee cavalry, but I have not been mustered in yet.

Question. Had you been in service before?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. For how long?

Answer. I enlisted in Illinois on the twenty-fourth of July, and was mustered into the United States service August first, 1861.

Question. Were you at Union City when the late attack was made there?

Answer. I was.

Question. Will you give us an account of what occurred there?

Answer. On the twenty-third of March last it was generally understood by the troops there that the rebels were advancing upon us; we supposed under General Forrest. That night two companies, I think, were ordered to keep their horses saddled. The first orders I received were about half-past four, the morning of the twenty-fourth. The adjutant of our regiment came to me, and told me to have my horses saddled. In perhaps half an hour after that we were ordered into line, and I held my company in line for some time waiting for orders. As Colonel Hawkins came by I asked him if he wanted me to take my position at the breastworks, and he said he did. I then took my position at a place where I thought I was most needed, at some breastworks that my company had thrown up on the east side. At this time the rebels were firing on our pickets. I think there was no general charge until about half-past five or six o'clock. That charge was made by cavalry, on the south side. They did not charge a great way, and were easily repulsed. The same men then re-assembled, dismounted, and charged on the Fort. This time they came very close to the breastworks, but were again repulsed. After that our troops were very exultant, and ready to meet the rebels anywhere. The next charge was made on the north-west; that was easily repulsed. The last charge was made on the north-east, fronting my position; that was repulsed tolerably easy, but with more loss to the rebels than previously. Then there was sharp-shooting for about an hour and a half, and we were all in good spirits. At the expiration of that hour and a half a flag of truce came in in my front. I sent word to Colonel Hawkins that there was a flag of truce coming. I went in person to meet the flag, and halted it about two hundred yards from the breastworks, and asked them what they desired. They said they wished to see the Commander of the forces there. I told them I had

notified him, and he would be there in a moment. At that time they ordered me under arrest, because I made myself easy looking around upon their position. I demanded their right to order me under arrest under a flag of truce, and told them I had as much right to look around as they had. They then ordered me to sit down. I told them that was played out; that I was not only there under the right of a flag of truce, but that I was there to give them their orders if they made any mistakes. They gave up then, as Colonel Hawkins was in sight. When the Colonel came a document was handed him. I do not know any thing about it; for, as soon as the Colonel came near, I went back to the breastworks. The flag of truce then retired. As soon as I got back I made it my business to go around inside the breastworks, to get a view of the rebel troops. They were there upon stumps and logs, and every place where they could see.

In about twenty minutes, I think it was, they came again with another flag of truce. I met them as before. This time a demand for surrender was handed to Colonel Hawkins. I remained there this time, and saw the communication. I could once give almost the exact language of it. At any rate, it was a demand for unconditional surrender, promising us the rights of prisoners of war if the surrender was made; if not, then we must take the consequences. After consulting with them for a little time, Colonel Hawkins was allowed fifteen minutes to go to camp and back again. I remained there about fifteen minutes with the rebel truce-bearers. During this time I could observe in every move and remark they made that they were beaten. Perhaps I should have said before, that when Colonel Hawkins was talking about the matter, I gave my opinion in regard to it. This was before the flag of truce came in at all. Colonel Hawkins came down to my corner of the breastworks. I told him that the rebels were beaten on their first programme, at any rate; that it was my opinion that they would either consolidate and make a charge on one side, or else they would leave the field, or else lie there and sharpshoot until they could get reinforcements. I state this merely to show what our feelings were—that we were satisfied they were whipped, were beaten.

When the Colonel came back from his second flag of truce, I left them, and went inside the breastworks. I was satisfied from appearances that the surrender would be made, and I hid a couple of revolvers, and some other things I had; I did not know whether I should ever find them again or not. The troops considered that the surrender was made as soon as they saw a rebel officer coming back with the Colonel, and every man tried to hide his stuff. Some broke their guns, and all were denouncing Colonel Hawkins as a coward, in surrendering them without cause. That is all I know of the matter up to the time of the surrender.

Question. Do you say it was the opinion of all

the officers and men, so far as you know, that the surrender was wholly unnecessary?

Answer. Yes, sir; every man I ever heard say any thing about it.

Question. To what cause do you attribute the surrender?

Answer. Some said that the Colonel was half rebel, any way; others said that he was a little cowardly, and surrendered to an imaginary foe—to a force that was not there. Those were the reasons that I have heard.

Question. What was your force there?

Answer. About five hundred men.

Question. Did you have any colored troops?

Answer. None.

Question. What was the force of the enemy?

Answer. As near as I could judge—and I tried to estimate their number—they had about eight hundred after the surrender; I think they must have had a thousand at first.

Question. Could you have held that position against them?

Answer. I am satisfied we could have held it all day, unless our ammunition had given out.

Question. Had you any information in regard to any reinforcements approaching to your relief?

Answer. For the last two hours we had expected to see them at any time.

Question. What reason had you to expect reinforcements?

Answer. We had a communication that they knew our situation at Columbus, that they knew the rebels were advancing on us, and, of course, I thought they would send us reinforcements.

Question. From what point did you expect reinforcements?

Answer. From Columbus. I remarked to the men, as soon as the surrender was made, that I would be ten times more mad if I should hear afterward that our reinforcements were right close to us, which I expected was the case.

Question. What occurred after the surrender?

Answer. The men were marched on foot; the officers were allowed to ride their horses. They were marched two days—it was rainy and muddy weather—nearly east, toward Dresden. They had nothing to eat for two days, until eight o'clock the second night, and then we got some cornbread and meat. The second day they turned from the Dresden road, toward Trenton, through the country, not in the regular road. On the evening of the third day we arrived at Trenton, Tennessee. There all our money, and I think all our watches were taken—I know some of them were—and the pocket-knives were taken from the men; all done officially, one company at a time.

We laid over the fourth day at Trenton. On the fifth day at noon we marched toward Humboldt, and arrived there in the evening, just before dark. At seven o'clock, or nearly seven o'clock, I left them. My intention was to go to the Commander at Memphis, and get him to send a force out to make the rebels release our troops.

Before I left the rebels, after I had concluded to leave them, I commenced getting up a plot to break the guards, and see if we could not redeem our name a little in that way, and get off. It was working finely, but I met the opposition of the officers, because it was the general opinion that if we were caught, one in every ten would be killed. I abandoned that and escaped. I travelled on foot twenty-five hours without stopping, through the brush, dodging the rebels and guerrillas. I was then directed by a negro to a farm where there were no whites, and where, he said, I could get a horse. When I got there I found I was so tired and sleepy that I dared not risk myself on a horse, and I secreted myself, and rested there until early the next morning; I got a little refreshment there, too. I then got an old horse, with no saddle, and rode into Fort Pillow, just forty miles, in a little more than five hours. I reached there a little before noon, on the thirtieth of March.

The morning after I escaped from the rebels I wrote myself a parole, which screened me from a great many rebels whom I could not avoid. I was chased by two guerrillas for some distance at this place, where I stopped over night and got a horse. I knew two guerrillas had been chasing me over ten miles. I told the negroes, as I laid down, that if any strangers came on the place, or any one inquiring for Yankees, to tell them that one had been there and pressed a horse and gone on. They did so; and more than that, they told the guerrillas that I had been gone but a few minutes, and if they hurried they would catch me. They dashed on five miles further, and then gave up the chase and turned back. That is the way I avoided them.

After I got to Fort Pillow I got on a boat and went to Memphis, reaching there before daybreak on the morning of the thirty-first of March, and waked General Hurlbut up just about daybreak, and reported to him.

Question. Did you have much conversation with these rebels, or hear them express opinions of any kind, while you were with them?

Answer. I was talking almost continually with them. Somehow or other I got a little noted in the command, and a great many came to me to discuss matters about the war. They seemed to be confident that they were all right, and would succeed. I did not hear the command I was with say they intended to attack Fort Pillow; but while I was on my way from there to Fort Pillow, the report was current along the road that the rebels were going to attack it. But I reported to Major Booth, when I got to Fort Pillow, that I did not think there was any danger of an attack, because I thought I should have seen or heard something more to indicate it. I told him, however, that I thought it would be well to be on the lookout, though I did not think they would attack him. I heard the rebels say repeatedly that they intended to kill negro troops wherever they could find them; that they had heard that there were negro troops at Union City, and that they had intended to kill them if

they had found any there. They also said they had understood there were negro troops at Paducah and Mayfield, and that they intended to kill them if they got them. And they said that they did not consider officers who commanded negro troops to be any better than the negroes themselves.

Question. With whom did you have this conversation?

Answer. With officers. I did not have any extensive conversation with any officer higher than captain. I talked with three or four captains, and perhaps twice that number of lieutenants.

Question. Did you see Colonel Hawkins, or have any conversation with him, after the surrender?

Answer. I did not. I felt so disgusted with him that I never spoke a word to him after the surrender.

Captain John W. Beattie, sworn and examined. By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what regiment do you belong?

Answer. I am a Captain in the Seventh Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Were you at Union City when it was surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What was our force there?

Answer. Something near five hundred, altogether. There were some there that did not belong to our regiment.

Question. What was the force that attacked you?

Answer. From one thousand five hundred to one thousand eight hundred, as near as we could learn from the rebel officers while we were with them.

Question. What rebel officers were in command there?

Answer. The surrender was made to Colonel Duckworth; but I am not certain whether it was Duckworth or Faulkner who had the command.

Question. Will you state briefly the circumstances attending the attack and surrender of Union City?

Answer. Our pickets were driven in about four o'clock in the morning. We sent some men out to see what force it was. As soon as it was light enough to see, we found the rebels were all around our camp. Skirmishing commenced all around. Those of our men who were out, and could get in, came in; but some of the pickets did not get in at all. My company were almost all out on picket. The enemy, mounted men, made a charge on our camp; they came up on all sides, but we drove them back. They then dismounted and made three other charges, and we drove them back each time. I did not see but one of our men killed; and I did not see any that were wounded at all. One of my sergeants was killed. About nine o'clock, I should think, the enemy got behind logs and stumps, and all such places, and commenced sharp-shooting. If a man raised his head up, there would be a shot

fired at him. We put out the best of our men as sharp-shooters. A great many of our men lay down inside of our works and went to sleep, as they felt altogether easy about the matter. I think it was about half-past ten o'clock when the bugle was sounded to cease firing; and fifteen minutes before eleven they sent in a flag of truce demanding an unconditional surrender. Colonel Hawkins called the officers together and asked them what they thought best to be done. All were in favor of fighting. When he asked me about it, I told him that if they had artillery they could whip us; but if they had no artillery we could fight them till hell froze over; those were my very words. Then the telegraph operator said that he had seen two pieces of artillery. He had my glass, and had been up in a little log shanty, where he could see all over the ground. Colonel Hawkins said if they had artillery, and we renewed the fight, like enough they would kill every man of us they got. So we agreed then he should make the surrender, on condition that we should be paroled there, without being taken away from the place, and each one allowed to keep his private property, and the officers allowed to keep their fire-arms. He went out to make the surrender on those conditions; and if they did not accept them, then we were to fight them as long as a man was left. He went out, and the next thing I knew there was an order came there for us to march our men out and lay down their arms. We marched them out in front of his headquarters and laid down our arms. The rebels then piled into our camp and cleaned out every thing; what they could not carry off they burned. We were then marched off. The Colonel had not then told us on what conditions the surrender was made; he only said he supposed we would be paroled.

Question. The enemy had used no artillery?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you find out subsequently whether or not they had any artillery?

Answer. They had two pieces of artillery, but they did not have them at Union City.

Question. Where was it?

Answer. On the way from Dresden to Paducah. They told me it was in supporting distance; that they could have had it at Union City in a short time; but I heard so many stories I did not know what to believe.

Question. Did you suppose at the time you made the surrender that reinforcements were approaching you?

Answer. The Colonel could not tell us whether any reinforcements were coming or not.

Question. How far was Union City from Columbus?

Answer. I think it was twenty-six miles; but I am not certain.

Question. You supposed reinforcements would come from there, if at all?

Answer. From Cairo.

Question. How far were you from Cairo?

Answer. It is about forty-six miles from here to Union City. You would have to go from here

to Columbus, and from Columbus out to Union City.

Question. How long did you remain with the enemy?

Answer. From Thursday until Monday night.

Question. How did you effect your escape?

Answer. We were not guarded very closely. When I was ready to leave I went into the kitchen, just after supper, and asked for some bread and meat for a man who was sick. The cook gave it to me, and I then went out the door and called Captain Parsons, and asked him if he did not want to go down and see the boys; that I had got a piece of meat to take down. He said yes; but instead of going down to see the boys we turned off into the woods.

Question. At what point did you come into our lines?

Answer. We came in at Waverley Landing.

By the Chairman:

Question. Have you heard since that reinforcements under General Brayman were approaching to your relief?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you hear how near they had got to you?

Answer. Within six miles of the place at four o'clock that morning.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Had you any conversation with the rebel officers while you were with them?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you hear them say any thing about negro troops, etc.?

Answer. Not much. I was talking with them about our regiment. They said when they first started to come there that they were going to get us, and seemed to be surprised to think we had fought them as well as we did, for they said they expected to get us without any trouble.

Question. Did they say why they expected to get you without any trouble?

Answer. No, sir. They said they would parole Hawkins again, and let him get some more horses, and knives, and things, and then they would come when they wanted him again.

Question. How did they treat our men?

Answer. They gave them nothing to eat until the second night, when they gave them about an ounce of fat bacon each. Some got a little bread, but a few of them, however. On Sunday morning they marched the men up in front of the court-house, passed them in one at a time and searched them, taking boots, hats, coats, blankets, and money from them.

Question. Did they leave you without boots, coats, or blankets?

Answer. There were a great many of our men who had new boots, and the rebels would take the new boots and give them their old ones, and so they exchanged hats and blankets.

Question. How many days were you in reaching our lines after you escaped from the rebels?

Answer. I reached Waverley Landing on Thursday, the seventh of April, and Cairo in two weeks from the time that I got away from them.

Captain P. K. Parsons, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Were you at Union City when that place was surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State briefly the circumstances attending the attack there and the surrender.

Answer. I think it was a few minutes after four o'clock in the morning that our pickets were driven in by the enemy. I was then sent out to look after them, and commenced skirmishing with them just at daylight. Before sun-up they had surrounded the Fort. They then made three or four charges, two on horseback, I believe, but they were repulsed very easily. They then did not do any thing but use their sharpshooters until about ten minutes before eleven o'clock, when they sent in a flag of truce, demanding an unconditional surrender. The Colonel went out and received the demand and brought it in. He then called the officers together and asked what we thought of the matter. He turned to Captain Harris, as the oldest officer, and asked him what we should do. The Captain said he was for fighting, and I believe other officers there said "fight." The Colonel then asked me to ride out with him, and I did so. On our way out, I told the Colonel that I thought we had the rebels whipped unless they had reinforcements, which I did not think they had. They gave us fifteen minutes more to consider. Then some officers said they thought they saw artillery out there. Captain Beattie said if they had artillery they could whip us, but not without. The Colonel then went out and made an unconditional surrender of the Fort, about sixteen officers and about five hundred men. I guess there were three hundred men and officers out of the five hundred who wanted to fight.

Question. Did you see any artillery?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. They had none there?

Answer. No, sir; I rode out as far as I dared go to see, and I did not see any thing with the glass I had but an ambulance; there was no artillery there at all.

Question. To what do you attribute the surrender by Colonel Hawkins?

Answer. It is hard for me to make up my mind about that. Colonel Hawkins was a first lieutenant of a company in the Mexican war, and I fought under him there, and I have fought under him in this war, and I never saw any cowardice about him before. I think this was one of the most cowardly surrenders there ever was. Still, I cannot think Colonel Hawkins is a coward; at least I never saw any show of cowardice in him before. I could see no reason for surrendering when we had but one man killed or hurt in the Fort.

Question. You escaped from the enemy?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How did you effect your escape?

Answer. I escaped with Captain Beattie.

Question. How long were you with the enemy?

Answer. Four days and a half.

Question. Who did you understand was in command of the rebels?

Answer. Colonel Duckworth.

Question. How many men did he have?

Answer. From the best information I could get there were about one thousand five hundred of them. Several of their officers said they had one thousand two hundred and fifty men, regular troops, and four independent companies. That was their statement to me.

Question. Had you a good position at Union City?

Answer. It was a very good position against small arms; it was not strong against artillery.

Question. Did you know any thing about reinforcements coming to you?

Answer. We were looking for reinforcements. We had a despatch to hold the place, that reinforcements would be sent.

Question. From whom was that despatch?

Answer. From General Brayman.

Question. Did Colonel Hawkins receive that despatch before he surrendered?

Answer. Yes, sir; the day before the fight, before the wire was cut. He was getting a despatch when the wire was cut; we did not know what that despatch was. But the one he got before was an order to hold the place, that reinforcements would be sent to him. We were looking for them to come that morning or that night. I heard some rebel officers and men say they had come four hundred and fifty miles for our regiment, and that they had known they would get it. I asked them how they knew they would get it, but they would not tell me. A rebel cursed Colonel Hawkins; said he was a God damned coward, but he had good men.

Question. Were our men in good spirits before the surrender?

Answer. They were just as cool and quiet as you ever saw men; not a bit excited, but talking and laughing.

Mrs. Rosa Johnson, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. Where have you been living?

Answer. I have a home at Hickman, Kentucky, but have been at Fort Pillow.

Question. Did you live there?

Answer. No, sir; my son was there, and I went down to stay with him.

Question. Where were you during the fight?

Answer. I was on a big island, where the gunboat men took us. I staid there a part of two days and one night.

Question. Did you go back to Fort Pillow after the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir; the gunboat took us over there.

Question. When did you go back there?

Answer. The battle was on Tuesday, and I went back Wednesday evening.

Question. Had our wounded men been taken away when you went back?

Answer. Yes, sir; I believe so

Question. How long did you stay there?

Answer. I went about two o'clock in the evening, and staid till night.

Question. Did you go about the Fort after you went back?

Answer. Yes, sir; I went up in it, expecting to find my son lying there, and I went around, where I saw some half buried, some with feet out, or hands out, or heads out; but I could not find him. I was so distressed that I could not tell much about it.

Question. Did you see any body nailed to any boards there?

Answer. We saw a man lying there, burned they said; but I did not go close to him. I was looking all around the Fort for my child, and did not pay attention to any thing else.

Question. You came away that night?

Answer. I think we did.

Question. Is that all you know about it?

Answer. That is about all I know about it. There was a pile of dirt there, and there was a crack in it, which looked like a wounded man had been buried there, and had tried to get out, and had jammed the dirt, for they buried the wounded and the dead altogether there. There were others knew about that.

Mrs. Rebecca Williams, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where do you reside?

Answer. In Obion County, Tennessee.

Question. Was your husband in that fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you there during the fight?

Answer. I was over on the Island with Mrs. Johnson.

Question. Did you go back to Fort Pillow after the battle?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What did you see there?

Answer. I did not see any thing more than what Mrs. Johnson saw. I saw a burned man. He was lying right where a house was burned. He was a white man, but as I was alone by myself, I felt frightened, and did not look at it. I saw many buried there, some half buried, and negroes lying around there unburied. I heard that there was a man nailed up to a building and burned, but I did not see it.

Question. What time of day was it that you were there?

Answer. About two o'clock, the day after the fight. I saw that the man who was burned was a white man. Mrs. Ruffin was there and examined it, and can tell you all about it.

Captain James H. Odlin sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the service?

Answer. I am a Captain, and Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff for General Brayman, for the district of Cairo, where I have been stationed since the twenty-third of January, 1864.

Question. Do you know any thing about the capture of Fort Pillow?

Answer. Only from hearsay.

Question. You are acquainted somewhat with the circumstances attending the surrender of Union City?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you tell us about that?

Answer. About four o'clock on the evening of the twenty-third of March we received a telegram that it was likely Union City would be attacked within two days. Shortly afterward we received a telegram from Colonel Hawkins that he would be attacked within twenty-four hours. He said his men had not seen the enemy, but that his information was reliable. General Brayman instructed me to proceed by special boat to Columbus, and from thence, by special train, to Union City, to inquire into the matter, to find out the truth of the case, and let him know; also to find out whether reinforcements were necessary. I left Cairo about five p.m. on the twenty-third, arrived at Columbus about half-past seven o'clock, and immediately proceeded to the telegraph-office and telegraphed to Colonel Hawkins, asking him if he had any further information. He answered that he had none. I then asked him if his information and his despatches could be relied upon, and whether he had seen the enemy. He answered that none of his men had seen the enemy; that he had not seen any one who had seen the enemy, but that his information was entirely reliable, and that he would be attacked, there was no doubt of it.

I then proceeded, by special train, to Union City, and had a consultation with Colonel Hawkins. He told me that the ferries on the Obion had been destroyed, and that scouts whom he had expected in the day before had not returned; that he supposed that they were captured, or that it was impossible for them to get across the Obion. He said that his men had not seen the enemy; that he could not get any of them across the Obion in consequence of the rebel forces having destroyed the private ferries, and guarding the other places.

About half-past three o'clock on the morning of the twenty-fourth, a messenger came in and stated that the pickets at the bridge on the Dresden and Hickman road had been attacked and driven in, and that they were probably cut off, which afterward proved to be the fact. The messenger also reported that, when shots were exchanged, he thought the rebels had brought artillery to the front, but he could not be certain of that; that it sounded on the bridge like artillery. I immediately directed Colonel Hawkins to have his men saddle their horses ready for a fight. I instructed him, if he saw fit, and thought he could not hold the place, to abandon it and fall back on Columbus. He asked me how soon I would reinforce him if he remained there. I told him I would reinforce him just as quick as I could get the troops up there. He said he thought he could hold the place with his regiment if he had some artillery; but that he could

not contend against artillery without he had some himself. I told him I did not want him to retreat without having seen the enemy; that he must have a skirmish with them, and feel their strength, before falling back to Columbus; that I did not want the command disgraced by retreating without seeing the enemy, which it would be if the reports should prove false, or he found that he had fallen back before a small number of men.

I then told Colonel Hawkins I must leave, for my orders were not to endanger the train, but to save it. The train consisted of nine cars and a locomotive, and was loaded with stores from Union City belonging to the Government and to the railroad company, and one hundred and fifty contrabands, (railroad hands.) The last words I said to Colonel Hawkins were, that if he found he could not whip the enemy, he should immediately retreat to Columbus. He said that if he did not fall back, he would hold the place until reinforcements reached him. I told him I would immediately push forward reinforcements; that the garrison at Columbus consisted of only one thousand one hundred men in all, and that nine hundred and odd of them were negroes, who had never been in a fight, and that reinforcements would have to come from Cairo. I wrote a telegraphic despatch at the time to General Brayman, giving all the facts. But while it was being sent, the wires were cut, and we did not get the half of it through.

I then started to return to Columbus with the train, with the distinct understanding with Colonel Hawkins that he should either hold Union City until reinforcements should arrive, or fall back to Columbus. The State line bridge was burning as I crossed it with the train, the evident intention of the rebels being to capture the train. I succeeded, however, in getting it through to Columbus safe.

Colonel Lawrence, commanding at Columbus, had telegraphed General Brayman that communications with Union City were cut off; that I was on the opposite side of the bridge, and that Colonel Hawkins was probably attacked. General Brayman immediately forwarded reinforcements to Columbus, taking two thousand men belonging to General Veatch's command, then on their way up the Tennessee River. He had received telegraphic orders from General Sherman not to take any of those troops out of their proper course, but forward them as soon as possible up the Tennessee. As transports were not ready for them, and as General Brayman could go to Union City and back again before transportation would be ready, he concluded to use some of the troops for the purpose of reinforcing Union City. The movement was made with as little delay as possible. He arrived at Columbus about ten or half-past ten o'clock on the morning of the twenty-fourth, and immediately proceeded on a railroad train towards Union City. Upon arriving within about seven miles of Union City, we were informed by citizens and some scouts, that Colonel Hawkins had surrendered at eleven o'clock of

that day; that the rebels had destroyed all the works and the government property, and had retreated. General Brayman, being fully convinced that Union City had been surrendered, every thing there destroyed, and that the enemy had fled, returned to Columbus, and from thence to Cairo, with the troops ready to be forwarded up the Tennessee in obedience to the orders of General Sherman.

Question. Will you now state what you know in relation to the attack on Paducah?

Answer. About eight o'clock on the night of the twenty-fifth of March we received a telegraphic despatch from the operator at Metropolis, stating that a big light was seen in the direction of Paducah; that it looked as if the town or some boats were burning. The despatch also stated that the telegraph repairer had come in and reported that he had been within two miles of Paducah, and had heard firing there. We had received, previous to this, no intimation from Colonel Hicks, commanding at Paducah, that the place was in danger of an attack. In obedience to instructions from General Brayman, I immediately got on a despatch boat, furnished by Captain Pennock, of the navy, and with Captain Shirk, of the navy, proceeded to Paducah. We found, on our arrival there, that General Forrest, with his command of about six thousand five hundred men had attacked Paducah in the afternoon, about three o'clock, the troops under Colonel Hicks having only about fifteen minutes' notice of their coming. Colonel Hicks's scouts had returned from the road over which the rebels had come in, and reported that they had heard nothing of the enemy. They were just about sending out new scouts when the rebels dashed into the town, driving our pickets in, and driving our troops into the fort. As the rear of the battalion of the Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry were marching into the fort they were fired upon by the rebels.

After fighting a short time, the rebels sent in a demand, under flag of truce, for the unconditional surrender of all the forces under Colonel Hicks's command, and all the Government property, stating that if he should comply with the demand, his troops should be treated as prisoners of war; if not, then an overwhelming force would be thrown against him, and no quarter would be shown him. Colonel Hicks replied by stating that he had been placed there by his Government to hold and defend the place and the public stores there, and that he should obey the command of his superior officer, and do so; that he was prepared for the enemy, and should not surrender.

Forrest then again attacked the fort, making three different charges. Our troops, both black and white, behaved in the most gallant and meritorious manner, fighting most bravely. After fighting until half-past seven or eight o'clock in the evening our ammunition began to run short, so much so that men and officers began to count their cartridges. Colonel Hicks had only three thousand rounds of small ammunition left when Forrest made the second demand for a surrender.

But Colonel Hicks, as before, positively refused to comply with the demand. Firing then ceased until daylight the next morning.

During this cessation of firing I succeeded in getting into the fort with reinforcements and a small supply of ammunition from the gunboats. The supply of ammunition from Cairo did not arrive until the evening. As it was impossible to get any despatches through from Colonel Hicks, the line being cut, we knew nothing when I left Cairo of his being short of ammunition. The understanding we had with Colonel Hicks, before any attack was made, was that we had a large supply of ammunition on hand; that there were about thirty-three thousand cartridges, calibre 58, on hand—that being the calibre used by the troops there—and a large supply of artillery ammunition in the fort.

The next morning, about six o'clock, the enemy again advanced in line of battle toward the fort. There was some firing on both sides, but it did not amount to much. Some of the rebel troops, while their main body was firing at the fort, were engaged in pillaging the town, stealing property from private citizens, horses, and Government stores, burning houses, and committing all sorts of depredations.

While the flag of truce was at the fort the first, second, and third times, the rebel troops were taking new positions in line of battle, although they had made a distinct agreement and understanding with Colonel Hicks that while the flag of truce was in there should be no movements of troops on either side; that every thing should remain as it was.

While the fight was going on, women, children, and other non-combatants came running down to the river toward the gunboats. The officers in the fort and on the gunboats called to them to run down to the river-bank to the left of our fort. They did so, and under cover of the gunboats they got on a wharf-boat or a little ferry-boat, and were ferried across the river as fast as possible. While they were doing this the rebel sharp-shooters got in among them, so that we could not fire upon them without killing the women and children, and fired on our troops in the Fort and on the gunboats, wounding one officer on a gunboat and two men. They also made women stand up in front of their sharp-shooters, where it was impossible for us to return the fire without killing the women. They also fired into houses where there were women, and where there were none of our soldiers. They also went into a hospital, took the surgeon of the hospital prisoner, and took a lady that was there and carried her off and took her clothing from her, leaving her nothing but an old dress to cover herself with. This woman, as well as Dr. Hart, the surgeon of the hospital, were taken away by them as prisoners. All the prisoners taken there by Forrest, with the exception of three or four men, were sick men from the hospital, unable to move or walk from the hospital to the fort without injury to their health. All the men who were able to walk were brought from the hospital to the

fort. They took the rest of the men from the hospital, and under the third flag of truce offered to exchange them. This Colonel Hicks and myself refused, because we thought it treachery on their part. We also refused for the reason that we did not think they had a right to take as prisoners of war men in the hospital who were unable to walk without danger to their lives. Yet the rebels took those men and marched them ten miles, and then camped them down in a swampy piece of ground at night, with their clothes nearly all taken from them. Some of them were left bare-headed and barefooted, with nothing on but their pants and shirts, compelled to stay in that swampy ravine all night long, with nothing to eat, and not permitted to have fires. The next morning they were marched off again. I have certain knowledge that for two days and one night those sick men were compelled to march with the rebel troops without any thing to eat, with hardly any clothing, and a number of them without any boots or shoes.

Question. Do you know that the rebels placed women and other non-combatants in front of their lines as they advanced toward the fort?

Answer. They had women and children between us and their lines, and they stood behind them, the women and children forming a sort of breastwork for the rebels, as we were unable to return their fire for fear of killing the women and children. Colonel Hicks reported to me that they took several women and compelled them to stand in front of their lines during the fight; that there were women and children between our fire and theirs; that as the women moved the rebels moved along with them, keeping behind them.

Question. Have you any idea of the number of women and children they had thus placed in front of them?

Answer. It varied at different times. Colonel Hicks informed me that at one time the rebels held six women in front of them, refused to let them escape, but compelled them to stand there under the hottest of the fire.

Question. Were those women so placed that we could not fire upon the enemy with advantage without endangering the lives of the women?

Answer. We could not fire upon them at that particular point without endangering the lives of the women and children.

Question. Do you know whether the flag of truce was violated by the rebels at any time?

Answer. Yes, sir, it was. While the flag of truce was in, they moved their troops into new positions; they marched their troops around to the back of the fort, and brought them up through the timber, dashed up toward the fort at full speed, then turned off toward the right of the fort, taking up their position between the fort and the town. During the first flag of truce they marched the majority of their forces, if not the whole of them, down into an open common between the fort, the river, and the town, along the river-bank, then obliqued off to the left, and

took position in line of battle off to the right of the fort as you faced the town; and at one time, while their troops were taking position between the town and the fort during a flag of truce, they had women placed in front of their lines.

Question. While they were making the movement?

Answer. Yes, sir. The rebel General Thompson with his forces took position on the right of the fort between the hospital and the fort while the flag of truce was at the fort. The fact of the rebel movements was reported to Colonel Hicks, and he requested of the flag of truce that they should be stopped, as they had violated their word, it being distinctly understood that there should be no movements during that time, and the officer sent an orderly to stop it, but it was not done; the troops continued to move. After they had placed their troops in position the flag of truce left the fort. As the flag of truce passed from the fort down through the town, the rebel troops escorting the flag shot down in the streets some citizens and some men straggling from the hospital. A charge was then immediately made on the Fort, at which time the rebel General Thompson was killed. The rebels also, while the flag of truce was at the fort, pillaged the town, and robbed citizens on the streets who were on their way down to the river for the purpose of going across. They pillaged the town right in view of our gunboats; and as soon as the flag of truce left the fort our gunboats opened upon the rebels, and drove them out of that part of the town.

The morning after I arrived there, when the rebel forces advanced on the fort, they sent in a flag of truce asking for an exchange of prisoners, which was refused. It was a written communication from General Forrest, asking, if his request was granted, that Colonel Hicks, with one or two staff-officers, would meet him at a point designated, when they would agree between themselves upon the exchange. Colonel Hicks replied that he had no authority to exchange prisoners; otherwise he would be happy to do so. When this written reply was handed to the rebel officer in charge of the flag of truce, he asked three or four questions for the purpose of gaining time. Colonel Hicks and I both noticed this, and sent him off as soon as possible. While this flag of truce was at the fort the rebels were taking position. They afterward fell back into the timber.

The main body of the rebels, Forrest with them, retreated on the Mayfield road, while about three hundred of his men remained in the town making movements and feints on the fort, to prevent our sending out and ascertaining his movements. Forrest, by that time, had found out that we had been reinforced with troops, and that more boats were arriving; also, that the navy had reinforced us with two or three more gunboats.

In the afternoon, about five o'clock, by Colonel Hicks's consent and direction, I sent word to the gunboats to move up opposite the town, and

shell it at the head of Jersey street, our troops having seen squads of rebels in that part of the city. This the gunboats did. After that the town was quiet, the rebels who had remained there having been driven out by the shells.

Question. Do you know what was our loss and the loss of the enemy there?

Answer. Our loss altogether was fourteen killed—of which eleven were negroes—and forty-six wounded; I do not know how many of them were negroes. The rebels lost about three hundred killed, and from one thousand to one thousand two hundred wounded. That is what the citizens reported Forrest said, and we believed it to be correct from the number of graves we found, and from other circumstances. Forrest seized the Mayfield and Paducah train and carried all his wounded off to Mayfield, except a few who lay near the fort.

Our black troops were very much exposed. The fort was in bad condition, and the negro troops, with the heavy artillery, were compelled to stand up on the platforms to man the guns, their only protection there being a little bank of ridge of earth about knee-high. Our loss in killed resulted from this exposure. The rebel troops got up on the tops of houses, and also in the hospital, and fired down into the fort upon our gunners. But the troops fought bravely, without flinching; as soon as a man fell at the guns, one of his comrades would drag him out of the way and take his place. The black troops, having muskets as well as serving the artillery, would load and fire their muskets while the artillery was being fired. The white troops were better covered and had more protection; but they fought as well as any men could be expected to fight.

Question. Will you state to us what you know about the operations of the rebels against Columbus?

Answer. The first news we received of any operations against Columbus was about twelve o'clock in the day—I do not remember the exact day, but it was just before the attack on Fort Pillow. I received a written communication by despatch-boat from Colonel Lawrence, commanding the post at Columbus, stating that he had received a communication from General Buford demanding an unconditional surrender of the forces under his command, with all government property, with the assurance that the white troops would be treated as prisoners of war, while the black troops, I think, would either be returned to their masters, or made such disposition of as the rebels should see fit. To this Colonel Lawrence replied that he had been placed there by his Government to defend the place and the Government property and stores there, and that he should obey the orders of his superiors; surrender, therefore, was out of the question.

The rebel General then offered to give Colonel Lawrence half an hour to remove the women and children out of the town. Colonel Lawrence replied that he should immediately notify the women and children to leave on a boat; that

if he (the rebel General) attempted to attack the place, the lives of the women and children would rest on his head, but if he waited half an hour he would have them all out; that he (Colonel Lawrence) would not ask them to wait, for he felt amply prepared to receive their attack.

The flag of truce then returned. On their way out, or while the flag of truce was at the fort, the rebel cavalry occupied themselves in stealing horses that had been brought in by Union citizens, and stabled near our picket-lines for protection. The rebels stole something like twenty-five or thirty horses belonging to Union men while this flag of truce was in. That was the last Colonel Lawrence heard of the enemy that day. Colonel Lawrence then gave notice that he should receive no more flags of truce from Forrest; that as Forrest did not respect them, he should not himself respect them. That was all that occurred at Columbus.

Question. You have said that you went up to Paducah on a gunboat with Captain Shirk, of the navy: did he cooperate cordially with the land forces in repelling the attack upon Paducah?

Answer. He did. Captain Shirk and all his officers did every thing in their power to aid us. He was very accommodating, even furnishing us with ammunition, although he himself was getting short of it. He had but a very small amount, yet he divided with us, giving us a share of what he had. He also sent by boat to Metropolis all the despatches that were sent by Colonel Hicks and myself to General Brayman, and he sent a despatch-boat to Cairo. To make sure that the information should get through, and to have supplies forwarded to us, the gunboats did every thing in their power, and rendered great assistance in defending the place.

Question. Has Captain Pennock, of the navy, cooperated cordially with the military authorities in their operations in this vicinity, where it has been possible for the navy to cooperate?

Answer. Yes, sir; Captain Pennock has always been on hand, always had boats ready; has made such dispositions of his boats that he could at any moment throw from one to three boats, and at one time as many as five boats, on any one point in the district, whenever asked to do so. At the time of the attack upon Paducah he was very prompt in furnishing us with a despatch-boat and supplying us with ammunition. I believe he has done every thing in his power to assist us in carrying out all our movements and operations. At the same time Captain Pennock has labored under the difficulty of being compelled to send some of his boats up the Tennessee River with despatches for General Veatch. I mention that, to show that he has had to send some of his boats away. Yet he has always been ready to assist us at any time, night or day. The best feeling has always existed, and still exists, between the naval officers and the military authorities at this post, and at all the posts in the district; and they cooperate cordially in carrying out all orders and measures that are deemed for the good of the service.

John Penwell, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where do you reside?

Answer. Detroit, Michigan.

Question. Do you belong to the army?

Answer. I do not.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow when it was attacked?

Answer. Yes, sir; this last time.

Question. In what capacity were you there?

Answer. As a volunteer for the occasion.

Question. Will you tell us, in your own way, what you saw there?

Answer. Nothing occurred of much account—only the fighting part of it—until after they sent the last flag of truce there. They kept on fighting, but the Fort was not surrendered. While the flag of truce was outside the Fort, and they were conferring together, I noticed and spoke about seeing men going around behind the Fort. They who were out with the flag of truce came back and said they were not going to surrender, and commenced fighting again. I had just fired my musket off, and heard a shot behind me. I saw the rebels come running right up to us. I was just feeling for a cartridge. They were as close as from here to the window, (about ten feet.) I threw my musket down. A fellow who was ahead asked "if I surrendered." I said, "Yes." He said, "Die, then, you damned Yankee son of a bitch," and shot me, and I fell. More passed by me, and commenced hallooing, "Shoot him down," and three or four stopped where I was and jumped on me and stripped me, taking my boots and coat and hat, and forty-five or fifty dollars in greenbacks.

Question. Where did they shoot you?

Answer. In the breast, and the ball passed right through.

Question. Did you see other men shot after they had surrendered?

Answer. I did not see any after I laid down, but I heard the hallooing around me, and begging them "Not to shoot," and then I heard them say: "Shoot them down, shoot them down!" In fact, when they stripped me, one of them said, "He an't dead," and they jerked me up and took off my coat. It hurt me pretty bad, and I cried out to them: "Kill me, out and out." One of them said: "Hit him a crack on the head," but another said: "Let the poor fellow be, and get well, if he can. He has nothing more left now." I fainted then. After I revived I crawled into a tent near where I was. A captain of artillery was in there very badly wounded. Some one had thrown an overcoat over us after I got in there. In the night they roused us up, and wanted to know: "If we wanted to be burned up." I said: "No." They said, "They were going to fire the tent, and we had better get out," and wanted to know if we could walk. I said: "I could not." They helped me out and made me walk some, but carried the officer out. They took us to a house and left us there. They would not give us any water, but told us to get it for ourselves. There were other wounded men

there. Some petty officer came in there and looked at us, and wanted to know how badly we were hurt. I said, "Pretty bad," and asked him for water, and he made some of the men fetch us some. We lay there until the gunboat came up and commenced shelling, when they made us get out of that—help ourselves out the best way we could. Three of our own men were helping the wounded out of the houses, when they commenced burning them. As soon as they saw I could walk a little, they started me up to headquarters with a party. When we got to the gully the gunboat threw a shell, which kind of flurried them, and we got out of sight of them. I got alongside of a log, and laid there until a party from the boat came along picking up the wounded.

Question. Did they have a hospital there that the wounded were put in?

Answer. There were four or five huts there together which they put them in. That was all the hospital I saw.

Question. Do you know whether they burned any body in there?

Answer. I do not know, but they hallooed to us to "Get out, if we did not want to get burned to death." I told an officer there, who was ordering the houses to be burned, to let some of the men go in there, as there were some eight or nine wounded men in there, and a negro who had his hip broken. He said: "The white men can help themselves out, the damned nigger shan't come out of that." I do not know whether they got the wounded out or not. I got out, because I could manage to walk a little. It was very painful for me to walk, but I could bear the pain better than run the risk of being burned up.

Question. Do you know any thing about rebel officers being on the boat, and our officers asking them to drink?

Answer. Yes, sir. There were several rebel officers on board the Platte Valley. I went on board the boat, and took my seat right in front of the saloon. I knew the bar-tender, and wanted to get a chance to get some wine, as I was very weak. I was just going to step up to the bar, when one of our officers, a lieutenant or a captain, I don't know which, stepped in front of me and almost shoved me away, and called up one of the rebel officers and took a drink with him; and I saw our officers drinking with the rebel officers several times.

COLUMBUS, KENTUCKY, April 24, 1864.

Colonel William H. Lawrence, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the army?

Answer. I am Colonel of the Thirty-fourth New-Jersey volunteers.

Question. Where are you stationed now, and how long have you been there stationed?

Answer. I am stationed at Columbus, and have been there since the end of January last.

Question. What do you know with regard to the attack and capture of Fort Pillow?

Answer. All I know about that is, that General Shipley arrived here on the thirteenth of April. He took me one side, and told me that as he passed Fort Pillow he was hailed from a gunboat, and told that there had been severe fighting there; that he saw a flag of truce at Fort Pillow, and that, after passing the Fort a little distance, he saw the American flag hauled down, or the halliards shot away, he did not know which; and he afterward saw a flag, which was not raised higher than a regimental flag, and that he believed Fort Pillow had surrendered. He then offered me two batteries of light artillery, which he said were fully manned and equipped. He repeated this same conversation to General Brayman, as I understand, after arriving at Cairo.

Question. Did he give any reason why he did not undertake to assist the garrison at Fort Pillow?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. From his conversation, did you gather that he was in a condition to render assistance?

Answer. (After a pause.) It struck me as the most remarkable thing in the world that he had not found out positively; had not landed his batteries, and gone to the assistance of Fort Pillow.

Question. Under what circumstances did you understand he was there?

Answer. The steamer on which he was passed by there. I am under the impression that he had also two or three hundred infantry on the steamer.

Dr. Chapman Underwood, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where do you reside?

Answer. I reside in Tennessee.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow, or on board a gunboat, during the attack there?

Answer. Yes, sir; I was there.

Question. What was your position?

Answer. I was sent from there, about ten days before that, on detached service, looking after convalescents, and returned on the Saturday evening before the fight on Tuesday morning. I was Acting Assistant Surgeon. The regiment was not full enough to have a surgeon with the regular rank.

Question. Will you state what came within your own observation in connection with the attack and capture?

Answer. I roomed with Lieutenant Logan, First Lieutenant of company C, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry. About sun-up, I got up as usual. About the time I got up and washed, the pickets ran in and said Forrest was coming to attack the Fort. I started up to the Fort. Lieutenant Logan knew the feeling the rebels had toward me, and told me to go on the gunboat.

Question. What do you mean by that?

Answer. Well, they had been hunting me—had shot at me frequently. Faulkner's regiment,

and a part of another, was raised in the country where I knew all of them. I was a notorious character with them, and always had to leave whenever they came around. The Lieutenant advised me to go on board the gunboat for safety, and I did so. The attack came on then, and we fired from the gunboat, I think, some two hundred and sixty or two hundred and seventy rounds, and the sharp-shooters on the boat were firing, I among the rest. We fought on, I think, until about one or half-past one. The rebels had not made much progress by that time. They then came in with a flag of truce, and firing ceased from the Fort and gunboat, and all around. They had a conference, I think, of about three quarters of an hour. They returned with the flag of truce; but in a very short time came back again with it to the Fort, and had another interview. During the time the flag of truce was in there, there was no firing done from either side, but we could see from the gunboat up the creek that the rebels were moving up toward the Fort. The boat lay about two hundred yards from the shore, right opposite the Quartermaster's department. By the time the first flag of truce got to the Fort, they commenced stealing the Quartermaster's stores, and began packing them off up the hill. For an hour and a half, I reckon, there seemed to be above one or two hundred men engaged in it.

Question. This was before the capture of the Fort?

Answer. Yes, sir; while under the protection of the flag of truce. When the last flag of truce started back from the Fort, in three minutes, or less, the firing opened again, and then they just rushed in all around, from every direction, like a swarm of bees, and overwhelmed every thing. The men—white and black—all rushed out of the Fort together, threw down their arms, and ran down the hill; but they shot them down like beebes, in every direction. I think I saw about two hundred run down next to the water, and some of them into the water, and they shot them until I did not see a man standing.

Question. How many do you think were shot after the capture of the Fort, and after they threw down their arms?

Answer. Well, I think, from all the information I could gather, there were about four hundred men killed after the capture, or four hundred and fifty. I think there were about five hundred and odd men killed there. A very great majority of them were killed after the surrender. I do not suppose there were more than twenty men killed before the Fort was captured, and the men threw down their arms and begged for quarter.

Question. Was there any resistance on the part of our soldiers after the capture of the Fort?

Answer. None in the world. They had no chance to make any resistance.

Question. And they did not attempt to make any?

Answer. None that I could discover. There

were about five hundred black soldiers in all there, and about two hundred whites able for duty. There were a great many of them sick and in the hospital.

Question. What happened after that?

Answer. They then got our cannon in the Fort, and turned them on us, and we had to steam off up the river a little, knowing that they had got a couple of ten or twelve pounder Parrott guns. They threw three shells toward us. We steamed off up the river, anchored, and lay there all night. We returned the next morning. We got down near there, and discovered plenty of rebels on the hill, and a gunboat and another boat lying at the shore. We acted pretty cautiously, and held out a signal, and the gunboat answered it, and then we went in. When we got in there, the rebel General Chalmers was on board, and several other officers—majors, captains, orderlies, etc.—and bragged a great deal about their victory, and said it was a matter of no consequence. They hated to have such a fight as that, when they could take no more men than they had there. One of the gunboat officers got into a squabble with them, and said they did not treat the flag of truce right. An officer—a captain, I think—who was going home, came up, and said that, "Damn them, he had eighteen fights with them, but he would not treat them as prisoners of war after that," and that he intended to go home, and would enlist again. Chalmers said that he would treat him as a prisoner of war, but that they would not treat as prisoners of war the "home-made Yankees," meaning the loyal Tennesseans. There were some sick men in the hospital, but I was afraid to go on shore after the rebels got there. I merely went on shore, but did not pretend to leave the boat.

Question. Did you see any person shot there the next morning after you returned?

Answer. I heard a gun or a pistol fired up the bank, and soon afterward a negro woman came in, who was shot through the knee, and said it was done about that time. I heard frequent shooting up where the Fort was, but I did not go up to see what was done.

FORT PILLOW, Tennessee, April 25, 1864.

Captain James Marshall, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the naval service?

Answer. I am an Acting Master, commanding the United States steamer New Era, gunboat Number Seven.

Question. Where is your boat?

Answer. My boat has been twenty-four hours' run from Fort Pillow. Since the attack here, that has been changed. At the time the Fort was attacked, I was to make my principal headquarters here.

Question. Were you present with your gunboat at the time Fort Pillow was attacked and captured?

Answer. I was.

Question. Please describe that affair.

Answer. At six o'clock, on the morning of the twelfth of April, Major Booth sent me word that the rebels were advancing on us. I immediately got the ship cleared for action. I gave the men their breakfasts. I had no idea that there would be a fight. I thought it would merely be a little skirmish. I went out into the stream. Major Booth and myself had previously established signals, by which he could indicate certain points where he would want me to use my guns. He first signalled me to commence firing up what we call Number One ravine, just below the Quartermaster's department, and I commenced firing there. Then he signalled me to fire up Coal Creek ravine Number Three, and I then moved up there. Before I left down here at ravine Number One the rebel sharp-shooters were firing at me rapidly. I came along up, and the women and children, some sick negroes, and boys, were standing around a great barge. I told them to get into the barge if they wanted to save themselves, and when I came down again I would take them out of danger. They went in, and I towed them up and landed them above Coal Creek, where the rebel sharp-shooters commenced firing at them. The next time I moved up Coal Creek ravine I told them to go on up to a house, as the rebels were firing upon them. The trees and bushes around them there probably prevented them from being hit. On knowing that they were fired at much, I kept a steady fire up to about one o'clock. At that time the fire had ceased or slackened, and every thing seemed to be quieting down, and I thought, perhaps, they were waiting to get a little rest. My men were very tired, not having had any thing to eat since morning, and the officers nothing at all. I ran over on the bar to clean out my guns and refresh my men. We had fired two hundred and eighty-two rounds of shell, shrapnel, and canister, and my guns were getting foul. While we were lying on the bar, a flag of truce came in—the first one. It was, I should judge, about half-past six o'clock. While the flag of truce was in, some of the officers came to me and told me the rebels were robbing the Quartermaster's department. I went out on the deck, and saw them doing so. Some of the officers said that we should go in and fire upon them; that we could slay them very nicely. I remarked to them that that was not civilized warfare; that two wrongs did not make a right; and that if the rebels should take the Fort afterward, they would say that they would be justified in doing any thing they pleased, because I had fired on them while the flag of truce was in, although they were thus violating that flag of truce themselves. They were also moving their forces down this hill, and were going up the ravine. When I saw that, I got under way, and stood off for the Fort again, intending to stop it. I had only seventy-five rounds of ammunition left, but I told the boys that we would use that at any rate. The flag of truce started and went out, and I do not think it had been out more than five minutes when the assault was made.

Major Bradford signalled to me that we were whipped. We had agreed on a signal that, if they had to leave the Fort, they would drop down under the bank, and I was to give the rebels canister. I was lying up above here, but the rebels turned the guns in the Fort on us—I think all of them—and a Parrott shot was fired, but went over us. I had to leave, because, if I came down here, the channel would force me to go around the point, and then, with the guns in the Fort, they would sink me. Had I been below here at the time, I think I could have routed them out; but part of our own men were in the Fort at the same time, and I should have killed them as well as the rebels. The rebels kept firing on our men for at least twenty minutes after our flag was down. We said to one another that they could be giving no quarter. We could see the men fall, as they were shot, under the bark. I could not see whether they had arms or not. I was fearful that they might hail in a steamboat from below, capture her, put on four or five hundred men, and come after me. I wanted to get down so as to give warning, and I did send word to Memphis to have all steamboats stopped for the present. The next morning the gunboat Twenty-eight and the transport Platte Valley came up.

Question. When did you go ashore after the Fort had been captured?

Answer. I went ashore the next morning, about ten o'clock, under a flag of truce, with a party of men and an officer, to gather up the wounded and bury the dead. I found men lying in the tents and in the Fort, whose bodies were burning. There were two there that I saw that day that had been burned.

Question. What was the appearance of the remains? What do you infer from what you saw?

Answer. I supposed that they had been just set on fire there. There was no necessity for burning the bodies there with the buildings, because, if they had chosen, they could have dragged the bodies out. There was so little wood about any of those tents that I can hardly understand how the bodies could have been burned as they were.

Question. Were the tents burned around the bodies?

Answer. Yes, sir. On the fourteenth of April (the second day after the capture) I came up again. I had a lot of refugees on board, and as I came around I hoisted a white flag, intending to come in and see if there were any wounded or unburied bodies here. When I landed here, I saw, I should judge, at least fifty cavalry over on Flower Island, and while I was lying here with a white flag, they set fire to an empty coal barge I had towed over there. I put the refugees on the shore, took down the white flag, and started after them, and commenced shelling them, and the gunboats Thirty-four and Fifteen and the despatch-boat Volunteer came down and opened on them. We did not see the rebels then, but saw where they were setting

wood-piles on fire, and we followed them clear round, and drove them off. At this time I received information that the body of Lieutenant Akerstrom had been burned; that it was he who was burned in the house. Some of the refugees told me this, and also that they had taken him out and buried him. There was also one negro who had been thrown in a hole, and buried alive. We took him out, but he lived only a few minutes afterward. After we had followed these rebels around to the head of Island Thirty, I came back to the Fort, landed, and took on board the refugees I had put on shore. The next morning the three gunboats landed here, and we sent out pickets, and then sent men around to look up the dead. We found a number there not buried, beside one man whose body was so burnt that we had to take a shovel to take up his remains.

Question. Was he burned where there was a tent or a building?

Answer. Where there was a building.

Question. Do you know whether there were any wounded men burned in those buildings?

Answer. I do not. All I know about that is what I was told by Lieutenant Leming, who said that while he was lying here wounded, he heard some of the soldiers say that there were some wounded negroes in those buildings, who said, "You are trying to get this gunboat back to shell us, are you, God damn you," and then shot them down. I went to Memphis, and then had to go to Cairo. I was then ordered to patrol the river from here (Fort Pillow) to Memphis. I started down on my first trip on Friday morning last. I arrived at Memphis on Friday afternoon. I mentioned there the manner in which our men had been buried here by the rebels, and said that I thought humanity dictated that they should be taken up, and buried as they ought to be. The General ordered some men to be detailed, with rations, to come up here and rebury them properly. They have come here, and have been engaged in that work since they came up.

Question. How many have you already found?

Answer. We have found already fifty-two white men and four officers, besides a great many colored men.

Question. Had the blacks and whites been buried together indiscriminately?

Answer. We have not found it so exactly; we have found them in the same trench, but the white men mostly at one end, and the black men at the other; but they were all pitched in in any way—some on their faces, some on their sides, some on their backs.

Question. Did you hear any thing said about giving quarter or not giving quarter on that occasion?

Answer. No, sir; but our Paymaster here could tell you what he heard some of their officers say.

Question. Do you know any thing about the transport Platte Valley being here?

Answer. She was lying alongside the gunboat

Twenty-eight here when I came down the day after the fight, and came alongside of her.

Question. Do you know any thing about any of our officers showing civilities to the rebel officers after all these atrocities?

Answer. I saw nothing of that kind but one lieutenant, who went up around with them on the hill. Who he was I do not know, but I recollect noticing his stripe.

Question. Did he belong to the navy or army?

Answer. He belonged to the army. I saw the rebel General Chalmers but once. When I came down here that morning I was the ranking officer; but the Captain of gunboat Twenty-eight had commenced negotiations with the flag of truce, and I told him to go on with it. I met those men in the cabin of the Twenty-eight on business. I was not on board the Platte Valley but once, except that I crossed over her bow once or twice. I was not on her where I could see any thing of this kind going on.

Question. How many of our men do you suppose were killed after they had surrendered?

Answer. I could not say. I have been told that there were not over twenty-five killed and wounded before the Fort was captured?

Question. Do you know how many have been killed in all?

Answer. My own crew buried, of those who were left unburied, some seventy or eighty. The Platte Valley buried a great many, and the gunboat Twenty-eight buried some.

Question. What number do you suppose escaped out of the garrison?

Answer. I have no means of knowing. I have understood that the rebels had one hundred and sixty prisoners—white men; but I think it is doubtful if they had that many, judging from the number of men we have found.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where did those men come from whose bodies we have just seen unburied?

Answer. I should judge they came from the hospital. One of them had a cane, showing that he was not a well man, and they had on white shirts—hospital clothing; and, as you saw, one looked thin, very thin, as if he had been sick.

Question. How far are these bodies lying from the hospital?

Answer. I should think about one hundred and fifty yards.

Question. Would men, escaping from the Fort, run in that direction?

Answer. They would be very apt to run in almost any direction; and they would be more likely to run away from the stores that these rebels were robbing.

By the Chairman:

Question. From the hospital clothing they had on; from their appearance, showing that they had been wounded or sick persons; and from the bruised appearance of their heads, as if they had been killed by having their brains knocked out, do you infer that they were hospital patients that had been murdered there?

Answer. I should. I should be just as positive of that as I should be of any thing I had not actually seen.

Question. You take it that they were sick or wounded men, endeavoring to escape from the hospital, who were knocked in the head?

Answer. I should say so.

Paymaster William B. Purdy, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman :

Question. What is your rank, and where have you been stationed, and in what service?

Answer. Acting Assistant Paymaster of the navy. I have no regular station or quarters at present; but on the day of the attack on Fort Pillow I was acting as Signal Officer on the gunboat Number Seven.

Question. Will you state what you observed that day, and afterward, in relation to that affair?

Answer. After our flag was down, I saw the rebels firing on our own men from the Fort, and I should say that while the flag of truce was in, before the Fort was captured, I could see the rebels concentrating their forces so as to be better able to take the Fort.

Question. Do you mean that they took advantage of the flag of truce to place their men in position so as to better attack the Fort?

Answer. Yes, sir; I could see them moving down to their new positions, and, as soon as the flag of truce was out, firing commenced from these new positions.

Question. Do you understand such movements to be in accordance with the rules of warfare?

Answer. No, sir; I do not.

Question. Had you any conversation with one of General Chalmers's aids about their conduct here?

Answer. Yes, sir; with one who said he was an aid-de-camp to General Chalmers, and a captain in the Second Missouri cavalry. He told me that they did not recognize negroes as United States soldiers, but would shoot them, and show them no quarter—neither the negroes nor their officers.

Question. When was this?

Answer. That was the day after the capture of the Fort, while the flag of truce was in. He then spoke in relation to the Tennessee loyal troops. He said they did not think much of them; that they were refugees and deserters; and they would not show them much mercy either.

Question. Was this said in defence of their conduct here?

Answer. No, sir; there was not much said about that. He opened the conversation himself.

Question. How many of our men do you suppose were killed here after our flag was down, and they had surrendered?

Answer. I have no idea, only from what citizens have told me. They said there were not

more than twenty-five or thirty killed before the place was captured; that all the rest were killed after the capture, and after the flag was down.

Question. Were you on the ground the day after the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you discover upon the field, or learn from any information derived there, of any act of peculiar barbarity?

Answer. I saw men who had been shot in the face, and I have since seen a body that was burned outside of the Fort. The day after the fight I did not go inside the Fort at all.

Question. Did you see the remnants of one who had been nailed to a board or plank?

Answer. I did not see that.

Question. Then it was another body that had been burned which you saw?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. It has been said that men were buried alive. Did any such information come to your notice.

Answer. I heard of it, but did not see it.

Question. What was said about it?

Answer. A young man said he saw one in the morning up there who was alive, and he went back a short time afterward to attend to him, but he was then dead; and I have heard of others who crawled out of their graves, and were taken up on the Platte Valley, but I do not know about them.

Question. Where was this man you found burned?

Answer. He was inside of a tent.

Question. Do you suppose him to have been burned with the tent?

Answer. Yes, sir. I took him to be a white man, because he was in the quarters where the white men were.

Question. So far as you could observe, was any discrimination made between white and black men, as to giving no quarter?

Answer. I should think not, from all I could see, because they were firing from the top of a hill down the bluff on all who had gone down there to escape.

Question. Did you notice how these men had been buried by the rebels?

Answer. I saw officers and white men and black men thrown into the trenches—pitched in in any way, some across, some lengthways, some on their faces, etc. When I first saw them, I noticed a great many with their hands or feet sticking out.

Question. Have you lately discovered any that are still unburied?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you see the three there to-day that were lying unburied?

Answer. No, sir; I heard about them, but did not go to see them.

Eli A. Bangs, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman :

Question. Do you belong to the navy or the army?

Answer. To the navy.

Question. In what capacity?

Answer. Acting Master's Mate for the New Era gunboat.

Question. Were you here on the day of the fight at Fort Pillow?

Answer. I was.

Question. Tell us what you observed in regard to the battle, and what followed?

Answer. I did not observe much of the first part of the engagement, because I was stationed below, in a division, with the guns; but after we hauled out into the stream I saw the flag of truce come in, and then I saw our colors come down at the Fort, and saw our men running down the bank, the rebels following them, and shooting them after they had surrendered.

Question. What number do you suppose the rebels killed after they had surrendered?

Answer. I could not say, only from what I saw the next day when I went ashore.

Question. You were there the next day?

Answer. Yes, sir; we came in under a flag of truce.

Question. What did you see?

Answer. Captain Marshall sent me out with a detail of men to collect the wounded and bury the dead. We buried some seventy or eighty bodies, eleven white men and one white woman.

Question. Did you bury any officers?

Answer. No, sir; I buried none of them. They were buried by the rebels.

Question. Did you observe how the dead had been buried by the rebels?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw those in the trench. Some had just been thrown in the trench at the end of the Fort—white and black together—and a little dirt thrown over them; some had their hands or feet or face out. I should judge there were probably one hundred bodies there. They had apparently thrown them in miscellaneously, and thrown a little dirt over them, not covering them up completely.

Question. Did you see or hear any thing there that led you to believe that any had been buried before they were dead?

Answer. I did not see any myself, but I understand from a number of others that they had seen it, and had dug one out of the trench who was still alive.

Question. Did you see any peculiar marks of barbarity, as inflicted upon the dead?

Answer. I saw none that I noticed, except in the case of one black man that I took up off a tent floor. He lay on his back, with his arms stretched out. Part of his arms were burned off, and his legs were burned nearly to a crisp. His stomach was bare. The clothes had either been torn off or burned off. In order to take away the remains, I slipped some pieces of board under him, and when we took him up the boards of the tent came up with him; and we then observed that nails had been driven through his clothes and his cartridge-box, so as to fasten him down to the floor. His face was not burned, but was very much distorted, as if he had died in

great pain. Several others noticed the nails through his clothes which fastened him down.

Question. Do you think there can be any doubt about his having been nailed to the boards?

Answer. I think not, from the fact that the boards came up with the remains as we raised them up; and we then saw the nails sticking through his clothes, and into the boards.

Question. Did you notice any other bodies that had been burned?

Answer. Yes, sir; I buried four that had been burned.

Question. What was the appearance of them?

Answer. I did not notice any particular appearance about them, except that they had been burned.

Question. How came they to be burned?

Answer. They were in the tents, inside of the Fort, which had been burned. I am certain that there were four that lay where the tent had been burned, for there were the remains of the boards under them, which had not been fully burned. Those that were burned in the Fort were black men.

Charles Hicks, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Were you on the ground after the battle of Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir; the day after the battle.

Question. What did you see there?

Answer. A great many dead men.

Question. Did you see any man there that had been nailed down to a board and burned?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw the nails through his clothes after he was taken up.

Question. In what position did he lie?

Answer. On his back. There were nails through his clothes and through the cartridge-box.

Question. So that it fastened him to the boards in such a way that he could not get up, even if he had been alive?

Answer. Yes, sir, in just that way.

Question. When you tried to take him up, you raised the boards with him?

Answer. Yes, sir.

A. H. Hook, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Did you see the man that Charles Hicks has just spoken of?

Answer. Yes, sir; I saw him. His body was partly burned, and I saw the nails through his clothes, and into the floor of the tent.

Question. The tent had been burned?

Answer. Yes, sir; there were three or four bodies burned there, but this man in particular was nailed down.

George Mantell, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Were you on the ground at Fort Pillow at the time that these men, who have just testified, spoke of?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. You have heard their testimony ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Do you agree with them ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; I saw the same.

Sergeant Henry F. Weaver, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong ?

Answer. To Company C, Sixth United States heavy artillery, colored. I am a sergeant.

Question. You were here at Fort Pillow at the time of the fight ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State briefly what you saw, particularly after the capture ?

Answer. The rebels charged after the flag of truce, the Tennessee cavalry broke, and was followed down the hill by the colored soldiers. They all appeared to go about the same time, as near as I could tell in the excitement of the battle. I came down the hill to the river and jumped into the water, and hid myself between the bank and the coal-barge. They were shooting the negroes over my head all the time, and they were falling off into the water. The firing ceased a little, and I began to get out. I saw one of the rebels, and told him I would surrender. He said : " We do not shoot white men." I went up to him, and he ordered me away ; he kept on shooting the negroes. There were six or eight around there, and he and another one shot them all down. I went up about a rod further, and met another rebel, who robbed me of watch, money, and every thing else, and then he left me. I went on to the Quartermaster's building below here, and was taken by another rebel, and taken up into the town. He went into a store, and I went in with him. He went to pillaging. I slipped on some citizen's clothing, and it was not long before I saw that they did not know who I was. I staid with them until the sun was about an hour high, and then I went away. I walked off just as if I had a right to go.

Question. Where did you go ?

Answer. I went down the river, just back of the old river batteries. I then got on board a tug-boat and came down here, and the Sunday afterward went to Memphis.

Question. Did you have any conversation with these rebels ?

Answer. Not any thing of any consequence about the fight.

Question. What were they doing when you were with them ?

Answer. Just pillaging the store. They commenced going down to the river, and I came down with them. They went into the Quartermaster's department and went a carrying off things.

Question. Did they give any quarter to the negroes ?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did the negroes throw away their arms ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; and some of them went down on their knees begging for their lives. I saw one shot three times before he was killed.

By the Chairman :

Question. What number of our troops do you suppose were killed before the Fort was captured ?

Answer. I could not tell exactly, but I do not think over a dozen of the cavalry were killed, and probably not more than fifteen or twenty of the negroes. There were a great many of the negroes wounded, because they would keep getting up to shoot, and were where they could be hit.

Question. The rebels must have killed a great many of the white men after they had surrendered ?

Answer. Yes, sir. I saw yesterday afternoon a great number of cavalry taken up, and almost every one was shot in the head. A great many of them looked as if their heads had been beaten in.

Question. That must have been done after the Fort had been captured ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; two thirds of them must have been killed after the Fort was taken.

Question. Do you know why the gunboat did not fire upon the rebels after the Fort was captured, while they were shooting down our men ?

Answer. They could not do that without killing our own men, too, as they were all mixed up together.

Charles A. Schetky, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman :

Question. What is your position ?

Answer. I am Acting Ensign of the gunboat New Era.

Question. Were you here at the time of the attack on Fort Pillow ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State what you saw after the Fort was captured.

Answer. After the flag was down I saw the rebels pouring down their bullets on our troops under the hill, although they were unarmed, and held up their hands in token of surrender.

Question. Were they shooting the black men only, or the black and white together ?

Answer. The black and white were both together under the hill, and the sick and wounded were there, too.

Question. How many do you think you saw shot in that way ?

Answer. I should think I saw not less than fifty shot.

Question. How many white men among those ?

Answer. I could not tell. I judge that the number of whites and blacks were nearly equal.

Question. You were here the day after the fight ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; but I was not ashore at all that day. My duty kept me on board the boat all the time.

Frank Hogan, (colored,) sworn and examined.

By the Chairman :

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow on the day of the fight ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. In what company and regiment?

Answer. Company A, Sixth United States heavy artillery.

Question. What did you see there that day, especially after the Fort was taken?

Answer. I saw them shoot a great many men after the Fort was taken, officers and private soldiers, white and black.

Question. After they had given up?

Answer. Yes, sir. I saw them shoot a captain in our battalion, about a quarter of an hour after he had surrendered. One of the secesh called him up to him, and asked him if he was an officer of a nigger regiment. He said, "Yes," and then they shot him with a revolver.

Question. Did they say any thing more at the time they shot him?

Answer. Yes, sir; one of them said: "God damn you, I will give you a nigger officer." They talked with him a little time before they shot him. They asked him how he came to be there, and several other questions, and then asked if he belonged to a nigger regiment, and then they shot him. It was a secesh officer who shot him. I was standing a little behind.

Question. What was the rank of the secesh officer?

Answer. He was a first lieutenant. I do not know his name.

Question. Do you know the name of the officer shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; Captain Carson, company D.

Question. Why did they not shoot you?

Answer. I do not know why they didn't.

Question. How long did you stay with them?

Answer. I staid with them two nights and one day. They took me on Tuesday evening, and I got away from them Thursday morning, about two hours before daylight. They were going to make an early move that morning, and they sent me back for some water, and I left with another boy in the same company with myself.

Question. Where did you go then?

Answer. Right straight through the woods for about three or four miles, and then we turned to the right and came to a road. We crossed the road, went down about three miles, and crossed it again, and I kept on, backward and forward, until I got to a creek about five or six miles from here.

Question. Do you know any thing of the rebels burning any of the tents that had wounded men in them?

Answer. I know they set some on fire that had wounded men in them, but I did not see them burn, because they would not let us go around to see.

Question. About what time of the day was that?

Answer. It was when the sun was about an hour or three quarters on from the day of the battle.

Question. Did you hear the men in there after they set the building on fire?

Answer. Yes, sir; I heard them in there. I

knew they were in there. I knew that they were there sick. I saw them shoot one or two men who came out of the hospital, and then they went into the tents, and then shot them right in the tents. I saw them shoot two of them right in the head. When they charged the Fort they did not look into the tents, but when they came back afterward they shot those sick men in the head. I knew the men, because they belonged to the company I did. One of them was named Dennis Gibbs, and the other was named Alfred Flag.

Question. How long had they been sick?

Answer. They had been sick at the hospital in Memphis, and had got better a little, and been brought up here, but they never did any duty here, and went to the hospital. They came out of the hospital and went into these tents, and were killed there. They were in the hospital the morning of the fight. When the fight commenced, they left the hospital and came into the tents inside the Fort.

Question. Did you see them bury any of our men?

Answer. I saw them put them in a ditch. I did not see them cover them up.

Question. Were they all really dead or not?

Answer. I saw them bury one man alive, and heard the secesh speak about it as much as twenty times. He was shot in the side, but he was not dead, and was breathing along right good.

Question. Did you see the man?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How came they to bury him when he was alive?

Answer. They said he would die any how, and they would let him stay. Every once in a while, if they put dirt on him, he would move his hands. I was standing right there, and saw him when they put him in, and saw he was not dead.

Question. Have you seen the three bodies that are now lying over beyond the old hospital?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you know them?

Answer. I knew one of them. I helped to take him to the hospital on the Sunday before the fight. There was another man there. I knew the company he belonged to, (company B,) but I do not know his name. He was a colored man, but he had hair nearly straight, like a white man or an Indian. He had been sick a great while.

Captain James Marshall, recalled.

By the Chairman:

Question. Does this witness (Hogan) speak of the same men that you supposed were fleeing from the hospital when they were killed?

Answer. Yes, sir, the same men.

Frank Hogan, resumed.

By the Chairman:

Question. What did they do with the prisoners they took away with them?

Answer. I saw several officers of our regiment and some of the men.

Question. Did you hear any thing said about Major Bradford?

Answer. The first night after they had taken the Fort, Major Bradford was there without any guard. Colonel McCullough waked us up to make a fire, and Major Bradford walked up and asked the liberty to go out awhile. He came back, and I went to sleep, leaving Major Bradford sitting at the fire. When they waked up the next morning, they asked where Major Bradford was, and I told them he was lying there by the fire. They uncovered the head of the man who was lying there, but they said it was not Major Bradford. That was only a short distance from here. I did not see him afterward.

Alfred Coleman, (colored,) sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company B, Sixth United States heavy artillery.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow at the time of the fight?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were you captured here?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. About what time?

Answer. About six o'clock, I should think.

Question. Where did they take you to?

Answer. Out toward Brownsville, between twelve and eighteen miles.

Question. What did you do after you were captured?

Answer. I helped to bury some of the dead; then I came to the commissary store, and helped to carry out some forage.

Question. Did you hear the rebels say any thing about a fight?

Answer. Nothing more than it was the hardest fight they had been in, with the force we had here. I was then with the Second Missouri cavalry.

Question. What did they say about giving quarter?

Answer. They said they would show no quarter to colored troops, nor to any of the officers with them, but would kill them all.

Question. Who said that?

Answer. One of the captains of the Second Missouri. He shot six himself, but, toward evening, General Forrest issued an order not to kill any more negroes, because they wanted them to help to haul the artillery out.

Question. How do you know that?

Answer. This captain said so.

Question. Were colored men used for that purpose?

Answer. Yes, sir. I saw them pulling the artillery, and I saw the secesh whip them as they were going out, just like they were horses.

Question. How many men did you see that way?

Answer. There were some ten or twelve men hold of a piece that I saw coming out. The secesh said they had been talking about fighting

under the black flag, but that they had come as nigh fulfilling that here as if they had a black flag.

Question. How long did you stay with them?

Answer. I was taken on the Tuesday evening after the fight, and remained with them until about an hour before day of Thursday morning. I then took a sack of corn to feed the horses, and got the horses between me and them, and, as it was dark and drizzling rain, I left them and escaped.

Question. Did you see any of the shooting going on?

Answer. Yes, sir. I was lying right under the side of the hill where the most of the men were killed. I saw them take one of the Tennessee cavalry, who was wounded in one leg, so that he could not stand on it. Two men took him, and made him stand up on one leg, and then shot him down. That was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

Question. How many do you think you saw them shoot?

Answer. The captain that carried me off shot six colored men himself, with a revolver. I saw him shoot them. I cannot state about the rest.

Question. Did you see more than one white man shot?

Answer. No, sir. The others that were killed were a little nearer the water than I was. I was lying down under a white-oak log near the Fort, and could not see a great way.

Question. Do you know how many of their men were lost?

Answer. I heard some of them say, when they went out toward Brownsville, that they had lost about three hundred killed, wounded, and missing.

Question. How many of our men were killed before the Fort was taken?

Answer. I do not think there were more than ten or fifteen men killed before the Fort was taken.

Memphis, Tennessee, April 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas H. Harris, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the service?

Answer. I am a Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General of the Sixteenth army corps.

Question. How many troops do your records show to have gone from the Sixth United States heavy artillery (colored) to Fort Pillow?

Answer. There were two hundred and twenty-one officers and men left Memphis to go to Fort Pillow.

Question. How many whites went there?

Answer. None were sent from here. I understand, unofficially, that the colored troops were recruited, to some extent, after they arrived at Fort Pillow; but I have no official knowledge of that fact. Of the two hundred and twenty-one officers and men who went from here, there are thirty here who escaped, and some twenty or more above at Mound City and Cairo.

Question. Do you know what was the character and military experience of Major Bradford?

Answer. To the best of my knowledge and belief, Major Bradford had no military experience. I had known him for about a year. He never claimed to have had any military experience.

Question. What was the character of Major Booth as a military man?

Answer. It was good. He was originally Sergeant-Major of the First Missouri light artillery, and was an officer of experience and tried courage, and of irreproachable character.

Question. Do you know whether or not any information was received here that Fort Pillow was threatened before it was actually attacked?

Answer. I know that Major Booth assured General Hurlbut that he stood in no danger, and begged him not to feel any apprehension. General Hurlbut, I believe, answered that report by sending Major Booth two additional guns, with a fresh supply of ammunition.

Question. How long have you been here in this department?

Answer. Since the first of August, 1862.

Question. Have you, during that time, been familiar with the condition of the garrison at Fort Pillow?

Answer. I have been familiar with it since the first of May, 1863.

Question. Has the garrison been entirely withdrawn from Fort Pillow at any time since then?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Why?

Answer. In order to send troops for the Meridian expedition into Mississippi, under General Sherman.

Question. For how long a period was Fort Pillow without a garrison?

Answer. Fort Pillow was evacuated about the twenty-fifth of January, 1864, and remained unoccupied for a short time afterward.

Question. Why was a garrison again placed there?

Answer. Major Bradford was with his command at and near Columbus and Paducah, Kentucky, in the early part of this year. Finding recruiting very difficult there, he applied for permission to proceed to Fort Pillow and establish his headquarters there, as he believed that he could easily fill his regiment at that point.

Question. It was then occupied rather as a recruiting station than for any other purpose at that time?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Do you know whether it has been considered a military necessity to keep a garrison at Fort Pillow since the gunboats have been in the river?

Answer. It is one of the most important points on the whole river. It commands a very long stretch of the river, and a single well-manned field-piece there would stop navigation entirely.

Question. When the garrison was removed from Fort Pillow, was it in pursuance of any order from either General Grant or General Sherman?

Answer. I cannot answer that definitely without looking at the records.

Papers forwarded by Lieutenant-Colonel Harris to Washington.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, April 26, 1864. }

I wish to state that one section of company D, Second United States light artillery, colored, (one commissioned officer and forty men,) were sent to Fort Pillow about February fifteenth, as part of the garrison.

The garrison of Fort Pillow, by last reports received, consisted of the First battalion Sixth United States heavy artillery, colored, eight commissioned officers and two hundred and thirteen enlisted men; one section company D, Second United States light artillery, colored, one commissioned officer and forty men; First battalion Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, Major H. F. Bradford, ten commissioned officers and two hundred and eighty-five enlisted men.

Total white troops, 295

Total colored troops, 263

557

Six field-pieces: two six-pounders, two twelve-pounder howitzers, and two ten-pounder Parrotts.

T. H. HARRIS,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, March 23, 1864. }

SIR: You will proceed with your own battalion to Fort Pillow, and establish your force in garrison of the works there. As you will be, if I am correct in my memory, the senior officer at that post, you will take command, conferring, however, freely and fully with Major Bradford, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, whom you will find a good officer, though not of much experience.

There are two points of land fortified at Fort Pillow, one of which only is now held by our troops. You will occupy both, either with your own troops alone, or holding one with yours, and giving the other in charge to Major Bradford.

The positions are commanding, and can be held by a small force against almost any odds.

I shall send you at this time two twelve-pound howitzers, as I hope it will not be necessary to mount heavy guns.

You will, however, immediately examine the ground and the works, and if, in your opinion, twenty-pound Parrotts can be advantageously used, I will order them to you. My own opinion is, that there is not range enough. Major Bradford is well acquainted with the country, and should keep scouts well out and forward; all information received direct to me.

I think Forrest's check at Paducah will not dispose him to try the river again, but that he will fall back to Jackson, and thence across the Tennessee; as soon as this is ascertained I shall withdraw your garrison.

Nevertheless, act promptly in putting the works into perfect order, and the post in its strongest

defence. Allow as little intercourse as possible with the country, and cause all supplies which go out to be examined with great strictness. No man whose loyalty is questionable should be allowed to come in or go out while the enemy is in West-Tennessee.

Your obedient servant,

S. A. HURLBUT,
Major-General.

Major L. F. BOOTH,
Commanding First Battalion First Alabama Siege Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
MEMPHIS, TENN., April 26, 1864. }

A true copy.

T. H. HARRIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Extract.]

HEADQUARTERS FORT PILLOW, }
FORT PILLOW, TENN., April 8, 1864. }

GENERAL:

Every thing seems to be very quiet within a radius of from thirty to forty miles around, and I do not think any apprehensions need be felt or fears entertained in reference to this place being attacked, or even threatened. I think it perfectly safe.

I have the honor to be, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. F. BOOTH,
Major Sixth U. S. Heavy Artillery, Colored, Commanding Fort.
Major-General HURLBUT.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
MEMPHIS, TENN., April 23, 1864. }

A true extract from the last report received from Major L. F. Booth, Sixth United States heavy artillery, commanding Fort Pillow.

T. H. HARRIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Without application or requisition being made for the guns, General Hurlbut concluded to add two to the four already at the Fort, and made the following order:

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
MEMPHIS, TENN., April 7, 1864. }

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 88.

III. Captain J. O. Heely, commanding ordnance depot, Memphis, Tennessee, will turn over to Major L. F. Booth, Sixth United States heavy artillery, two ten-pounder Parrott guns, complete, except caissons, with one hundred and fifty rounds of ammunition per piece, and will ship same to-day, to Major Booth, at Fort Pillow, Tennessee. The Quartermaster's department will furnish necessary transportation.

By order of Major-General S. A. HURLBUT.

T. H. HARRIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A true copy.

T. H. HARRIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

UNITED STATES STEAMER SILVER CLOUD, }
OFF MEMPHIS, TENN., April 14, 1864. }

SIR: In compliance with your request that I would forward to you a written statement of what

I witnessed and learned concerning the treatment of our troops by the rebels at the capture of Fort Pillow by their forces under General Forrest, I have the honor to submit the following report:

Our garrison at Fort Pillow, consisting of some three hundred and fifty colored troops and two hundred of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, refusing to surrender, the place was carried by assault about three P.M. of the twelfth instant. I arrived off the Fort at six A.M. on the morning of the thirteenth instant. Parties of rebel cavalry were picketed on the hills around the Fort, and shelling those away, I made a landing and took on board some twenty of our troops, some of them badly wounded, who had concealed themselves along the bank, and came out when they saw my vessel. Whilst doing so I was fired upon by rebel sharp-shooters posted on the hills, and one wounded man limping down to the vessel was shot. About eight A.M. the enemy sent in a flag of truce, with a proposal from General Forrest that he would put me in possession of the Fort and the country around until five P.M., for the purpose of burying our dead and removing our wounded, whom he had no means of attending to. I agreed to the terms proposed, and hailing the steamer Platte Valley, which vessel I had conveyed up from Memphis, I brought her alongside, and had the wounded brought down from the Fort and battle-field and placed on board of her. Details of rebel soldiers assisted us in this duty, and some soldiers and citizens on board the Platte Valley volunteered for the same purpose.

We found about seventy wounded men in the Fort and around it, and buried, I should think, one hundred and fifty bodies. All the buildings around the Fort, and the tents and huts in the Fort, had been burned by the rebels, and among the embers the charred remains of numbers of our soldiers, who had suffered a terrible death in the flames, could be seen.

All the wounded who had strength enough to speak, agreed that after the Fort was taken an indiscriminate slaughter of our troops was carried on by the enemy, with a furious and vindictive savageness which was never equalled by the most merciless of the Indian tribes. Around on every side horrible testimony to the truth of this statement could be seen.

Bodies with gaping wounds, some bayoneted through the eyes, some with skulls beaten through, others with hideous wounds, as if their bowels had been ripped open with Bowie knives, plainly told that but little quarter was shown to our troops, strewn from the Fort to the river-bank, in the ravines and hollows, behind logs and under the brush, where they had crept for protection from the assassins who pursued them. We found bodies bayoneted, beaten, and shot to death, showing how cold-blooded and persistent was the slaughter of our unfortunate troops. Of course, when a work is carried by assault there will always be more or less bloodshed, even when all resistance has ceased; but here there were unmistakable evidences of a massacre car-

ried on long after any resistance could have been offered, with a cold-blooded barbarity and perseverance which nothing can palliate.

As near as I can learn, there were about five hundred men in the Fort when it was stormed. I received about one hundred men, (including the wounded and those I took on board before the flag of truce was sent in.) The rebels, I learned, had few prisoners, so that at least three hundred of our troops must have been killed in this affair. I have the honor to forward a list of the wounded officers and men received from the enemy under flag of truce.

I am, General, your obedient servant,

W. FERGUSON,

Acting Master U. S. N., Commanding U. S. Steamer Silver Cloud.

Major-General HURLBUT,
Commanding Sixteenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
MEMPHIS, TENN., April 24, 1864. }

A true copy.

T. H. HARRIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

W. R. McLagan, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where were you born?

Answer. In Tennessee.

Question. Where do you now reside?

Answer. St. Paul, Minnesota.

Question. Were you at Fort Pillow on the day of its capture?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Where were you?

Answer. About sixteen miles off, at Covington.

Question. Have you seen that statement? (showing witness statement appended to this deposition.)

Answer. Yes, sir; I made that statement myself.

Question. It is correct, then?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did you yourself see Major Bradford shot?

Answer. I did.

Question. How do you know it was Major Bradford?

Answer. He represented himself to me as a Major Bradford.

Question. Did you have any conversation with him?

Answer. Yes, sir; and while we were marching from Covington to Brownsville I heard them call him Major Bradford. He told me himself that he was Major Bradford, but he did not wish it to be known, as he had enemies there; and it never would have been known but for a detective in the confederate army from Obion County, Tennessee, named Willis Wright, who recognized him as Major Bradford, and told them of it. Wright is a notorious spy and smuggler in Forrest's command. There is no doubt the man was Major Bradford.

Question. Was there any thing said at the time he was shot?

Answer. Nothing more than what I said.

Question. What did he say?

Answer. He simply said he had fought them honorably and as a brave man, and wished to be treated as a prisoner of war. He was taken prisoner at Fort Pillow, and was then sent to Covington, to the custody of a Colonel Duckworth, commanding the Seventh Tennessee rebel cavalry, and from that place he was sent under guard, with about thirty of us conscripts. We arrived at Brownsville on the thirteenth; we started out on the evening of the fourteenth instant, about dusk. Previous to our leaving Brownsville, five of the guards were ordered back to Duckworth's headquarters. Those five guards seemed to have received special instructions about something, I don't know what. After marching about five miles from Brownsville, we halted, that is, the two companies of the rebels. These five guards then took Major Bradford out about fifty yards from the road. He seemed to understand what they were going to do with him. He asked for mercy, and said that he had fought them manfully, and wished to be treated as a prisoner of war. Three of the five guards shot him. One shot struck him about in the temple; a second in the left breast, and the third shot went through the thick part of the thigh. He was killed instantly. They left his body lying there. I escaped from the rebels at Jackson. I left on the Friday morning about two o'clock, and Saturday night about twelve o'clock I came back where the murder was committed, and saw his body there, yet unburied. The moon was shining brightly, and it seemed to me that the buzzards had eaten his face considerably.

Question. Did you hear them give any reason for shooting Major Bradford?

Answer. Simply that he was a Tennessee traitor, and to them they showed no quarter. They said that he was a Tennessean, and had joined the Yankee army, and they showed them no quarter. I think myself that the order for shooting Major Bradford was given by Colonel Duckworth, for the reasons I have stated.

Question. What was the officer in command at the time he was shot?

Answer. A lieutenant went out with him. He was one of the five guards.

Question. Who commanded the two companies of rebels?

Answer. I do not know who ranked in these two companies. Russell and Lawler commanded the companies. Duckworth, who, I think, gave the order for killing Major Bradford, belongs to Chalmers's command. He is a notorious scoundrel. He never had any reputation, either before the war or afterward.

Question. Did Major Bradford have on his uniform?

Answer. No, sir. He had tried to conceal his identity as much as possible, by putting on citizen's clothes, as he said that he had enemies among them who would kill him if they knew him.

Question. Did you hear any of their officers say any thing as to the manner in which they

treated our soldiers whom they had captured, and the way in which they intended to treat them?

Answer. On the evening of the twelfth I was in Colonel Duckworth's headquarters. I had not been conscripted then. I saw a despatch there from Forrest to Duckworth, dated that afternoon. It read something like this:

"Colonel W. L. Duckworth, Covington, Tennessee. I have killed three hundred and captured three hundred."

Duckworth remarked to me previous to the attack that no quarter would be shown at Fort Pillow at all; that they were a set of damned Yankees and Tennessee traitors there, and they intended to show them no quarter.

Question. When did he say this?

Answer. On the evening of the eleventh of April, at Covington.

Question. How long had you known Duckworth?

Answer. I never saw him before I saw him there.

Question. Did he say this to you?

Answer. I was not in conversation with him, but I heard him say this to a Captain Hill, a retired confederate captain, who formerly belonged to his command. He was within five or six feet of me when he said it.

Question. Were they talking at that time about the intended attack on Fort Pillow?

Answer. Yes, sir; and five days' rations were ordered then, and Duckworth said they were going to take Fort Pillow, and no quarter would be shown at all.

Question. Do you know how Major Bradford got to Covington, and when?

Answer. I think he arrived there on the evening of the twelfth, just about dusk.

Question. Did Major Bradford state to you that he desired to disguise himself?

Answer. Yes, sir. He said that he had personal enemies in that command, among whom was this Willis Wright, who recognized him and told them who he was. Major Bradford was a native Tennessean.

Question. Did any of the conscripts who were with you see Major Bradford shot?

Answer. Yes, sir; and I understand that one or two others, who escaped when I did, are here in the city; and I shall try to get their statements.

W. R. McLagan, a citizen of the United States, being first duly sworn, states, upon oath, that for the last two years he has been trading between St. Louis, Missouri, and Covington, Tennessee; that at the time of the attack upon Fort Pillow, April twelfth, 1864, he was at Covington, Tennessee, and was taken by General Forrest as a conscript on the thirteenth of April, with about thirty other citizens; that on the evening of the twelfth of April Major Bradford, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, United States forces, arrived at Covington, under guard, as a prisoner of war, and was reported as such to Colonel Duckworth, commanding Seventh Tennessee cavalry, confederate forces; that on the thirteenth of April Ma-

jor Bradford and the conscripts, including the affiant, were placed in charge of two companies of the Seventh Tennessee cavalry, Captains Russell and Lawler commanding. They were taken to Brownsville, Tennessee, and started from there to Jackson, Tennessee. When they had proceeded about five miles from Brownsville a halt was made, and Major Bradford was taken about fifty yards from the command by a guard of five confederate soldiers in charge of a lieutenant, and was there deliberately shot, three of the confederate soldiers discharging their fire-arms, all of which took effect, killing him instantly. This was on the fourteenth day of April, 1864, near dusk; that the body of Major Bradford was left unburied in the woods about fifty yards from the road. The affiant, with the other conscripts, were taken on to Jackson, and on the twenty-second day of April the affiant and twenty-five others of the conscripts made their escape from the confederate forces at Jackson. On the way back he saw the body of Major Bradford lying in the same place where he was shot. This was on Saturday night, the twenty-third of April. Major Bradford, before he was shot, fell on his knees and said that he had fought them manfully, and wished to be treated as a prisoner of war.

W. R. McLAGAN.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF WEST-TENNESSEE,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, April 25, 1864.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day.

T. H. HARRIS,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General Sixteenth Army Corps.

APPENDIX.

The following papers and affidavits were furnished the Committee by General Mason Brayman, at Cairo, and are herewith submitted:

CAIRO, ILLINOIS, April 18, 1864.

We have the honor of reporting to you, as the only known survivors of the commissioned officers of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, that, on the morning of the twelfth day of the present month, at about the hour of daylight, the rebels, numbering from five thousand to seven thousand, attacked our garrison at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, numbering as it did only about five hundred effective men. They at first sent in a flag of truce demanding a surrender, which Major Booth, then commanding the post, (Major Booth, of the Sixth United States heavy artillery, colored,) refused. Shortly after this Major Booth was shot through the heart and fell dead. Major William F. Bradford, then commanding the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, assumed command of the Fort, and under his orders a continual fire was kept up until about one o'clock p.m., when our cannon and the rifles of the sharpshooters were mowing the rebels down in such numbers that they could not make an advance. The rebels then hoisted a second flag of truce and sent it in, demanding an unconditional surrender. They also threatened that if the place was not surrendered no quarter would be shown. Major Bradford refused to accept any such terms, would not surrender, and sent back word that

if such were their intentions they could try it on. While this flag of truce was being sent in, the rebel officers formed their forces in whatever advantageous positions they were able to select. They then formed a hollow square around our garrison, placed their sharp-shooters within our deserted barracks, and directed a galling fire upon our men. They also had one brigade in the trenches just outside the Fort, which had been cut by our men only a few days before, and which provided them with as good protection as that held by the garrison in the Fort. Their demand of the flag of truce having been refused, the order was given by General Forrest in person to charge upon the works and show no quarter. Half an hour after the issuance of this order a scene of terror and massacre ensued. The rebels came pouring in solid masses right over the breastworks. Their numbers were perfectly overwhelming. The moment they reached the top of the walls, and commenced firing as they descended, the colored troops were panic-stricken, threw down their arms, and ran down the bluff, pursued sharply, begging for life. But escape was impossible. The confederates had apprehended such a result, and had placed a regiment of cavalry where it could cut off all effective retreat. This cavalry regiment employed themselves in shooting down the negro troops as fast as they made their appearance. The whites, as soon as they perceived they were also to be butchered inside the Fort, also ran down. They had previously thrown down their arms and submitted. In many instances the men begged for life at the hands of the enemy, even on their knees. They were only made to stand upon their feet and then summarily shot down. Captain Theodore F. Bradford, of company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, was signal-officer for the gunboat, and was seen by General Forrest with the signal flags. The General, in person, ordered Captain Bradford to be shot. He was instantly riddled with bullets, nearly a full regiment having fired their pieces upon him. Lieutenant Wilson, of company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, was killed after he had surrendered, he having been previously wounded. Lieutenant J. C. Akerstrom, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, and acting regimental quartermaster, was severely wounded after he had surrendered, and then nailed to the side of a house and the house set on fire, burning him to death. Lieutenant Cord. Revelle, company E, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, was shot and killed after surrender. Major William F. Bradford, commanding our forces, was fired upon after he had surrendered the garrison. The rebels told him he could not surrender. He ran into the river and swam out some fifty yards, they all the time firing at him, but failing to hit him. He was hailed by an officer and told to return to the shore. He did so. But as he neared the shore the riflemen discharged their pieces at him again. Again they missed. He ran up the hillside among the enemy with a white handkerchief in his hand in token of his surrender, but still they continued to fire upon him. There

were several confederate officers standing near at the time. None of them ordered the firing to cease; but when they found they could not hit him, they allowed him to give himself up as a prisoner, and paroled him to the limits of the camp. They now claim that he violated his parole the same night and escaped. We have heard from prisoners who got away from the rebels that they took Major Bradford out in the Hatchie Bottom and there despatched him. We feel confident that the story is true. We saw several negroes burning up in their quarters on Wednesday morning. We also saw the rebels come back that morning and shoot at the wounded. We also saw them at a distance running about hunting up wounded that they might shoot them. There were some whites also burning. The rebels went to the negro hospital, where about thirty sick were kept, and butchered them with their sabres, hacking their heads open in many instances, and then set fire to the buildings. They killed every negro soldier Wednesday morning upon whom they came. Those who were able they made stand up to be shot. In one case a white soldier was found wounded. He had been lying upon the ground nearly twenty-four hours without food or drink. He asked a rebel soldier to give him something to drink. The latter turned about upon his heel and fired three deliberate shots at him, saying: "Take that, you negro equality." The poor fellow is alive yet and in the hospital. He can tell the tale for himself. They ran a great many into the river, and shot or drowned them there. They immediately killed all the officers who were over the negro troops, excepting one who has since died from his wounds. They took out from Fort Pillow about one hundred and some odd prisoners, (white,) and forty negroes. They hung and shot the negroes as they passed along toward Brownsville until they were rid of them all. Out of the six hundred troops (convalescents included) which were at the Fort they have only about one hundred prisoners, (all whites,) and we have about fifty wounded who are paroled.

Major Anderson, Forrest's Assistant Adjutant-General, stated that they did not consider colored men as soldiers, but as property, and as such, being used by our people, they had destroyed them. This was concurred in by Forrest, Chalmers, and McCullough, and other officers.

We respectfully refer you to the accompanying affidavit of Hardy N. Revelle, lettered "A," and those of Mrs. Rufin, lettered "B," and Mrs. Williams, lettered "C."

Respectfully submitted.

F. A. SMITH,
First Lieutenant Co. D, Thirteenth Tennessee Vol. Cav.

WILLIAM CLEARY,
Second Lieutenant Co. B, Thirteenth Tennessee Vol. Cav.

General M. BRAYMAN.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A. D. C.

Affidavit of Hardy N. Revelle.

I was in business at Fort Pillow previous to the fight on Tuesday last. Was engaged as a

dry-goods clerk for Messrs. Harris and Company. Went into the fight at six o'clock on the morning of Tuesday, the twelfth of April. Remained outside of the Federal fortifications until about half-past eight A.M., acting as a sharp-shooter. At this time we were all ordered within the Fort. Lieutenant Barr was killed outside the Fort, also Lieutenant Wilson, the latter of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry. It was not long after nine o'clock that I took my position behind the fortifications and resumed the fight. I was standing not more than ten paces from Major Booth when he fell, struck in the heart by a musket-bullet. It was but a few minutes past nine. He did not die immediately, but was borne from the field. At this time there was continued firing on both sides. Rebels were not using artillery; our troops were.

The next thing I recollect is a flag of truce coming in, the bearers of which—General Forrest of the rebel army, and some parties of his staff—demanded a surrender of the garrison. Major Bradford was then in command. Forrest did not come within the breastworks, but remained some fifty yards outside, and Major Bradford went out to meet him. They conferred in a south-easterly direction from what was known as "old headquarters." Bradford is said to have replied that he would not surrender. Forrest told him that if he did not there would not be any quarter shown. They were in conference about fifteen minutes, during which time there was a cessation of firing. Bradford asked for one hour's time in which to confer with the commander of the gunboat. Forrest refused it; but I think there was a pause in actual hostilities of nearly that length of time. The rebels were busily engaged in plundering our hastily deserted encampment outside the fortifications, as well as robbing some of the stores below the hill. They were also massing their troops and placing them in eligible positions while the flag of truce was being considered. It is my opinion that they could never have gained the positions had they not done so under that flag of truce. They had already consumed seven or eight hours in attempting it with no success.

At about half-past two in the afternoon a large force of infantry came upon us from the ravine toward the east of where I stood. It seemed to come down Cold Creek. They charged upon our ranks. Another large force of rebel cavalry charged from the south of east, and another force from the northward. They mounted the breastworks at the first charge where I stood. We fired upon them while upon the breastworks. I remember firing two shots while the enemy were upon the walls. The negro troops, frightened by the appearance of such numbers, and knowing they could no longer resist, made a break and ran down the hill, surrendering their arms as the rebels came down on our side of the fortifications. When we found there was no quarter to be shown, and that, white and black, we were to be butchered, we also gave up our arms and

passed down the hill. It is stated that at this time Major Bradford put a white handkerchief on his sword-point and waved it in token of submission; but it was not heeded if he did. We were followed closely and fiercely by the advancing rebel forces, their fire never ceasing at all. Our men had given signals themselves that they surrendered, many of them throwing up their hands to show they were unarmed and submitted to overwhelming odds.

I was about half-way down the hill, partially secreted in a kind of ravine with Dr. Fitch, when I saw two men, white men, belonging to the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, standing behind a stump on which they had fixed a white handkerchief, their hands thrown up. They asked for quarter. When they stood on their feet they were exposed, and I saw them shot down by rebel soldiers and killed. A captain of the rebel troops then came where we were and ordered all the Federals, white and black, to move up the hill, or he would "shoot their God damn brains out." I started up the hill with a number of others, in accordance with the order. I was surrendered with our men. While going up I saw white men fall on both sides of me who were shot down by rebel soldiers who were stationed upon the brow of the hill. We were at the time marching directly toward the men who fired upon us. I do not know how many fell, but I remember to have seen four killed in this way. I also saw negroes shot down with pistols in the hands of rebels. One was killed at my side. I saw another negro struck on the head with a sabre by a rebel soldier; I suppose he was also killed. One more, just in front of me, was knocked down with the butt of a musket. We kept on up the hill. I expected each moment to meet my fate with the rest. At the top of the hill I met a man named Cutler, a citizen of Fort Pillow. He spoke to a rebel captain about me, and we then went, under orders from the captain, to one of the stores under the hill, where the captain got a pair of boots. This was about four P.M. on Tuesday. The captain and Cutler and myself then left to find General McCullough's headquarters, where we were to report and be disposed of. The captain introduced me to a lieutenant and to a surgeon of the rebel army. The surgeon made me show him where goods could be found. The lieutenant got a saddle and bridle and some bits, and then we helped them to carry them to where their horses were outside of the fortifications. I also met Mr. Wedlin, a citizen, and he accompanied us. He helped the lieutenant to mount and pack his goods, and then he gave Wedlin and myself permission to depart, and instructed us as to the best means of escape.

I am positive that up to the time of the surrender there had not been more than fifty men (black and white) killed and wounded on the Union side. Of these, but about twenty had been among the killed. The balance of all killed and wounded on our side were killed and

wounded after we had given undoubted evidence of a surrender, and contrary to all rules of warfare.
H. N. REVELLE.

Sworn to before me at Cairo, Illinois, this seventeenth day of April, 1864.

JOHN H. MUNROE,
Captain and A. A. General.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A. D. C.

Statement of Ann Jane Rufin.

I am the wife of Thomas Rufin, a member of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry; was at Fort Pillow on Tuesday, the twelfth day of April, A. D. 1864, and was removed to an island during the progress of the battle. Returned to Fort Pillow on Wednesday morning, the thirteenth of April, and saw the remains of a man lying upon the back, its arms outstretched, with some planks under it. The man had to all appearances been nailed to the side of the house, and then the building set on fire. I am satisfied that the body was that of Lieutenant John C. Akerstrom, Second Lieutenant company A, Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, who was on duty as Quartermaster of the post of Fort Pillow. I was well acquainted with Lieutenant Akerstrom when living. After examining the body I walked around to a ditch where a large number of dead and wounded had been thrown and partially covered. I saw several places where the wounded had dug holes and attempted to get out, but had been unable to do so.

her
ANN JANE X RUFIN.
mark.

Cairo, April 18, 1864.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this eighteenth day of April, 1864.

ISAAC M. TALMADGE,
Captain and District Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A. D. C.

Statement of Mrs. Rebecca Williams.

I am the wife of William F. Williams, a private in the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry, company D.

I was at Fort Pillow on the Wednesday morning after the fight of Tuesday, the twelfth of April, 1864, and saw the body of a man, which had the appearance of having been burned to death. It was pointed out to me as the body of Lieutenant John C. Akerstrom, of the Thirteenth Tennessee cavalry. I know it was the corpse of a white man.

her
REBECCA X WILLIAMS.
mark.

Cairo, April 18, 1864.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this eighteenth day of April, 1864.

ISAAC M. TALMADGE,
Captain and District Provost-Marshal.

I, the undersigned, do certify that I also witnessed the same spectacle described by Mrs Williams.

her
NANCY M. X HOPPER.
mark.

Cairo, April 18, 1864.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this eighteenth day of April, 1864.

ISAAC M. TALMADGE,
Captain and District Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A. D. C.

James R. Brigham, a resident of Fredonia, Chautauque County, New-York, deposes and says:

He was and had been a clerk in a store at Fort Pillow over a year previous to the twelfth April instant. On learning, early on the morning of the twelfth instant, that the post was to be attacked by the confederates, he went immediately to the Fort, and was engaged with a musket in defending the Fort, when General Chalmers was repulsed twice. After this, I was detailed to carry wounded down the hill, on which the Fort was situated, to the river bank, where, beside a large log, I raised a red flag as a sign of a hospital. The flag was made from part of a red flannel shirt. The last attack was made by General Forrest in person, who headed the column. Forrest was wounded in three (3) different places, and had his horse shot under him.

Major Booth, of the regular army, was in command. He was killed about eleven o'clock by a sharp-shooter, when Major Bradford, of the Thirteenth Tennessee regiment, took command. Major Bradford was taken prisoner, and killed near Judge Green's, some six miles from the Fort, while a prisoner.

When the confederates rushed into the Fort having taken advantage of a flag of truce to get their men close to the Fort in a ravine, and directly under the embankments, this force numbered some one thousand five hundred, with a large reserve in sight. As soon as the confederates got into the Fort, the Federals threw down their arms in token of surrender, and many exclaimed: "We surrender." Immediately an indiscriminate massacre commenced on both black and white soldiers. Up to the time of the surrender, I don't think more than from twenty to twenty-five had been killed, and not more than fifteen wounded. I was taken prisoner, and when marching with other prisoners, black and white, I saw the confederates shoot and kill and wound both white and black Federal prisoners. Some negroes were severely beaten, but still able to go along. We were taken a few miles into the country, when myself and a few others got relieved by General McCullough, on the ground of being private citizens. I saw General Forrest, and knew he was wounded, as before stated. There were from twenty-five to thirty black soldiers carried off as prisoners, and not over thirty to thirty-five white. All the rest of that faithful and heroic garrison,

some five or six hundred in number, were killed or wounded in action, or murdered or wounded after the surrender. I saw officers as well as privates kill and wound prisoners, and heard them say, while held a prisoner with them in the country, that they intended taking the prisoners still further into the country, and make an example of them.

Captain Bradford, of the Thirteenth Tennessee, was engaged with a blue signal-flag in connection with gunboat Number Seven. Captain Bradford was ordered shot by General Forrest, who said: "Shoot that man with the black flag." This was after the surrender. His body was literally shot to pieces. All, both black and white, fought manfully. I saw several negroes wounded, with blood running from their bodies, still engaged loading and firing cannon and muskets cheerfully. There was no giving way till one thousand five hundred confederates rushed inside the Fort. Most were killed outside the Fort when prisoners. The Fort was defended successfully for over eight hours by from five hundred to six hundred men against three thousand five hundred to four thousand barbarians. I heard confederate officers say it was the hardest contested engagement that Forrest had ever been engaged in. I heard officers say they would never recognize negroes as prisoners of war, but would kill them whenever taken. Even if they caught a negro with blue clothes on, (uniform,) they would kill him. Officers of negro troops were treated and murdered the same as negroes themselves.

After lying in the woods two days and nights, I was picked up by gunboat Number Seven, some five or six miles below the Fort.

On my return to the Fort, I saw and recognized the remains of Lieutenant Akerstrom; he had been nailed to a house, and supposed burned alive.

There were the remains of two negroes lying where the house burned. I was told they were nailed to the floor. I also found a negro partially buried, with his head out of the ground, alive. I went for assistance and water for him; when I returned he was so near dead that no assistance could save him. We sat by him till he died.

I can recount but a small part of the barbarities I saw on that fatal day, when hundreds of loyal soldiers were murdered in cold blood.

JAMES R. BINGHAM.

Sworn before me at Cairo, Illinois, this eighteenth day of April, 1864.

JOHN H. MUNROE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

A true copy.

J. H. ODLEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Cairo, Illinois, April 28, 1864.

Elvis Bevel, being duly sworn, depose and says:

I am a citizen of Osceola, Arkansas. I was driven from my home by guerrillas. I arrived

at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, on the night of the eleventh of April, 1864. I was at Fort Pillow during the engagement between the rebel forces under Forrest and Chalmers, and the United States garrison at that place, on the twelfth of April instant, 1864. About sun-up, the alarm of rebels being in the Fort was received at Major Booth's headquarters. I took a position where I could see all that was done by the rebel and United States forces. Deponent further saith: I saw the contraband camps in flames at different points. Could see the skirmishers of the rebels. Signals were given by Captain Bradford to Captain Marshall, of the navy, commanding gunboat Number Seven, to shell them from post Number One, which is in sight of the Fort, which was done by Captain Marshall. About one hour after sunrise, brisk skirmishing began. The bullets from rebel infantry caused me to move from where I was, and take position behind a large stump near the Fort. About nine o'clock I moved to the rear of the Fort, where I could better see the rebels who swarmed the bluff.

The rebels were here so near the gunboat that the crew under Captain Marshall had to close their ports, and use their small-arms. At one o'clock P.M. the firing on both sides ceased. A flag of truce was sent from the rebel lines to demand an unconditional surrender. While the flag of truce was approaching the Fort, I saw a battery of artillery moved to a better position by the rebels, and saw their sharpshooters approaching the Fort from another quarter. At two o'clock the fight began again; about fifteen or twenty minutes after I saw a charge made by about two thousand on the breastworks and near it on the bluff. Sharp fighting took place inside the Fort of about five minutes' duration. I saw their bayonets and swords. I saw the Union soldiers, black and white, slaughtered while asking for quarter; heard their screams for quarter, to which the rebels paid no attention. About one hundred left the Fort, and ran down the bank of the bluff to the river, pursued by the rebels, who surrounded them; in about twenty minutes, every one of them, as far as I could see, were shot down by the rebels without mercy.

I left at this time, getting on the gunboat. On Thursday, the fourteenth of April, I met Captain Farris, of Forrest's command, about six miles from Fort Pillow, at Plum Point; his soldiers said they were hunting for negroes. I asked him if they took any prisoners at Fort Pillow. He said they took some of the Thirteenth Tennessee, who surrendered, but no others.

ELVIS BEVEL.

Signed and sworn to before me this twenty-third day of April, A.D. 1864, at Cairo, Illinois.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.A.G.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

*Statement of William B. Walker, company D,
Thirteenth Tennessee Cavalry.*

I hereby certify that I was at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, on the twelfth day of the present month, when it was attacked by the confederates. I saw nothing more than has probably been related by a dozen others, until about the time of the panic and the retreat down the bluff by both white and black Union troops. We were followed closely by the rebels, and shot down, after surrender, as fast as they could find us. One of the rebels, after I had given him up my money as he had ordered me, fired upon me twice, after I had surrendered, and while I begged for my life. One ball struck me in the left eye. The rebels had almost ceased firing upon us, when an officer came down and told them to "shoot the last damned one of us," and "not to take one prisoner." He said it was the order of the General, (I could not hear the name plainly, but I think it was Chalmers.) Then the slaughter of the prisoners was resumed. I saw some six white and ten colored soldiers thus shot, long after they had surrendered, and while the negroes were on their knees, begging to be spared.

his
WILLIAM B. X WALKER.
mark.

Witness: WILLIAM CLEARY,
Second Lieutenant Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Cavalry.

MOUND CITY, Illinois, April 23, A.D. 1864.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this twenty-fifth day of April, 1864, at Mound City, Illinois.

WILLIAM STANLEY,
Lieutenant and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

Statement of Jason Lonan, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Cavalry.

I do hereby certify that I was at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, on the twelfth (12th) of the present month, when it was attacked by the rebels under General A. B. Forrest. I was ordered into the Fort at the commencement of the engagement. We kept up a continual fire on both sides until about one o'clock P.M., when a flag of truce was sent in, and firing ceased. While the flag of truce was being considered, I saw the enemy plundering our evacuated quarters, and moving their forces up in large bodies, getting them in position. We had been driving them all the morning. They were at the same time placing their sharpshooters in the buildings we had occupied as barracks. The object of the flag of truce not having been agreed to, the firing again commenced. About one hour afterward the enemy charged on our works in overwhelming numbers, and the negro soldiers, being panic-stricken, dropped their arms, and ran down the bluff. The whites also, when they found there was to be no quarter shown, also ran down the bluff. The rebels ran after us, shooting all they came to, both black and white. I also certify

that I was myself shot after I had surrendered, and while I had my hands up, and was imploring them to show me mercy. They also shot Sergeant Gwaltney, of my company, while he was within ten feet of me, after he had given up his revolver, and while he had his hands up crying out for mercy. They took his own revolver and shot him with its contents twice through the head, killing him instantly. I also certify that I saw the rebels shoot, in all, six men who had surrendered, and who had their hands up asking quarter. I further certify that I saw the rebels come about on the ensuing morning, the thirteenth day of April, A.D. 1864, and despatch several of the colored soldiers of the Sixth United States heavy artillery, who had survived their wounds received on the previous day.

his
JASON X LONAN.
mark.

Witness: WILLIAM CLEARY,
Second Lieutenant Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Volunteer Cavalry.

MOUND CITY, Illinois, April 23, 1864.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this twenty-third day of April, 1864, at Mound City, Illinois.

WILLIAM STANLEY,
Lieutenant and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

Statement of Corporal William P. Dickey, company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Cavalry.

I do hereby certify that I was at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, on the twelfth day of April, A.D. 1864, when that place was attacked by the rebel General Forrest. I went into the Fort at the commencement of the action. We kept up a continuous fire upon both sides until about one o'clock P.M., when a flag of truce was sent in by the rebels, and while it was being considered, the firing was ordered to cease. I also certify that while this was going on, I plainly saw the enemy consolidating their forces and gaining positions they had been endeavoring to gain without success. At the same time their men were plundering our deserted camp, and stealing goods from the Quartermaster's dépôt, and from the stores of the merchants of the post. They also, at the same time, put their sharpshooters into our deserted barracks, whence they had fair view, and were in fair range of our little garrison. The firing recommenced after the flag of truce had retired. About one hour thereafter the rebels stormed our works. They had no sooner obtained the top of our walls when the negroes ran, and the whites, obtaining no quarter, ran after them. The rebels followed closely, shooting down all who came in the way, white and black. I also certify that I was myself shot by a rebel soldier after I had surrendered, and while I had my hands up begging for mercy. I also certify that I saw the rebels shoot down ten men, white soldiers, within ten paces of me, while they had their hands up supplicating quarter. I also certify that I saw twelve negro

soldiers killed long after they had surrendered. I also certify that I saw the rebels throw several negroes into the river while they were begging for life. One rebel came to me and took my percussion-caps, saying he had been killing negroes so fast that his own had been exhausted. He added that he was going to shoot some more. I also certify that I saw negroes thrown into the river by rebels, and shot afterward, while struggling for life.

his
WILLIAM P. X DICKEY.
mark.

Witness: WILLIAM CLEARY,
Second Lieutenant Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Vol. Cav.

MOUND CITY, April 22, A.D. 1864.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this twenty-third day of April, 1864, at Mound City, Illinois.

WILLIAM STANLEY,
Lieutenant and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

MOUND CITY, April 25, 1864.

Statement of Sergeant William A. Winn, Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Cavalry Volunteers.

I was in Fort Pillow on Tuesday, the twelfth of April, 1864, when the attack was made by General Forrest upon that place. At the firing of the first gun I hastened on board the gunboat, as I had been wounded some time before, and could not fight. The first thing I saw afterward was the rebel sharpshooters on the top of the hill, and ours at quartermaster's department, firing at each other, and the rebels were also firing at the gunboat. The next thing I saw was a flag of truce come in, which was in waiting some half an hour. This was about one o'clock P.M., and as soon as it started back, the enemy immediately started up the hill on the double-quick, not waiting for the flag of truce to return. As soon as they came close to the Fort, and had their sharpshooters distributed through our barracks, (which were just outside the Fort,) they opened fire upon the garrison, and then charged the works. Those troops which I saw came from the direction that the flag of truce did. I saw our men run down the bluff, the rebels after them, shooting them down as fast as they came up with them. I saw twelve or fifteen men shot down after they had surrendered, with their hands up begging for mercy. Next I saw them turn their cannon on us, (the boat,) and throw several shells at the boat, trying to sink her, but she steamed up the river, out of range, leaving behind us a scene of cold-blooded murder too cruel and barbarous for the human mind to express.

W. A. WINN.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this twenty-fifth day of April, 1864.

WILLIAM STANLEY,
Lieutenant and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.A.C.

MOUND CITY, April 18, 1864.

Statement of William F. Mays, Company B, Thirteenth Tennessee Cavalry.

I was at Fort Pillow on the twelfth of April, 1864, and engaged in the fight there. The pickets were driven in about six o'clock A.M., when skirmishers were thrown out to ascertain the position and number of the enemy. The contraband camp was then discovered to be on fire, and the firing of small arms was heard in the same direction. The skirmishing lasted about one hour, when our skirmishers were gradually drawn back toward the Fort on the bluff. They then attacked the Fort. Two assaults were made by them, and both repulsed. This was about eleven or twelve o'clock A.M., when a flag of truce was sent in, demanding a surrender. While the flag was being received and the firing suspended, the enemy were moving their forces into position, and occupied one position which they had been fighting to obtain all day, but had not been able to gain, except under the protection of a flag of truce. It was from this position they made their heaviest assault, it being impossible to bring our artillery to bear upon them.

Question. Do you believe they could have taken the Fort or that particular position, had they not done so under cover of the flag of truce?

Answer. I do not. They had been kept from it for six hours.

Question. What further took place? Go on with your statement.

Answer. In about five minutes after the disappearance of the flag of truce, a general assault was made upon our works from every direction. They were kept at bay for some time, when the negroes gave way upon the left, and ran down the bluff, leaving an opening through which the rebels entered, and immediately commenced an indiscriminate slaughter of both white and black. We all threw down our arms, and gave tokens of surrender, asking for quarter. (I was wounded in the right shoulder and muscle of the back, and knocked down before I threw down my gun.) But no quarter was given. Voices were heard upon all sides, crying: "Give them no quarter; kill them; kill them; it is General Forrest's orders." I saw four white men and at least twenty-five negroes shot while begging for mercy; and I saw one negro dragged from a hollow log within ten feet of where I lay, and as one rebel held him by the foot another shot him. These were all soldiers. There were also two negro women and three little children standing within twenty-five steps from me, when a rebel stepped up to them and said, "Yes, God damn you, you thought you were free, did you?" and shot them all. They all fell but one child, when he knocked it in the head with the breech of his gun. They then disappeared in the direction of the landing, following up the fugitives, firing at them wherever seen. They came back in about three quarters of an hour, shooting and robbing the dead of their money and clothes. I saw a man with a canteen upon him, and a pistol in his

hand. I ventured to ask him for a drink of water. He turned around, saying, "Yes, God damn you, I will give you a drink of water," and shot at my head three different times, covering my face up with dust, and then turned from me, no doubt thinking he had killed me, remarking, "God damn you, it's too late to pray now," then went on with his pilfering. I lay there until dark, feigning death, when a rebel officer came along, drawing his sabre, and ordered me to get up, threatening to run his sabre into me if I did not, saying I had to march ten miles that night. I succeeded in getting up, and got among a small squad he had already gathered up, but stole away from them during the night, and got among the dead, feigning death for fear of being murdered. The next morning the gunboat came up and commenced shelling them out, when I crawled out from among the dead, and with a piece of paper motioned to the boat; she came up, and I crawled on board.

his
WILLIAM F. + MAYR.
mark.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this twenty-seventh day of April, 1864.

WILLIAM STANLEY,
Lieutenant and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

A true copy.

C. B. SMITH,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

Official Statement of Facts connected with the Attack, Defence, and Surrender of the United States Military Post at Union City, Tennessee, on the twenty-fourth of March, 1864.

CAIRO, ILLINOIS, April 4, 1864.

On the twenty-third of March it was generally understood at the said post that at least a portion of the rebel General Forrest's command were advancing on us. At about eight o'clock P.M. of that day the advance of the enemy were seen and fired upon, near Jacksonville, six miles from Union City, by a small scouting-party sent in that direction from our post. This party reported the facts immediately to Colonel Hawkins, of the Seventh Tennessee cavalry, who was commander of the post.

The picket-guard was then doubled, and two or three companies were ordered to keep their horses saddled during the night.

I was notified at half-past four A.M. of the twenty-fourth of March to order my horses saddled. About five o'clock firing commenced all around the line of pickets. The main part of company B, Captain Martin, were abreast, and a part of company I, also, I think. The remaining force, about five hundred strong, were distributed around at the breastworks. The pickets were driven in, with a loss of two killed and several wounded. About half-past five A.M. a cavalry charge was made from the south side. It was repulsed with but little difficulty. The same were immediately dismounted and charged again, this time coming within twenty or thirty yards of the breastworks. They were repulsed

again, and with considerable loss this time. Immediately following this, another charge was made in front, from the north-west, and again repulsed. Immediately following this, the fourth charge, and last, was made from the north-east, which charge confronted my company, and were repulsed again with loss. This charge was made at about eight A.M. About this time the Colonel came to this part of the works; I remarked to him that it was my opinion the rebels were defeated in their first programme; that they would either leave the field or assemble and make a consolidated charge. Our troops were in fine spirits. Sharp-shooting lasted till half-past nine A.M., when an escort, with a flag of truce, approached my position. I sent notification to Colonel Hawkins of the approaching truce flag, and then advanced in person and halted the truce escort two hundred yards from the defences. Then Colonel Hawkins came; a document was handed him, the contents of which I know not. At this time the rebel troops were in full view, in the logs and stumps. The truce escort retired, and in twenty minutes after again came. I again halted them on the same ground as before, and remained with them during this interview. This time an order was handed to Colonel Hawkins, which I read. As near as I can remember, it read as follows:

HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE STATES FORCES, }
IN THE FIELD, March 24, 1864.

Commanding Officer United States Forces, at Union City, Tennessee:

SIR: I have your garrison completely surrounded, and demand an unconditional surrender of your forces. If you comply with the demand, you are promised the treatment due to prisoners of war, according to usages in civilized warfare. If you persist in a defence, you must take the consequences.

By order of

N. B. FORREST,
Major-General.

Then followed a council of our officers, in which a large majority violently opposed any capitulation whatever with the enemy. Notwithstanding this, the Colonel made a surrender at eleven A.M., which, to the best of my knowledge and belief, was unconditional. No artillery was seen or used. The surrendered troops were very indignant on hearing of the surrender. Only one man had been killed and two or three wounded inside of the works. It was generally believed to be a rebel defeat. Our troops, after grounding arms, were marched away on foot. The rebel troops were commanded by Colonel Duckworth, and as nearly as I could estimate them, there were eight hundred.

A list of prisoners was made on the twenty-sixth, at Trenton, which numbered four hundred and eighty-one, including ten of Hardy's men and a few of the Twenty-fourth Missouri infantry, who were doing provost duty.

T. P. GRAY,
Captain Company C, Seventh Tennessee Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS POST OF PADUCAH,
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, April 6, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report in relation to the late engagement with the rebel General Forrest. On the twenty-fifth instant my scouts came in at about twelve o'clock m., bringing no news of the enemy's whereabouts. I immediately ordered out others, and directed them to proceed on the Mayfield road. They had gone but three miles when they were met by Forrest's advance-guard, who fired upon them. They hurriedly fell back and gave the alarm, and in less than ten minutes after they reported, the enemy were driving in my pickets, who opened a skirmish-fire and fell back to Fort Anderson, according to previous instructions. I immediately ordered the little force under my command to double-quick to the Fort, which order was promptly obeyed; yet, before they could reach there, such was the impetuosity of the attack, that their rear was fired into by the enemy.

At two p.m. the enemy took position surrounding the Fort, and a sharp fight commenced, which in a few minutes became furious, and continued for about one hour, when it was announced that a flag of truce was approaching. I immediately ordered my men to cease firing, and sent out to meet the bearer, from whom I received the following demand for a surrender:

HEADQUARTERS FORREST'S CAVALRY CORPS,
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, March 26, 1864. }

COLONEL: Having a force amply sufficient to carry your works and reduce the place, and in order to avoid the unnecessary effusion of blood, I demand the surrender of the Fort and troops, with all public property. If you surrender, you shall be treated as prisoners of war; but if I have to storm your works, you may expect no quarter.

N. B. FORREST,

Major-General Commanding Confederate Troops.

Colonel HICKS,

Commanding Federal Forces at Paducah.

To which I replied as follows:

HEADQUARTERS POST OF PADUCAH,
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, March 26, 1864. }

I have this moment received yours of this instant, in which you demand the unconditional surrender of the forces under my command. I can answer that I have been placed here by my Government to defend this post, and in this, as well as all other orders from my superior, I feel it to be my duty as an honorable officer to obey. I must, therefore, respectfully decline surrendering as you may require.

Very respectfully,

S. G. HICKS,

Colonel Commanding Post.

Major-General N. B. FORREST,

Commanding Confederate Forces.

While the flag of truce was near the Fort, and during its pendency, the enemy were engaged in taking position and planting a battery. As soon as the answer was returned they moved forward, and our forces opened on them, and the fight became general. They attempted to storm our works, but were repulsed. They rallied and tried it again, and met the same fate. They

made a third effort, but were forced to abandon their design. It was in this last struggle that Brigadier A. P. General Thompson (confederate) was killed.

I now discovered, on examination, that my ammunition was growing short, and out of thirty thousand rounds, (the amount we commenced the fight with,) twenty-seven thousand had been already expended. In this emergency I ordered the remainder to be equally distributed; the men to fix their bayonets; to make good use of the ammunition they had, and, when that was exhausted, to receive the enemy on the point of the bayonet, feeling fully determined never to surrender while I had a man alive. When this order was repeated by the officers to their respective commands, it was received with loud shouts and cheers.

The enemy's sharp-shooters in the mean time got possession of the houses around and near the Fort, from which position they picked off some of my gunners, shooting nearly all of them in the head.

Toward dark the enemy took shelter behind houses, in rooms, and hollows, and kept up a scattering fire until half-past eleven o'clock, when it entirely ceased, and the rebel General withdrew his command out of the range of my guns, and went into camp for the night.

On the morning of the twenty-sixth the enemy again made a demonstration by surrounding the Fort in the distance. As soon as I discovered this, I ordered Major Barnes, of the Tenth Kentucky cavalry, to send out squads to burn all the houses within musket-range of the Fort, from which the sharp-shooters had annoyed us the day previous.

While the houses were burning General Forrest sent in a second flag of truce, with the following communication:

HEADQUARTERS FORREST'S CAVALRY CORPS,
NEAR PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, March 26, 1864. }

SIR: I understand you hold in your possession in the guard-house at Paducah a number of confederate soldiers as prisoners of war. I have in my possession about thirty-five or forty Federal soldiers who were captured here yesterday, and about five hundred who were captured at Union City. I propose to exchange man for man, according to rank, so far as you may hold confederate soldiers.

Respectfully,

N. B. FORREST,

Major-General Commanding Confederate Forces.

Colonel S. G. HICKS,

Commanding Federal Forces at Paducah, Ky.

In answer to which I sent the following:

HEADQUARTERS POST OF PADUCAH,
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY, March 26, 1864. }

SIR: I have no power to make the exchange. If I had, I would most cheerfully do it.

Very respectfully,

S. G. HICKS,

Colonel Fortieth Illinois Infantry, Commanding Post.

Major-General N. B. FORREST,

Commanding Confederate Forces.

With the above General Forrest sent a list of the names of the prisoners captured, (!) all of

whom, with one exception, were convalescents in the general hospital, and too feeble to get to the Fort.

The following troops composed my command during the fight:

Companies C, H, and K, One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois infantry, commanded by Major J. F. Chapman, one hundred and twenty men; Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry, Major Barnes commanding, two hundred and seventy-one men; First Kentucky heavy artillery, (colored,) two hundred and seventy-four men, commanded by Lieutenant R. D. Cunningham, of the Second Illinois artillery, making a total of six hundred and sixty-five men.

Opposed to this was the rebel force under the command of Generals Forrest, Buford, J. G. Harris, and A. P. Thompson, of six thousand five hundred men.

The casualties of my command were fourteen killed and forty-six wounded.

The enemy's loss, according to the most reliable information that I can obtain, was three hundred killed and from one thousand to one thousand two hundred wounded. His killed and wounded may be safely set down at one thousand five hundred.

General Forrest admitted, in conversation with some of his friends in this city, that in no engagement during the war had he been so badly cut up and crippled as at this place.

Our loss in government stores was inconsiderable. The Quartermaster's depot, a temporary wooden building, was burned, and in consequence thereof a small lot of quartermaster's property was lost. Our commissary stores, and most of our government horses, mules, wagons, etc., were saved.

In justice to the officers and soldiers under my command, allow me to say that they acted *well* their part, proving themselves worthy of the great cause in which they are engaged, and all deserving of the highest praise.

The three companies of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois were the only portion of my command that had ever been under fire before.

And here permit me to remark that I have been one of those men who never had much confidence in colored troops fighting, but those doubts are now all removed, for they fought as bravely as any troops in the Fort.

The gunboats Peosta, Captain Smith, and Paw Paw, Captain O'Neal, were present and rendered valuable aid in shelling the city and operating on the flank of the enemy as they surrounded the Fort.

A list of the names of the killed and wounded I will furnish hereafter.

Respectfully submitted.

S. G. HICKS,

Colonel Fortieth Illinois Infantry, Commanding Post.
Captain J. H. ODLIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE STATES,
BEFORE COLUMBUS, KENTUCKY, April 13, 1864. }
Fully capable of taking Columbus and its gar-

rison by force, I desire to avoid the shedding of blood, and therefore demand the unconditional surrender of the forces under your command. Should you surrender, the negroes now in arms will be returned to their masters. Should I, however, be compelled to take the place, no quarter will be shown to the negro troops whatever; the white troops will be treated as prisoners of war. I am, sir, yours,

A. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General

The COMMANDING OFFICER,
United States Forces, Columbus, Kentucky.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE POST,
COLUMBUS, KENTUCKY, April 13, 1864. }

GENERAL: Your communication of this date to hand. In reply, I would state that, being placed by my Government with adequate force to hold and repel all enemies from my post, surrender is out of the question.

I am, General, very respectfully,

WM. HUDSON LAWRENCE,
Col. Thirty-Fourth New-Jersey Vols., Commanding Post.
Brigadier-General A. BUFORD,
Commanding Confederate Forces before Columbus, Ky.

The following affidavit was furnished, at the request of the Committee, by General W. S. Rosecrans, from St. Louis:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
SAINT LOUIS, April 26, 1864. }

Respectfully forwarded to Hon. B. F. Wade, Cairo, Illinois, Chairman Congressional Committee on Conduct of the War.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General Commanding.
By O. D. GREEN, A. A. G.,
Absence of General.

Statement of Edward B. Benton, upon oath, relative to the Massacre by the Confederate Troops under General Forrest, at Fort Pillow, Tennessee.

I was born in Waltham, Vermont.

Question. Where have you resided last?

Answer. I was in Missouri engaged in furnishing beef to the Government troops on the North-Missouri Railroad until a year ago last July. I then went down to Fort Pillow, and have been there ever since.

Question. What was your business there?

Answer. I owned two hundred and fifteen acres of the Fort, bordering on the river, and the very land we fought on. I was putting in one hundred acres of cotton just outside the fortifications, which was my principal business.

Question. You lived outside the Fort?

Answer. Yes, sir—slept there. I was in the Fort every day; it was only about a mile from the landing—not a mile from the fortifications.

Question. Just say when you saw Forrest's men; the day and the time of day, and what you did?

Answer. On Tuesday morning, the twelfth of this month, I was awakened about five o'clock, or half-past five, by a little darkey boy, who came up to my room and says: "O Mr. Ben-

ton! all of Forrest's men have come, and they are just going into the Fort. What will I do?" I got out of bed and looked out of the window toward the Fort, and saw about three or four hundred of Forrest's men drawn up in line, and some one was making a speech to them, which was answered by cheering. They cheered, and then the pickets fired. I put some things in my valise and started for the Fort in a roundabout way, and got in, by running the pickets, about six o'clock, and went immediately to Major Booth and asked for a gun, and took my stand with the soldiers inside the breastworks, where I remained and shot at every person of Forrest's men that I could get a chance at, firing forty-eight shots in all, until the flag of truce was sent in.

Question. About what was the time of day it came in?

Answer. It came in about two o'clock, I should think—half-past one or two o'clock in the afternoon.

Question. Had they made any attack then?

Answer. Oh! yes, sir.

Question. Had they tried to carry the Fort by storm and been repulsed?

Answer. At one time the confederate troops had all disappeared.

Question. Were four hundred all there were there?

Answer. Those were all I saw there. This was when they first made their appearance when I first saw these four hundred. After getting into the Fort we saw more than a thousand coming in at the different passes, and the sharpshooters were stationed on every hill on every side of us except the river side.

Question. Do you recollect how many attacks they made to carry the Fort before the flag of truce came?

Answer. It is not proper to call their fighting but one attack upon the Fort, although they all, or nearly all, seemed to be driven outside the outside works at one time, and soon came back fighting harder and in greater force than before.

Question. Did they use artillery?

Answer. Yes, sir. They did not hurt us with that; they shot at the gunboats.

Question. When the flag of truce came in, did they make any disposition of their troops around the Fort there?

Answer. Yes, sir; after the flag of truce was sent in and the firing ceased they came up on all sides to within ten yards of the very embankments that screened us.

Question. While the flag of truce was waiting?

Answer. Yes, sir; more especially on the northern side, just under the bank looking toward Coal Creek.

Question. How long was that flag inside of our lines?

Answer. One hour was the time. I suppose it was all of an hour.

Question. Do you know the nature of it?

Answer. It was for an unconditional surrender.

Question. It was refused by Major Booth?

Answer. By Major Bradford, yes, sir. Major Booth had been killed. He asked for time to consult with the gunboat, and finally returned the answer that there was none of Hawkins's men there, and he never would surrender.

Question. Did not Major Bradford make any protest against troops coming up under the flag in that way?

Answer. I don't know, sir.

Question. When the flag went back did they commence firing again?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Kept it up for how long?

Answer. They commenced firing again, but the firing didn't last fifteen minutes. Up to this time there had not been twenty killed on our side.

Question. What was the strength of the garrison?

Answer. Five hundred and eighty, I think, just.

Question. How many of these were negroes?

Answer. About three hundred and eighty—nearly four hundred—I don't know exactly to a man.

Question. How many citizens beside yourself?

Answer. William W. Cutler, of Chicago, and a young man by the name of Robinson; he was a soldier but in citizen's clothes, and got off on that plea.

Question. The second flag that came in—about how long was it after the first?

Answer. Well, there was no second flag of truce, except the one. There was no firing in the interim.

Question. Was there no firing while the first was in?

Answer. No, sir, not a single shot fired on either side. After the flag of truce had been rejected, or the surrender had been rejected, they were so close to the Fort that about three thousand of them just sprang right in, and the whole garrison threw down their arms at once. The bigger portion of the darkeys jumped down the bank toward the Mississippi River, without any arms at all, and were followed by Forrest's men and shot indiscriminately, black and white, with handkerchiefs held over them in a great number of instances—as many as fifty I should think.

Question. Did you see any of those prisoners formed in line and shot down?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How many?

Answer. They were collected at least four different times.

Question. How long a line?

Answer. Well, it was more in a collection than it was properly in a straight line. There was a line probably as long as this room, or longer—about thirty or thirty-five feet.

Question. These lines were scattered by rebel shots several times?

A. They were.

Question. These men were unarmed?

Answer. Unarmed; no arms of any description, and they holding up both hands begging for quarter.

Question. Were you put in the line?

Answer. No, sir; I was not. It was attempted to put me in line, but I clung to a man who tried to shoot me, but I caught his gun and prevented him, and he took my money from me, some seventy dollars, and ordered me into line, raising his gun to strike me; and as I came to the line the captain made a feint to strike me with his sword, and told me to give him my pocket-book, which I did, and as he turned to look after others, I sprang away and clung close to this man that had just taken my money. I said to him that he had taken all my money, and he must keep me from being shot like a dog, as I was a citizen, and had nothing to do with the fight. He abused me in every way by bad language, saying that we had fought them like devils, and tried to kill all of Forrest's men, until we came to the back of the stores, where he gave me a soldier's coat and told me to wait a moment until he could step in and steal his share. As soon as I was left I took some clothing, a saddle-blanket, and halter that were there, and started out of the Fort as one of Forrest's men, but on the way I saw three persons shot—mulattoes and blacks—shot down singly in cold blood. I succeeded in getting over the fortifications and hid under fallen timber, where I remained until dark. After dark I attempted to go toward Hatchie River bottom, but the fallen timber being so bad I got lost, and wandered near the Pass No. 2, leading out of the Fort, inside of it, where I could see all, where I laid until the next day about two o'clock. I heard fifty-one or fifty-two shots fired singly at different times within the Fort during that time, and screams and cheers. About two o'clock the dogs were getting so close to me that I knew they were on my track.

Question. What do you mean by the dogs?

Answer. Hunting out people everywhere. They have dogs.

Question. They had bloodhounds?

Answer. Yes, sir. I left the most of my clothing and hastened down a ravine in the timber, and kept on through the ravines till I came to the Coal Creek bottom, some mile and a half, and swam across. Finally, I succeeded in getting to the island. I had to swim across the river and a bayou. That is all that I saw. Oh! I was there at the Fort two days after the battle and saw the remains of burned persons; helped to bury one of the dead that I saw shot in cold blood lying right where he was left, and saw many of them, white and black, all buried together, and a number three days afterward, not buried.

Question. How many did you see shot in this way?

Answer. I should think probably about two hundred.

Question. It was an indiscriminate butchery, was it?

Answer. Yes, sir. There were about fifteen

or twenty that lay close in one pile, huddling together, shot after they were wounded.

Question. Some white soldiers shot after they were wounded?

Answer. Yes, sir, with the hospital flag flying, and they holding white handkerchiefs over their heads. I saw at least ten soldiers shot individually with white handkerchiefs over their heads. They tore off pieces of their shirts—any thing they could get—for flags of truce and to denote surrender.

Question. You say these men were shot down in hospital, with hospital flag flying?

Answer. Yes, sir, lying right down under it—not up walking at all. Every man lying near me was killed—lying close to me and on me. Two lay over me, because they kept piling themselves right up on top close under the bank. It was just down under the brow of the hill. A great many were lying in the water and were shot. Trees that were lying one end in the water and the other on shore, they would just go over on the other side of them and hide in the water, and the rebels would go over and shoot them.

Question. Your citizen's clothes saved you?

Answer. Yes, sir; I told them I had nothing to do with them. They robbed every citizen, taking off most of their clothing.

Question. How much did they take from you?

Answer. Seventy dollars.

Question. You say you were robbed twice?

Answer. Yes, once by the captain of the company, and once by the private. I carry my money in my vest-pocket always, and had my pocket-book in my pocket with notes in it.

Question. That was what you gave to the captain, wasn't it?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. And the seventy dollars in money to the soldier?

Answer. Yes, sir. He asked, "Give me your money," and the other for the pocket-book.

Question. You say they had bloodhounds; did you see any of them?

Answer. Yes, sir; and not only I but others saw them. One other, Mr. Jones, was treed by them, and staid there a long time.

Question. What Jones was that?

Answer. I don't know his given name. He lives on Island 34. I can find out his name. He is not any too good a Union man, but is rather Southern in his feelings.

Question. State about Bradford's death—when he was shot. What was done? Was he wounded before the surrender?

Answer. No, sir; but it was reported by very reliable persons that Bradford was shot and hung near Covington, in Hatchie River bottom.

Question. Who told you this?

Answer. This same Jones; and there were some darkeys came into the gunboat and said that. Darkey evidence is very correct there. You might not think it worth while to take their evidence, but it is a great deal more to be relied upon than the Southern evidence there. I might state that I was inquired after by a large number

of officers, and it was said they would hang me on a flag-pole.

Question. What for?

Answer. From the fact that I employed Government darkeys from Colonel Phillips, at Memphis.

Question. On your plantation?

Answer. Yes, sir. And, they shot all my horses unfit for cavalry.

Question. Did they shoot your darkeys?

Answer. I understand they did, and burned them all. I understand they took one yellow woman, and two or three boys escaped that I tried to take to the Fort with me in the morning to help fight. The balance, a darkey whose name I don't know, said they were killed and burned in the house.

Question. You did not go back there, then?

Answer. I did not go back there. That is only what is told me. It was told me by persons who were hid right near, and I saw persons bury the bodies after they were burned.

Question. Where?

Answer. In the Fort, sir—burned in the house.

Question. In connection with the Fort buildings?

Answer. Yes, sir, and out on timber. There was a large number of them burned in the buildings, but they had been buried the day before.

Question. You say there were five hundred and eighty men, you think, in the Fort?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How many do you suppose escaped?

Answer. Well, I know there were not more than one hundred as they marched out there surrounded by the other troops, and I would not think there were fifty of them. There were five darkeys in Cairo hospitals who were buried alive. Two of them have died since they got there.

Question. Did you see any of these men buried alive?

Answer. No, I did not; but they are facts that can easily be proved by the darkeys—the darkeys themselves—and those who saw it done, and saw the Quartermaster burned, too.

EDWARD B. BENTON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this twenty-second April, 1864.

ISAAC J. DODGE,
Lieutenant and Assist. Paymaster-General,
Department of Missouri.

In consequence of some portions of the evidence of General Brayman and Colonel Lawrence, which, unexplained, might impeach the good conduct of General Shepley, Mr. Gooch, of the sub-committee, telegraphed to General Shepley, giving him the substance of the testimony relating to himself, and asking him to forward to the committee any explanation he might deem necessary in writing. The following communication was received from General Shepley, and the testimony of Captain Thornton, an officer of his staff, was taken. The sub-committee deemed the explanation therein contained to be entirely satisfactory, and directed that the following communication and testimony be incorporated with the testimony in relation to Fort Pillow.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, May 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor respectfully to forward by Captain C. C. G. Thornton, Twelfth Maine volunteers, now acting on my staff, a statement in reply to the communication I had the honor to receive by telegraph.

Captain Thornton was on the Olive Branch, and is subject to examination by the committee.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

Hon. D. W. GOOCH,
Of Committee on Conduct of the War.

HEADQUARTERS NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, May 7, 1864.

SIR: At my own request, having been relieved from duty as Military Governor of Louisiana, and ordered to report for duty to the Commanding General of the army, I left New-Orleans on the evening of the sixth of April, as a passenger in the Olive Branch, a New-Orleans and St. Louis passenger steamer *not in the service of the Government*, but loaded with male and female passengers and cargo of private parties. The steamer was unarmed, and had no troops and no muskets for protection against guerrillas when landing at wood-yards and other places.

The boat stopped at Vicksburgh, and I went ashore. When I returned to the boat as she was about leaving, I found that a detachment of a portion of the men of two batteries—one Ohio and one Missouri—belonging to the Seventeenth army corps, with the horses, guns, caissons, wagons, tents, and baggage of the two batteries, had been put on board, with orders, as I afterward learned on inquiring, to report to General Brayman, at Cairo.

The horses occupied all the available space, fore and aft, on the sides of the boilers and machinery, which were on deck. The guns, caissons, baggage-wagons, tents, garrison and camp equipage, were piled up together on the bows, leaving only space for the gang-plank.

The men had no small arms, so that when the boat landed, as happened in one instance at a wood-yard where guerrillas had just passed, the pickets thrown out to prevent surprise were necessarily unarmed.

As the boat was approaching, and before it was in sight of Fort Pillow, some females hailed it from the shore, and said the rebels had attacked Fort Pillow, and captured two boats on the river, and would take us if we went on.

The captain of the Olive Branch said they had probably taken the Mollie Able, which was due there about that time from St. Louis.

He turned his boat, saying he would go back to Memphis.

I objected to going back; stopped the boat below the next point; hailed another smaller steamer without passengers which I saw approaching, and ordered it alongside. I ordered the captain of this boat to cast off the coal-barges he had in tow, and take me on board with a section of a battery to go to Fort Pillow.

While he was trying to disencumber his boat

of the coal-barges, another boat, better for the purpose, (The Cheek,) hove in sight. Finding I could get her ready quicker than the other, I had her brought alongside, and went aboard myself with Captain Thornton, of my staff, and Captain Williams, the ranking officer of the batteries.

Before we could get the guns on board, a steamer with troops hove in sight, coming down the river from Fort Pillow.

We could not distinguish at first whether they were Union or rebel soldiers.

I asked Captain Pegram, of the Olive Branch, if the story of the women turned out to be true, and the rebels had the steamer, could his boat sink her. Captain Pegram replied: "Yes, my boat can run right over her." I ordered him to swing out into the stream to be ready for her. When she approached, we saw *United States infantry soldiers on board that had just passed the Fort.* She kept on going rapidly down with the current, only hailing the Olive Branch: "*All right up there; you can go by. The gunboat is lying off the Fort.*"

This steamer was the Liberty. We then proceeded up the river in the Olive Branch. Near Fort Pillow some stragglers or guerrillas fired from the shore with musketry, aiming at the pilot-house.

I was then in the pilot-house, and, as we kept on, I observed that one of the two other boats I have mentioned, which followed us at some distance, was compelled to put back. The Olive Branch kept on to report to the gunboat on the station.

An officer came off from the gunboat, in a small boat, and said he did not want any boat to stop; ordered us to go on to Cairo, and tell Captain (name not recollected) to send him immediately four hundred (400) rounds of ammunition. There was no firing at the Fort at this time.

The Union flag was flying, and after we had passed the Fort we could see a "flag of truce" outside the fortifications.

No signal of any kind was made to the boat from the Fort, or from the shore.

No intimation was given us from the gunboat, which had the right to order a steamer of this description, other than the order to proceed to Cairo, to send down the ammunition.

From the fact that the Liberty had just passed down the river from the Fort with troops on board; from her hailing us to go by, and continuing her course down the river without stopping; that no signal was made the Olive Branch from the Fort on the shore, and no attack was being made on the Fort at the time; that the officer of the gunboat said he did not want any boats to stop, and ordered the captain of the Olive Branch to go on, and have ammunition sent down to him by first boat, I considered and now consider that the captain of the Olive Branch was not only justified in going on, but bound to proceed.

The Olive Branch was incapable of rendering any assistance, being entirely defenceless. If any guns could have been placed in position on the

boat, they could not have been elevated to reach sharp-shooters on the high steep bluff outside the Fort.

A very few sharp-shooters from the shore near the Fort could have prevented any landing, and have taken the boat. We supposed the object of the rebels was rather to seize a boat, to effect a crossing into Arkansas, than to capture the Fort. We had no means of knowing or suspecting that so strong a position as Fort Pillow had not been properly garrisoned for defence, when it was in constant communication with General Hurlbut at Memphis.

The Olive Branch had just left Memphis, General Hurlbut's headquarters, where it had been during the previous night. If it had not been for the appearance of the Liberty, I should have attempted a landing at Fort Pillow in the small steamer. If any intimation had been given from the gunboat or the shore, I should have landed personally from the Olive Branch. The order given to the contrary prevented it.

Coming from New-Orleans, and having no knowledge of affairs in that military district, I could not presume that a fort, with uninterrupted water communication above and below, could possibly be without a garrison strong enough to hold it for a few hours.

I write hastily, and omit, from want of time, to state subsequent occurrences at Fort Columbus and Cairo, except to say that, at Fort Columbus, in front of which Buford then was demanding a surrender, I stopped, started to ride out to the lines, met Colonel Lawrence, the commanding officer, coming in from the front of his headquarters. Offered to remain, with the men on board.

Colonel Lawrence said he was in good condition to stand any attack; could communicate with General Brayman; had already taken four hundred (400) infantry and one battery from the L. M. Kennett, which had just preceded us, and left six hundred (600) men, and another, or other batteries, on board, which he did not need. He declined the proffered assistance as not needed, and immediately on arrival at Cairo I reported all the information in my possession to General Brayman, in command, who was about leaving for Columbus.

Captain Thornton, Twelfth Maine volunteers, a gallant officer, distinguished for his bravery at Ponchitoula, where he was wounded and left in the hands of the enemy, was on board the Olive Branch, and will take this communication to the committee.

I respectfully ask that he may be thoroughly examined as to all the circumstances.

I am conscious that a full examination will show that I rather exceeded than neglected my duty.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

Hon. D. W. GOOCH,
Of Committee on Conduct of the War

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 9, 1864.

Captain Charles C. G. Thornton, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your rank and position in the army?

Answer. I am a Captain, and aid on General George F. Shepley's staff.

Question. Were you with General Shepley when he passed Fort Pillow, about the time of the capture of that place?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you state what occurred there, and the reason, if any, why you did not stop there to aid the garrison?

Answer. We were passengers on the boat Olive Branch, which left New-Orleans on the sixth of April, without troops. On arriving at Vicksburg, parts of two batteries—a Missouri and an Ohio battery—were put on board. I do not know the exact number of men, but I should think that perhaps there were one hundred and twenty men with the two batteries. The men had no small-arms whatever—no arms but the guns of their batteries. We stopped at a place to take in wood, where we were told the guerrillas had just passed, and we threw out pickets to keep from being surprised. We were unable to arm those men with any thing whatever, and merely stationed them so that we should not be surprised, but have an opportunity of getting on board the boat and leave. Upon arriving within three miles—perhaps two and a half miles—of Fort Pillow, some women on shore hailed us and told us that Fort Pillow was captured with two transports or steamers, and motioned to us to return. The captain of the boat turned about for the purpose of returning to Memphis, but General Shepley stopped it. Colonel Sears, the owner of the boat, who was on board, came to me and asked me to go to General Shepley and tell him the importance of our going back to Memphis; that it was dangerous for us to proceed with so many passengers. The boat was a very large one, loaded with passengers, every state-room being occupied by men, women, and children.

Question. How many passengers, non-combatants, do you suppose you had on board?

Answer. Perhaps one hundred and fifty, but that is a mere guess. When Colonel Sears urged me to ask General Shepley to go back to Memphis, I told him I should do nothing of the kind; that if he wished General Shepley to allow the boat to go back, he might see him about it himself. He did so, but General Shepley positively refused to go. He ordered the captain of the Olive Branch to hail a boat which came in sight, and direct her to come alongside. General Shepley then said: "I will have a section of the battery put on this boat, and will go up and reconnoitre." The boat was called the Hope, I think. There is a point just below where the rebels, if they had a battery, might bring it to bear on us. General Shepley consented to have the Hope go below that point with the boat we were on, in order to have this section of a battery put on board of her. On

our way down we met another boat, the Cheek, which would answer our purpose better, and she was stopped. General Shepley ordered a section of a battery put on board of her, and directed Captain Williams, commanding the battery, and myself, to accompany him up to Fort Pillow to reconnoitre. I suggested to General Shepley, or was on the point of suggesting to him, that perhaps he had better not go himself, but send Captain Williams and myself. The instant I suggested that, he said: "No, I will go myself, and personally ascertain the condition of affairs." He asked the captain how many minutes it would take him to get his guns on board. He said he could probably get a couple of guns on in a few minutes.

Just then a steamer, which afterward proved to be the steamer Liberty hove in sight. We supposed at first that she was the Mollie Able, which the captain of our boat said was due at Fort Pillow just about that time, and that she was one of the boats the rebels had captured, if the story of the women was true. When we saw her coming we noticed that she was loaded with troops; whether Union or rebel troops we could not tell. The General said to our captain: "Can you run that boat down?" He said: "If it is the Mollie Able, I can run right over her." When she hove in sight we saw at once that there was no time to put a battery on board the Cheek; General Shepley then ordered the Cheek to move out of the way, and the captain of our boat to swing out, with the intention of running this other boat down if she should prove to be loaded with rebel soldiers. When the boat got nearer, however, we found she had Union troops on board. As she passed us our captain hailed her, and she replied: "All right up there; you can go by. There is a gunboat there." We were then satisfied that every thing was all right, as she had been allowed to come down by them with so large a body of troops on board.

We went up, and when within perhaps a mile of the place some rebel soldiers fired upon our boat, probably aiming at the pilot-house. I stood on the after-part of the deck at the time. The General was in the pilot-house looking out. The shots did not take effect or amount to any thing. We went on up, and found no firing at the Fort. We stopped at the gunboat, as all boats are required to do which pass. An officer came on board from the gunboat and said to the captain of our boat: "I want you to proceed immediately to Cairo, and send down four hundred or five hundred rounds of ammunition; and order all boats back that may be coming down; we want no boats here." We talked the matter over, and came to the conclusion that the object of this Fort Pillow affair was not to capture the Fort, but to capture more of our boats, if possible, in order to get across the river. That was merely our supposition, as we knew nothing about the battle. There was no firing at the Fort at that time, and our boat went on up the river in obedience to the orders of the gunboat, as it had a right to give that order.

We had proceeded but a little way before we discovered a flag of truce at the Fort, as it was reported to me; I did not see it myself, but it undoubtedly was there. We passed on a short distance further, and then noticed that our flag at the Fort was down; we had seen it flying as we passed the Fort. I went to the stern of our boat, and with a glass looked carefully at the Fort. After a time I discovered that the gunboat had steamed up a little ways, as I supposed for the purpose of firing upon the right flank of the rebels. We could see a line of fire or smoke in the woods, which we supposed to be from the musketry of the rebels. We then saw a flag raised up on a pole at the Fort, I should think ten or twelve feet high. I supposed that our flag had been shot away, and they were raising it again. The guns from the Fort at that time were pretty heavy, while the fire of the enemy appeared to be from musketry. I have no doubt now that that was the rebel flag that was raised after the Fort was taken.

We proceeded on up to Columbus. Before we arrived there we noticed that there was heavy firing there. On our arrival there we saw a great many troops, and they remarked from the shore that there was hot work there. General Shepley told me to accompany him, and went up to Colonel Lawrence's headquarters, but was told he was at the front. General Shepley ordered two horses to be prepared for us to go to the front, to see Colonel Lawrence. Just as the horses were ready, and we were about starting, Colonel Lawrence came over and rode down to his headquarters. He told us that it was all right; that there had been some skirmishing; that Buford had come there and demanded a surrender of the Fort, but he had refused to surrender. General Shepley told him that he had portions of two batteries on hand, and asked him if he wanted them; told him how they came there, and that they were ordered to Cairo as a portion of the Seventeenth corps. Colonel Lawrence said that he had taken four hundred troops from the Luther M. Kennett, and, I think, one battery. The Luther M. Kennett had just preceded us as we passed by Fort Pillow. Colonel Lawrence said that he did not need the batteries of General Shepley. General Shepley inquired particularly about the condition of affairs, and told Colonel Lawrence what had occurred at Fort Pillow. After ascertaining that there was nothing to be done by us down there we proceeded to Cairo. On our arrival there General Shepley called upon General Brayman and told him the substance of what occurred; the condition of things as we left, the flag coming down, and the fear that the Fort had surrendered. We did not know then that the Fort had surrendered, though we know now it had.

The caissons and artillery had been hoisted on our boat by means of what they call a derrick, I think, and were piled up, closely packed all round. It would, therefore, have been impossible for us to have removed those cannon for several hours. It took us several hours to land them at Cairo; and it would have been an utter

impossibility for us to have taken those cannon up to Fort Pillow, as we had no infantry to cover our landing; and half a dozen sharpshooters could have undoubtedly captured our boat had we attempted it.

Question. If I understand you, General Shepley had no opportunity to relieve Fort Pillow any way?

Answer. He went on board the boat a mere passenger, with no arms. We did not know any troops were coming on board. Those two portions of batteries, with their guns, were ordered to report at Cairo. The gunboat was lying right by the side of us, and its fire was of no account, and, of course, ours would not have been.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Would it have been possible for you to have used your batteries from the boat with any effect upon the rebels?

Answer. No, sir; it would have been an utter impossibility to have done so. If we had gone in and stopped five minutes there, the rebels could have captured us without the least trouble in the world. The question may be asked why we offered assistance at Columbus and not at Fort Pillow. The fort at Columbus is clear in back from the river, and there were infantry troops there to protect our landing. But Colonel Lawrence said he did not expect the fight to occur for some time, even if there was any fight at all, which he did not expect.

Question. At Columbus you could have landed your batteries under the protection of your forces there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. And you could not have done that at Fort Pillow?

Answer. No, sir; for at Fort Pillow we should have been right under the Fort, and could have been easily reached. This was all stated to General Brayman, and I was quite surprised when I heard of the testimony in regard to the matter.

Doc. 2.

THE RETURNED PRISONERS.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

May 9, 1864. Mr. Wade submitted the following Report. The Joint Committee on the Conduct and Expenditures of the War submitted the following Report, with the accompanying Testimony.

On the fourth instant your Committee received a communication of that date from the Secretary of War, inclosing the report of Colonel Hoffman, Commissary General of prisoners, dated May third, calling the attention of the Committee to the condition of returned Union prisoners, with the request that the Committee would immediately proceed to Annapolis and examine with their own eyes the condition of those who have been returned from rebel captivity. The Committee resolved that they would comply

with the request of the Secretary of War on the first opportunity. The fifth of May was devoted by the Committee to concluding their labors upon the investigation of the Fort Pillow massacre. On the sixth of May, however, the Committee proceeded to Annapolis and Baltimore, and examined the condition of our returned soldiers, and took the testimony of several of them, together with the testimony of surgeons and other persons in attendance upon the hospitals. That testimony, with the communication of the Secretary of War, and the report of Colonel Hoffman, is herewith transmitted.

The evidence proves, beyond all manner of doubt, a determination on the part of the rebel authorities, deliberately and persistently practised for a long time past, to subject those of our soldiers who have been so unfortunate as to fall in their hands to a system of treatment which has resulted in reducing many of those who have survived and been permitted to return to us to a condition, both physically and mentally, which no language we can use can adequately describe. Though nearly all the patients now in the Naval Academy Hospital at Annapolis, and in the West Hospital in Baltimore, have been under the kindest and most intelligent treatment for about three weeks past, and many of them for a greater length of time, still they present literally the appearance of living skeletons, many of them being nothing but skin and bone; some of them are maimed for life, having been frozen while exposed to the inclemency of the winter season on Belle Isle, being compelled to lie on the bare ground, without tents or blankets, some of them without overcoats or even coats, with but little fire to mitigate the severity of the winds and storms to which they were exposed.

The testimony shows that the general practice of their captors was to rob them, as soon as they were taken prisoners, of all their money, valuables, blankets, and good clothing, for which they received nothing in exchange except, perhaps, some old worn-out rebel clothing hardly better than none at all. Upon their arrival at Richmond they have been confined, without blankets or other covering, in buildings without fire, or upon Belle Isle, with, in many cases, no shelter, and in others with nothing but old discarded army tents, so injured by rents and holes as to present but little barrier to the wind and storms. On several occasions, the witnesses say, they have arisen in the morning from their resting-places upon the bare earth, and found several of their comrades frozen to death during the night, and that many others would have met the same fate had they not walked rapidly back and forth, during the hours which should have been devoted to sleep, for the purpose of retaining sufficient warmth to preserve life.

In respect to the food furnished to our men by the rebel authorities, the testimony proves that the ration of each man was totally insufficient in quantity to preserve the health of a child, even had it been of proper quality, which it was not. It consisted usually, at the most, of two

small pieces of corn-bread, made in many instances, as the witnesses state, of corn and cobs ground together, and badly prepared and cooked; of, at times, about two ounces of meat, usually of poor quality, and unfit to be eaten; and occasionally a few black, worm-eaten beans, or something of that kind. Many of our men were compelled to sell to their guards, and others, for what price they could get, such clothing and blankets as they were permitted to receive of that forwarded for their use by our Government, in order to obtain additional food sufficient to sustain life; thus, by endeavoring to avoid one privation, reducing themselves to the same destitute condition in respect to clothing and covering that they were in before they received any from our Government. When they became sick and diseased in consequence of this exposure and privation, and were admitted into the hospitals, their treatment was little, if any, improved as to food, though they doubtless suffered less from exposure to cold than before. Their food still remained insufficient in quantity and altogether unfit in quality. Their diseases and wounds did not receive the treatment which the commonest dictates of humanity would have prompted. One witness, whom your Committee examined, who had lost all the toes of one foot from being frozen while on Belle Isle, states that for days at a time his wounds were not dressed, and that they had not been dressed for four days when he was taken from the hospital and carried on the flag-of-truce boat for Fortress Monroe.

In reference to the condition to which our men were reduced by cold and hunger, your Committee would call the attention to the following extracts from the testimony.

One witness testifies:

I had no blankets until our Government sent us some.

Question. How did you sleep before you received those blankets?

Answer. We used to get together just as close as we could, and sleep spoon-fashion, so that when one turned over we all had to turn over.

Another witness testifies:

Question. Were you hungry all the time?

Answer. Hungry! I could eat any thing in the world that came before us; some of the boys would get boxes from the North with meat of different kinds in them; and, after they had picked the meat off, they would throw the bones away into the spit-boxes, and we would pick the bones out of the spit-boxes and gnaw them over again.

In addition to this insufficient supply of food, clothing, and shelter, our soldiers, while prisoners, have been subjected to the most cruel treatment from those placed over them. They have been abused and shamefully treated on almost every opportunity. Many have been mercilessly shot and killed when they failed to comply with all the demands of their jailers, sometimes for violating rules of which they had not been informed. Crowded in great numbers in buildings, they have been fired at and killed by the

sentinels outside when they appeared at the windows for the purpose of obtaining a little fresh air. One man, whose comrade in the service, in battle and in captivity, had been so fortunate as to be among those released from further torments, was shot dead as he was waving with his hand a last adieu to his friend; and other instances of equally unprovoked murder are disclosed by the testimony.

The condition of our returned soldiers as regards personal cleanliness, has been filthy almost beyond description. Their clothes have been so dirty and so covered with vermin, that those who received them have been compelled to destroy their clothing and re-clothe them with new and clean raiment. Their bodies and heads have been so infested with vermin that, in some instances, repeated washings have failed to remove them; and those who have received them in charge have been compelled to cut all the hair from their heads, and make applications to destroy the vermin. Some have been received with no clothing but shirts and drawers and a piece of blanket or other outside covering, entirely destitute of coats, hats, shoes or stockings; and the bodies of those better supplied with clothing have been equally dirty and filthy with the others, many who have been sick and in the hospital having had no opportunity to wash their bodies for weeks and months before they were released from captivity.

Your Committee are unable to convey any adequate idea of the sad and deplorable condition of the men they saw in the hospitals they visited; and the testimony they have taken cannot convey to the reader the impressions which your Committee there received. The persons we saw, as we were assured by those in charge of them, have greatly improved since they have been received in the hospitals. Yet they are now dying daily, one of them being in the very throes of death as your Committee stood by his bedside and witnessed the sad spectacle there presented. All those whom your Committee examined stated that they have been thus reduced and emaciated entirely in consequence of the merciless treatment they received while prisoners from their enemies; and the physicians in charge of them, the men best fitted by their profession and experience to express an opinion upon the subject, all say that they have no doubt that the statements of their patients are entirely correct.

It will be observed from the testimony, that all the witnesses who testify upon that point state that the treatment they received while confined at Columbia, South-Carolina, Dalton, Georgia, and other places, was far more humane than that they received at Richmond, where the authorities of the so-called Confederacy were congregated, and where the power existed, had the inclination not been wanting, to reform those abuses and secure to the prisoners they held some treatment that would bear a public comparison to that accorded by our authorities to the prisoners in our custody. Your Committee, therefore, are constrained to say that they can hardly avoid the

conclusion, expressed by so many of our released soldiers, that the inhuman practices herein referred to are the result of a determination on the part of the rebel authorities to reduce our soldiers in their power, by privation of food and clothing, and by exposure, to such a condition that those who may survive shall never recover so as to be able to render any effective service in the field. And your Committee accordingly ask that this report, with the accompanying testimony, be printed with the report and testimony in relation to the massacre of Fort Pillow, the one being, in their opinion, no less than the other, the result of a predetermined policy. As regards the assertions of some of the rebel newspapers, that our prisoners have received at their hands the same treatment that their own soldiers in the field have received, they are evidently but the most glaring and unblushing falsehoods. No one can for a moment be deceived by such statements, who will reflect that our soldiers, who, when taken prisoners, have been stout, healthy men, in the prime and vigor of life, yet have died by hundreds under the treatment they have received, although required to perform no duties of the camp or the march; while the rebel soldiers are able to make long and rapid marches, and to offer a stubborn resistance in the field.

There is one feature connected with this investigation, to which your Committee can refer with pride and satisfaction; and that is the uncomplaining fortitude, the undiminished patriotism exhibited by our brave men under all their privations, even in the hour of death.

Your Committee will close their report by quoting the tribute paid these men by the chaplain of the hospital at Annapolis, who has ministered to so many of them in their last moments, who has smoothed their passage to the grave by his kindness and attention, and who has performed the last sad offices over their lifeless remains. He says:

"There is another thing I would wish to state. All the men, without any exception among the thousands that have come to this hospital, have never in a single instance expressed a regret (notwithstanding the privations and sufferings they have endured) that they entered their country's service. They have been the most loyal, devoted, and earnest men. Even on the last days of their lives they have said that all they hoped for was just to live and enter the ranks again and meet their foes. It is a most glorious record in reference to the devotion of our men to their country. I do not think their patriotism has ever been equalled in the history of the world."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. F. WADE,
Chairman.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY, May 4, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you a report made to this department by Colonel Hoffman, Commissary General of prisoners, in regard to the condition of Union soldiers who have, until within a few days, been prisoners of war at

Richmond, and would respectfully request that your Committee immediately proceed to Annapolis to take testimony there, and examine with their own eyes the condition of those who have been returned from rebel captivity. The enormity of the crime committed by the rebels toward our prisoners for the last several months is not known or realized by our people, and cannot but fill with horror the civilized world when the facts are fully revealed. There appears to have been a deliberate system of savage and barbarous treatment and starvation, the result of which will be that few, if any, of the prisoners that have been in their hands during the past winter will ever again be in a condition to render any service, or even to enjoy life.

Your obedient servant,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HON. B. F. WADE,
Chairman of Joint Committee on Conduct of the War.

OFFICE OF COMMISSARY GENERAL OF PRISONERS, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to your instructions of the second instant, I proceeded, yesterday morning, to Annapolis, with a view to see that the paroled prisoners about to arrive there from Richmond were properly received and cared for.

The flag-of-truce boat New-York, under the charge of Major Mulford, with thirty-two officers, three hundred and sixty-three enlisted men, and one citizen on board, reached the wharf at the Naval School hospital about ten o'clock. On going on board, I found the officers generally in good health, and much cheered by their happy release from the rebel prisons, and by the prospect of again being with their friends.

The enlisted men who had endured so many privations at Belle Isle and other places were, with few exceptions, in a very sad plight, mentally and physically, having for months been exposed to all the changes of the weather, with no other protection than a very insufficient supply of worthless tents, and with an allowance of food scarcely sufficient to prevent starvation, even if of wholesome quality; but as it was made of coarsely-ground corn, including the husks, and probably at times the cobs, if it did not kill by starvation, it was sure to do it by the disease it created. Some of these poor fellows were wasted to mere skeletons, and had scarcely life enough remaining to appreciate that they were now in the hands of their friends, and among them all there were few who had not become too much broken down and dispirited by their many privations to be able to realize the happy prospect of relief from their sufferings which was before them. With rare exception, every face was sad with care and hunger; there was no brightening of the countenance or lighting up of the eye, to indicate a thought of any thing beyond a painful sense of prostration of mind and body. Many faces showed that there was scarcely a ray of intelligence left.

Every preparation had been made for their re-

ception in anticipation of the arrival of the steamer, and immediately upon her being made fast to the wharf the paroled men were landed and taken immediately to the hospital, where, after receiving a warm bath, they were furnished with a suitable supply of new clothing, and received all those other attentions which their sad condition demanded. Of the whole number, there are perhaps fifty to one hundred who, in a week or ten days, will be in a convalescent state, but the others will very slowly regain their lost health.

That our soldiers, when in the hands of the rebels, are starved to death, cannot be denied. Every return of the flag-of-truce boat from City Point brings us too many living and dying witnesses to admit of a doubt of this terrible fact. I am informed that the authorities at Richmond admit the fact, but excuse it on the plea that they give the prisoners the same rations they give their own men. But can this be so? Can an army keep the field, and be active and efficient, on the same fare that kills prisoners of war at a frightful per centage? I think not; no man can believe it; and while a practice so shocking to humanity is persisted in by the rebel authorities, I would very respectfully urge that retaliatory measures be at once instituted by subjecting the officers we now hold as prisoners of war to a similar treatment.

I took advantage of the opportunity which this visit to Annapolis gave me to make a hasty inspection of Camp Parole, and I am happy to report that I found it in every branch in a most commendable condition. The men all seemed to be cheerful and in fine health, and the police inside and out was excellent. Colonel Root, the commanding officer, deserves much credit for the very satisfactory condition to which he has brought his command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. HOFFMAN,
Colonel Third Infantry, Commissary General of Prisoners.
HON. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.

TESTIMONY.

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND, }
May 6, 1864. }

Howard Leedom, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. To what company and regiment have you belonged?

Answer. Company G, Fifty-second New-York.

Question. How long have you been in the service?

Answer. About seven months.

Question. What is your age?

Answer. Seventeen.

Question. When and where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. At a place called Orange Grove, I think, back of Chancellorsville.

Question. How long ago?

Answer. In November last.

Question. Where were you then carried?

Answer. Right to Richmond.

Question. In what prison were you placed?

Answer. I was put on Belle Isle first, and then I got sick and was taken to the hospital.

Question. Describe how you were treated there, and the cause of your sickness?

Answer. They did not treat me very kindly. I froze my feet on the island.

Question. How came they to be frozen?

Answer. When they took me prisoner they got away the good shoes I had on and gave me an old pair of shoes, all cut and split open; and when I was on the island, I had just an old tent to lie under.

Question. Did you not have some blankets to put over you?

Answer. No, sir. They took away my blanket, and every thing else—my shoes—even a pair of buckskin gloves I had.

Question. Did they give you any thing in place of them?

Answer. No, sir; only that pair of shoes I said.

Question. You had stockings?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What kind of a tent did you have?

Answer. The tent was not very good; the rain beat right through it.

Question. How badly were your feet frozen?

Answer. Well, my toes are all off one of my feet now. [The surgeon accompanying the Committee here took the dressings off the witness's feet, and exhibited them to the Committee. The stumps of the toes were just healing.]

Question. What did they give you to eat?

Answer. They gave us corn-bread, and once in a while a little piece of meat.

Question. How often did they give you meat?

Answer. May be once a day; may be once a week—just as they happened to have it.

Question. Did you get enough to eat, such as it was?

Answer. No, sir; I did not even get enough corn-bread.

Question. How long were you on the island?

Answer. I was on the island only a month, and in the hospital three months.

Question. How long is it since you were exchanged?

Answer. I came here on the twenty-fourth of March.

Question. There were others with you on the island?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How did they fare?

Answer. The same as I did; we all fared alike.

Question. Were any others frozen?

Answer. Yes, sir; plenty of them frozen to death.

Question. Frozen to death?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Were their blankets taken away like yours?

Answer. Yes, sir; they had to lie out in the open ditch. They did not have as good over them as I had.

Question. Did not they have a tent to sleep under?

Answer. No, sir; no tent at all. There was an embankment thrown up, so as to keep them inside like, and they had to lie right down in the ditch there.

Question. With nothing over them?

Answer. If some of them had their blanket, they put that over them; but they had no tent, or any thing of that kind.

Question. Nothing to keep off the rain and snow?

Answer. No, sir; nothing at all.

Question. Are you certain that any of them froze to death there?

Answer. Yes, sir, I am.

Question. State about the treatment you received after your feet were frozen, when you were in the hospital.

Answer. Sometimes my feet were dressed there every day; sometimes I went three or four days without dressing—just whether their nurses happened to be busy or not. When I was exchanged, I had not been dressed for four or five days.

Question. Were any of the confederate sick in the hospital with you?

Answer. Not that I know of.

Question. Do you know how they treated their own soldiers that were in the hospital?

Answer. I do not. I suppose they treated them better than they did us, though.

Question. Was your food any better in the hospital than on the island?

Answer. It was when we first went there, but when I came away it was no better.

Washington Collins, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company A, Fifth Kentucky infantry regiment.

Question. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. I was taken prisoner at the battle of Chickamauga.

Question. Where were you then carried?

Answer. From there to Richmond, as straight through as they could get us through.

Question. State how you were treated after you were taken prisoner.

Answer. We were treated very rough. The eatables we got on the way from the battle-field to Richmond were mouldy crackers, such as you would never try to eat, with one or two exceptions, when we got a little light bread.

Question. Where were you confined at Richmond?

Answer. We were put in tobacco factories, and kept there without clothing or blankets, until our Government sent us blankets and clothing, and some provisions.

Question. Were the clothing and blankets which you had when taken prisoners taken from you?

Answer. Yes, sir; our blankets were pretty much all taken from us.

Question. Did you suffer from cold.

Answer. Yes, sir, severely.

Question. Was your money taken from you?

Answer. Those of us that had money had it pretty much all taken away, or scared out of us.

Question. What kind of food had you after you reached Richmond?

Answer. We got, I should judge, about six ounces of light bread, and in the afternoon about two spoonfuls of black beans—worm-eaten beans.

Question. Was that all you had for the day?

Answer. I think we got, once a day, about two ounces of meat.

Question. What was the character of the meat and bread?

Answer. The character of the meat was pretty tolerably rough. I cannot exactly describe it. I never did eat any beef like some of it; and the first dose of medicine I took since I was in the army, was when I was put in the hospital at Danville. About six or seven weeks ago, before that, I was always a hearty, healthy man.

Question. Have you had any disease or sickness except that occasioned by want of proper food and clothing?

Answer. No, sir; I think not. [The surgeon here remarked: "His disease is the result of starvation, privation, and exposure."]

Question. When were you exchanged?

Answer. We left Richmond on the first of May, I think. I have more of a life-like feeling about me now than I had when I left Richmond.

Question. Do you think you are in a better condition now?

Answer. Yes, sir; I know I am. The authorities did not think it safe for me to start; but I told them if I was going to die, I would rather die on the Chesapeake than die there.

Question. After you grew so very sick, was your food improved any?

Answer. Very little. The last food I received was light diet. When I left the hospital to go on board the flag-of-truce boat, I received about a gill of what they call soup, though in fact it was just nothing; I should say it was only a little starch and water; and then I got a little piece of corn-bread, about that large, (measuring on his fingers about two inches square,) and we got a piece of meat, once a day, about the same size.

Question. Were the other men treated as you were, so far as you know?

Answer. Yes, sir. I wish to speak of one thing. After this food was issued out, what was called the ward-master would go round in the evening with a little mush made of meal, and give some of us a table-spoonful of it. Say there were sixty or eighty patients, and there would be six or eight, may be ten of those patients would get a little spoonful of this mush; and then he would come round a little while afterward and pour a table-spoonful of molasses over it; and just as likely as not, in a few minutes after that he would come around with some vinegar and pour a spoonful of vinegar over that.

Question. Why did he do that?

Answer. He said that was the way it was issued to him.

Question. Did he give any reason for mixing it altogether in that way?

Answer. No, sir; and there were a great many of our own men who treated us as bad as the secesh, because those there acting as nurses, if there was any little delicacy for the sick, would just gobble it up.

Question. Were all of our men suffering for want of food.

Answer. Yes, sir, all of them. In the winter time these secesh got so they would haul up loads of cabbages, all full of lice, and throw them raw into the room for us to eat.

Charles Gallagher, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. Where are you from?

Answer. From Guernsey County, Ohio.

Question. To what regiment do you belong?

Answer. Fortieth Ohio.

Question. How long have you been in the service?

Answer. Pretty nearly three years.

Question. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. At Chickamauga.

Question. When?

Answer. On the twenty-second of last September.

Question. State what happened then to you?

Answer. When they took me prisoner they took me right on to Richmond, kept me there a while, then sent me to Danville and kept me there a while. I got sick at Danville and was put in the hospital, and then they sent me back to Richmond and paroled me and sent me here.

Question. How did they treat you while you were a prisoner?

Answer. Pretty bad. They gave us corn-bread, and not very much of it; and we had to lie right down on the floor, without any blankets, until a long while about Christmas. We had just to lie as thick on the floor as we could get.

Question. How were you treated when you were taken sick?

Answer. A little better. We then had a sort of bed to lie on.

Question. Did you have all the food you wanted?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. What kind of food did you get?

Answer. Corn-bread, a little piece of meat, sometimes a little rice-soup, and sometimes a few beans.

Question. How often did you get meat?

Answer. Along through the winter we got a little bit of fresh beef, (perhaps once a day,) and then from about March a little pork.

Question. What was the matter with you when you went to the hospital?

Answer. I got a cough which settled on me, and I had a pain in my breast.

Question. Were there any other prisoners at Danville?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did they suffer at all from want?

Answer. They were pretty hungry

Question. Did you complain to the authorities that you did not get food enough?

Answer. No, sir; it would not have made any difference. They said there that we got every ounce that was allowed to us.

Question. Did you make your wants known to any one?

Answer. Yes, sir; but they would not give us any more. They would come in and give you a half a loaf of bread, and tell you that was your day's rations; you could take that or nothing.

By the Chairman:

Question. Did they give you as much as their own soldiers for rations?

Answer. No, sir; their own soldiers got a great deal more.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. What was your treatment aside from your supply of food? Was it kind?

Answer. No, sir; they just came in and shoved us round; finally, they run us all up from one floor to the second floor, and only let one go down at a time. When he got back they let another go down.

Isaiah G. Booker, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Harding:

Question. How old are you?

Answer. Twenty-one on the thirteenth of this month.

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. Bath, Maine.

Question. How long were in the army before you were taken prisoner?

Answer. I enlisted on the fifth of September, 1861, and was taken prisoner last July.

Question. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. On Morris Island, Charleston, South-Carolina.

Question. Where were you then sent?

Answer. I was sent to Columbia, South-Carolina, where we were kept about two months, and then we were sent to Richmond, put on Belle Isle, and staid there the remainder of the time.

Question. How were you treated at Columbia?

Answer. I was treated a great deal better there than I was at Belle Isle. We got meat twice a day, rice once, and Indian bread once. We got very near as much as we wanted to eat.

Question. How were you treated at Richmond?

Answer. I suffered there terribly with hunger. I could eat any thing.

Question. Can you tell us what kind of food you got there?

Answer. Dry Indian bread, and when I first went there, a very little meat.

Question. When were you taken sick?

Answer. I was taken sick—I was sick with the diarrhoea a fortnight before I went to the hospital, and I was in the hospital a little over a week before I was exchanged. I was released on the seventh of March, and got here the ninth.

Question. How were you treated while in the hospital?

Answer. I was treated there worse than on Belle Isle. We did not get any salt of any account—only a little piece of bread that would hardly keep a chicken alive.

Question. Did you get any rice?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Any soup?

Answer. Once in a while of mornings I would get a little.

Question. Did the physician come round to see you every day?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did he give you any medicine?

Answer. He gave me some pills.

Question. What was their manner toward you after you were taken sick and in the hospital? Were they kind or rough?

Answer. They were neither kind nor rough, but indifferent. The corn-bread I got seemed to burn my very insides. When I would go down to the river of mornings to wash myself, as I put the water to my face it seemed as though I wanted to sup the water, and to sup it, and sup it, and sup it all the time.

Question. Did you make no complaint to the officers on Belle Isle of your food?

Answer. No, sir.

Question. Did you ask them for any more?

Answer. No, sir; I knew there was no use. I do not think I spoke to an officer while I was there.

Question. Did you ever tell those who furnished you with the food you did get, of the insufficiency of it?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What answer did they give you?

Answer. That was all we were allowed, they said.

Question. Did you have blankets while you were on Belle Isle?

Answer. I had no blanket until our Government sent us some.

Question. How did you sleep before you received those blankets?

Answer. We used to get together just as close as we could, and sleep spoon-fashion, so that when one turned over we all had to turn over.

Question. Did they furnish you any clothing while you were there?

Answer. No, sir; the rebs did not furnish us a bit. It was very warm weather when I was taken prisoner, and I had nothing on me but my pants, shirt, gloves, shoes, stockings, and cap; and I received no more clothing until our Government sent us some in December, I think. We had to lie right down on the cold ground.

Question. Did you not have a tent?

Answer. I had none when I first went there. After a while we had one, but it was a very poor affair; the rain would come right through it.

Question. Were you exposed to the dew and rain, and wind and snow?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. And before you got the tent you lay in the open air?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How did the others there with you fare; the same as you did?

Answer. Many of them had money, with which they bought things of the guard; but I had no money.

Question. Were there others there who had no money?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did they fare the same as you?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. After you went into the hospital, did you receive the same treatment as their own sick received who were in the hospital with you, or did they have any of their sick in there?

Answer. I think none of their sick were in there. I suffered a great deal with hunger when I was on Belle Isle. When I first went there I had no passage of the bowels for eighteen days, and when I did have one it was just as dry as meal.

Question. Did you have any medicine at that time?

Answer. No, sir; I took no medicine until I went to the hospital. About the middle of last February (somewhere about there) I took a very severe cold. It seemed to settle all over me. I was as stiff in all my joints as I could be.

Question. Did your strength decrease much before you were taken sick in February?

Answer. Yes, sir; I stood it very well until about the first of February. After that I commenced to go down pretty fast. I know that one day I undertook to wash my shirt, and got it about half washed, when I was so weak I had to give it up.

Question. Do you think you had any other disease or sickness than what was caused by exposure and starvation at that time?

Answer. No, sir. When I was taken prisoner, I weighed about one hundred and seventy pounds, I think. I had always been a very hearty, stout man—could eat any thing, and stand almost any thing.

Isaac H. Lewis, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Julian:

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company K, First Vermont cavalry.

Question. When were you taken prisoner?

Answer. I was taken prisoner on the twenty-second of March, on Kilpatrick's raid.

Question. Where were you then carried?

Answer. They carried me to Richmond, and put me in a tobacco-house there.

Question. How did they treat you there?

Answer. Well, they did not treat me as well as they might.

Question. What did they give you to eat?

Answer. They gave me corn-bread.

Question. How much and how often?

Answer. Not but very little. They gave me a little twice a day.

Question. Did they give you any meat?

Answer. Once in a while, a little.

Question. What kind of meat?

Answer. Beef.

Question. Could you eat it?

Answer. No, sir.

[The witness here was evidently so weak and exhausted that the Committee suspended his examination.]

Mortimer F. Brown, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where are you from, and to what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. I am from Steubenville, Ohio; I was in the Second Ohio; Colonel McCook was our Colonel when I was taken prisoner.

Question. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. At Chickamauga.

Question. Where were you then carried?

Answer. From Chickamauga to Richmond.

Question. How did you fare while in Richmond?

Answer. We lived very scantily, and hardly any thing to eat. Some of the boys, in order to get enough to live on, had to trade away what clothing they could to the guard for bread, etc.

Question. What did they allow you to eat?

Answer. When we first went to Richmond our rations were bacon and wheat-bread. We did very well at first, but they went on cutting it down.

Question. How was it finally?

Answer. We received corn-bread once or twice a day—I think it was twice. After we went to Danville we fared a great deal better in regard to rations.

Question. Did you have enough to eat, such as it was?

Answer. I did, at Danville.

Question. How was it at Richmond?

Answer. Well, some had plenty to eat, but, as far as I was concerned, I was hungry most all the time. From the time we left Richmond until we drew our meat at Danville—say ten days—we had with us to eat only what they called Graham bread—nothing but bread and water for those ten days. After we got to Danville it was better. They issued us pork and beef sometimes. There, there would be times when we would be without meat for a couple of days.

Question. What was their bearing and treatment toward you, aside from your food?

Answer. We were treated tolerably kindly until we commenced our tunnelling operations; then they treated us very harshly; then they took the prisoners that had occupied three floors and put them all on two floors, and would only allow from three to six to go to the rear at one time.

Question. What is the matter with you now?

Answer. Nothing at all but scurvy. I am getting along very well now since I got here. The treatment at Danville was a palace alongside of that at Richmond.

Franklin Dinsmore, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Where did you enlist?

Answer. At Camp Nelson, Kentucky.

Question. To what State do you belong?

Answer. Eastern Tennessee.

Question. How long have you been in the army?

Answer. I enlisted on the eleventh or twelfth of last July; I do not remember which day.

Question. To what regiment do you belong?

Answer. Eighth Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Who was your Colonel?

Answer. Colonel Strickland.

Answer. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. At Zollicoffer, near the East-Tennessee and Virginia line.

Question. Where were you then carried?

Answer. Right straight on to Richmond. I was taken on the line of the railroad. We were burning bridges there to keep the enemy out.

Question. How did you fare after you got to Richmond?

Answer. They just starved us.

Question. What did they give you to eat?

Answer. For forty-eight hours after we got there they gave us only just what we could breathe; then they gave us a little piece of white bread, and just three bites of beef. A man could take it all decently at three bites. That is the way we lived until we went to Danville, and then we had meat enough to make half a dozen bites, with bugs in it.

Question. What brought on your sickness?

Answer. Starvation. I was so starved there that when I was down I could not get up without catching hold of something to pull myself up by.

Question. What did you live in?

Answer. In a brick building, without any fire, or any thing to cover us with.

Question. Had you no blankets?

Answer. No, sir; we had not. They even took our coats from us, and part of us had to lie there on the floor in our shirt-sleeves.

Question. In the winter?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Did any of the men freeze?

Answer. Yes, sir; many a man just fell dead walking around, or trying to keep himself warm, or, as he was lying on the floor, died during the night; and if you looked out of a window, a sentinel would shoot you. They shot some five or six of our boys who were looking out. Some of our boys would work for the guards to get more to eat, just to keep them from starving. There would be pieces of cobs in our bread, left there by the grinding-machine, half as long as my finger, and the bread itself looked just as if you had taken a parcel of dough and let it bake in the sun. It was all full of cracks where it had dried, and the inside was all raw.

Question. Were you hungry all the time?

Answer. Hungry! I could eat any thing in the world that came before us. Some of the boys would get boxes from the North, with meat of different kinds in them, and, after they had picked the meat off, they would throw the bones away into the spit-boxes, and we would pick the bones out of the spit-boxes, and gnaw them over again.

Question. Did they have any more to give you?

Answer. They had plenty. They were just doing it for their own gratification. They said Seward had put old Beast Butler in there, and they did not care how they treated us.

Question. Did you complain about not having enough?

Answer. Certainly we complained, but they said we had plenty. They cursed us, and said we had a sight more than their men had who were prisoners in our lines.

Question. Do you feel any better now since you have been here?

Answer. A great deal better; like a new man now. I am gaining flesh now.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. What was your occupation before you went into the army?

Answer. I was a farmer.

By Mr. Julian:

Question. Do you know how they treated their own sick?

Answer. No, sir.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. Were other Tennesseans taken prisoners the same time you were?

Answer. Yes, sir; there were twenty-four of us taken prisoners. The small-pox was very severe among us. Our own men said that they were just trying to kill the Tennesseans and Kentuckians. Out of the twenty-four, there were ten of us left when they started for Georgia. No man can tell precisely how we were treated, and say just how it was.

L. H. Parhan, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. From what State are you?

Answer. West-Tennessee.

Question. To what regiment do you belong?

Answer. The Third West-Tennessee cavalry.

Question. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. In Henry County, West-Tennessee.

Question. From there where were you carried?

Answer. From there they marched us on foot, some three hundred and fifty odd miles, to Decatur.

Question. What were you given to eat?

Answer. Sometimes for twenty-four or thirty hours we would have a little piece of beef and some corn-bread.

Question. Were you a well man when you were taken prisoner?

Answer. Yes, sir; a stout man for a little man. I was very stout.

Question. Were you brought to your present condition by want of food?

Answer. Yes, sir; and sleeping in the cold. They took my money and clothes and every thing else away from me, even my pocket-comb and knife, and my finger-ring that my sister gave me. They were taken away when I was captured.

[The witness, who was so weak that he could not raise his head, appeared to be so much ex-

haunted by talking that the Committee refrained from further examination. As they were moving away from his bed, he spoke up and said: "I am better now than when I came here. I have some strength now. I hope I shall get better, for I want to see my old father and mother once more."]

James Sweeney, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Where did you reside when you enlisted?

Answer. Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Question. To what company and regiment do you belong?

Answer. Company E, Seventeenth Massachusetts.

Question. When were you taken prisoner?

Answer. First of February.

Question. Where?

Answer. Six miles from Newbern, North-Carolina.

Question. Where were you then carried?

Answer. To Richmond.

Question. How were you treated after you were taken prisoner?

Answer. We had no breakfast that day. We started out early in the morning—the One Hundred and Thirty-second New-York was with us—without any thing to eat. We had nothing to eat all that day, and they made us sleep out all that night without any thing to eat. It rained that night; then they marched us the next day thirty miles, to Kingston, without any thing to eat, except it was, about twelve o'clock, one of the regular captains, who had some crackers in his haversack, gave us about one each, and some of the boys managed to get an ear of corn from the wagons, but the rest of them were pushed back by the guns of the guard; then we were kept in the streets of Kingston until about nine o'clock, when we had a little pork and three barrels of crackers for about two hundred of us. I got three or four crackers. Then they put us in freight cars that they had carried hogs in, all filthy and dirty, and we were nearly frozen by the time we got to Goldsborough; and near Weldon they camped us in a field all day long, like a spectacle for the people to look at, and when we got to Richmond they put us in a common for a while, and then we were taken to prison. About eleven o'clock that day they brought us some corn-bread. They gave me about three quarters of a small loaf, and a dipper of hard black beans with worms in them. We were kept there all night. If we went near the window, bullets were fired at us. Two or three hundred men lay on the floor. I was kept between three and four weeks on Belle Isle.

Question. How was it for food there?

Answer. That night they gave us a piece of corn-bread about an inch thick, two or three inches long. Some nights we would have a couple of spoonfuls, may be, of raw rice or raw beans; other nights they would not give us that. A squad of one hundred men of us would have

about twenty sticks of wood, and in order to cut that up we would have to pay a man for the use of an axe by giving him a piece of the stick for splitting up the rest. We lay right on the ground in the snow. Twenty of us together would lay with our feet so close to the fire that the soles of our boots would be all drawn, and we would get up in the morning all shivering, and I could not eat what little food I did get.

Question. What is the cause of your sickness?

Answer. Just the food we got there, and this exposure. Eating this corn-bread continually gave me the diarrhoea. We would get thirsty, and drink that river-water. We had little bits of beef sometimes; generally it was tough, more like a piece of india-rubber you would rub pencil-marks out with. What little food we did get was so bad we could not eat it. At first, for five or six days, we could eat it pretty well, but afterward I could not eat it.

Question. Have you been brought to your present condition by your treatment there?

Answer. Yes, sir; by the want of proper food, and exposure to the cold?

John C. Burcham, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Julian.

Question. Where did you enlist, and in what regiment?

Answer. I enlisted in Indianapolis, in the Seventy-fifth Indiana regiment, Colonel Robinson.

Question. When were you taken prisoner, and where?

Answer. I was taken prisoner at Chickamauga, on the twentieth of September.

Question. Where were you carried then?

Answer. The next day they took us to Atlanta, and then on to Richmond.

Question. What prison were you put in?

Answer. I was on Belle Isle five or six days and nights, and then they put me in a prison over in town.

Question. How did they treat you there?

Answer. Rough, rough, rough.

Question. What did they give you to eat?

Answer. A small bit of bread and a little piece of meat; black beans full of worms. Sometimes meat pretty good; sometimes the meat was so rotten that you could smell it as soon as you got it in the house. We were used rough, I can tell you.

Question. Did they leave you your property?

Answer. They took every thing we had before ever we got to Richmond; my hat, blankets, knife. We did not do very well until we got some blankets from our Government; afterward we did better. Before that we slept right on the floor, with nothing over us except a little old blanket one of us had.

Question. What was their manner toward you?

Answer. I call it pretty rough. If a man did not walk just right up to the mark, they were down on him, and not a man of us dared to put his head out of the window, for he would be

shot if he did. Several were shot just for that.

Question. What is the cause of your sickness?

Answer. Nothing but exposure and the kind of food we had there. I was a tolerably stout man before I got into their hands; after that I was starved nearly to death.

Daniel Gentis, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What State are you from?

Answer. Indiana.

Question. When did you enlist, and in what company and regiment?

Answer. I enlisted on the sixth of August, 1861, in company I, Second New-York regiment.

Question. Where were you taken prisoner?

Answer. I was taken prisoner at Stevensville, Virginia; I was there with Colonel Dahlgren, on Kilpatrick's expedition.

Question. Were you taken prisoner at the same time that Colonel Dahlgren was killed?

Answer. I was there when he was killed, but I was taken prisoner the next morning.

Question. What do you know about the manner of his death, and the treatment his body received?

Answer. He was shot within a foot and a half or two feet of me. I got wounded that same night. The next morning I was taken prisoner, and as we came along we saw his body, with his clothes all off. He was entirely naked, and he was put into a hole and covered up.

Question. Buried naked in that way?

Answer. Yes, sir; no coffin at all. Afterward his body was taken up and carried to a sluie and washed off, and then sent off to Richmond. A despatch came from Richmond for his body, and it was sent there.

Question. It has been said they cut off his finger?

Answer. Yes, sir; his little finger was cut off, and his ring taken off.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. How do you know there was a ring on his finger?

Answer. I saw the fellow who had it, and who said he took it off. When they took his body to a sluie and washed it off, they put on it a shirt and drawers, and then put it in a box and sent it to Richmond.

Question. How far was that from Richmond?

Answer. It was about forty miles from Richmond, and about ten miles from West-Point.

Question. How were you treated yourself?

Answer. I fared first-rate. I staid at the house of a Dr. Walker, of Virginia, and Dr. Walker told me that a private of the Ninth Virginia cavalry took off Colonel Dahlgren's artificial leg, and that General Ewell, I think it was, or some General in the Southern army who had but one leg, gave the private two thousand dollars for it, (confederate currency.) I saw the private who took it, and saw him have the leg.

By the Chairman:

Question. How do you know they received a

despatch from Richmond to have the body sent there?

Answer. All the information I got about the despatch was from Dr. Walker, who said they were going to take the body to Richmond, and bury it where no one could find it.

Question. Did Colonel Dahlgren make any speech or read any papers to his command?

Answer. No, sir; not that I ever heard of. They questioned me a great deal about that. The colonel of the Ninth Virginia cavalry questioned me about it. I told him just all I knew about it. I told him I had heard no papers read, nor any thing else.

Question. Did you ever hear any of your fellow-soldiers say they ever heard any such thing at all.

Answer. No, sir; and when I started I had no idea where I was going.

Question. Were you in prison at Richmond?

Answer. I was there for four days, but I was at Dr. Walker's pretty nearly a month and a half.

Question. During the four days you were in prison did you see any of our other soldiers in prison there?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How did they fare?

Answer. We all fared pretty rough on corn-bread and beans. Those who were in my ward are here now sick in bed.

Question. How happened it that you fell into the hands of Dr. Walker particularly?

Answer. The way it came about was this: In the morning I asked some officers of the regular regiment for a doctor to dress my wound. One of the doctors there said he could not do it. I spoke to a lieutenant, and asked him to be kind enough to get some doctor to dress it, and he got this Dr. Walker. The doctor asked me to go to his house, and stay there if I would. I told him "certainly I would go." The colonel of the rebel regiment said that the doctor could take me there, and I staid until Captain Magruder came up there and told Dr. Walker that I had to be sent to Richmond.

Question. Where were you wounded?

Answer. In the knee.

[At this point the Committee concluded to examine no more of the patients in the hospital, as most of them were too weak to be examined without becoming too much exhausted, and because the testimony of all amounted to about the same thing. They therefore confined the rest of their investigation to the testimony of the surgeons in charge, and other persons attending upon the patients.]

Surgeon B. A. Van Derkief, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Are you in the service of the United States; and if so, in what capacity?

Answer. I am a Surgeon of volunteers in the United States service; in charge of Hospital Division Number One, known as the Naval Hos-

pital, Annapolis, and have been here since the first of June, 1868.

Question. State what you know in regard to the condition of our exchanged or paroled prisoners who have been brought here, and also your opportunities to know that condition?

Answer. Since I have been here I think that from five to six thousand paroled prisoners have been treated in this hospital as patients. They have generally come here in a very destitute and feeble condition; many of them so low that they die the very day they arrive here.

Question. What is the character of their complaints generally, and what does that character indicate as to the cause?

Answer. Generally they are suffering from debility and chronic diarrhoea, the result, I have no doubt, of exposure, privations, hardship, and ill-treatment.

Question. In what respect would hardship and ill-treatment superinduce the complaints most prevalent among these paroled prisoners?

Answer. These men, having been very much exposed, and not having had nourishment enough to sustain their strength, are consequently predisposed to be attacked by such diseases as diarrhoea, fever, scurvy, and all catarrhal affections, which, perhaps, in the beginning are very slight, but, on account of want of necessary care, produce, after a while, a very serious disease. For instance, a man exposed to the cold may have a little bronchitis, or perhaps a little inflammation of the lungs, which, under good treatment, would be easily cured—would be considered of no importance whatever; but being continually exposed, and not having the necessary food, the complaint is transformed, after a time, into a very severe disease.

Question. Is it your opinion, as a physician, that the complaints of our returned prisoners are superinduced by want of proper food, or food of sufficient quantity, and from exposure?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. What is the general character of the statements our prisoners have made to you in regard to their treatment?

Answer. They complained of want of food, of bad food, and a want of clothing. Very often, though not always, they are robbed, when taken prisoners, of all the good clothes they have on. There is no doubt about that, for men have often arrived here with nothing but their pants and shirts on; no coat, overcoat, no cap, no shoes or stockings, and some of them without having had any opportunities to wash themselves for weeks and months, so that when they arrive here, the scurf on their skin is one eighth of an inch thick; and we have had several cases of men who have been shot for the slightest offence. There is a man now here who at one time put his hand out of the privy, which was nothing but a window in the wall, to steady himself and keep himself from falling, and he was shot, and we have been obliged to amputate his arm since he arrived here. These men complain that they have had no shel-

ter. We have men here now who say that for five or six months they have been compelled to lie on the sand. I have no doubt about the correctness of their statements, for the condition of their skins shows the statements to be true. Their joints are calloused, and they have callouses on their backs, and some have even had the bones break through the skin. There is one instance in particular that I would mention. One man died in the hospital there one hour before the transfer of prisoners was made, and, as an act of humanity, the surgeon in charge of the hospital allowed the friends of this man to take him on board the vessel in order to have him buried among his friends. This man was brought here right from the Richmond hospital. He was so much covered with vermin and so dirty that we were not afraid to make the statement that the man had not been washed for six months. Now, as a material circumstance to prove that these men have been badly fed, I will state that we must be very careful in feeding them when they arrive here, for a very light diet is too much for them at first.

Question. You have accompanied us as we have examined some of the patients in the hospital to-day. Do their statements to us, under oath, correspond with the statements which they made when they first arrived here?

Answer. They are quite the same; there is no difference. Every man makes the same statement, and we therefore believe it to be true. All say the same in regard to rations, treatment, exposure, and privations. Once in a while I have found a man who pretended to have been treated very well, but by examining closely I find that such men are not very good Union men.

Question. You say that about six thousand paroled prisoners have come under your supervision and treatment?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State generally what their condition has been.

Answer. Very bad, indeed. I cannot find terms sufficient to express what their condition was. I cannot state it properly.

Question. You have already stated that, as a general thing, they have been destitute of clothing?

Answer. Yes, sir; dirty, filthy, covered with vermin, dying. At one time we received three hundred and sixty patients in one day, and fourteen died within twelve hours; and there were six bodies of those who had died on board the transport that brought them up here.

Question. What appeared to be the complaint of which they died?

Answer. Very extreme debility, the result of starvation and exposure—the same as the very weak man you saw here, [L. H. Parham.]

Question. We have observed some very emaciated men here, perfect skeletons, nothing but skin and bone. In your opinion, as a physician, what has reduced these men to that condition?

Answer. Nothing but starvation and exposure.

Question. Can you tell the proportion of the men who have died to the number that have lately arrived from Richmond?

Answer. If time is allowed me, I can send the statement to the Committee.

Question. Do so, if you please.

Answer. I will do so. I will say that some of these men who have stated they were well treated, I have found out to have been very bad to the Union men.

Question. Are those men you have just mentioned as having been well treated an exception to the general rule?

Answer. Yes, sir; a very striking exception.

Question. Have you ever been in charge of confederate prisoners?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. State the course of treatment of our authorities toward them.

Answer. We have never made the slightest difference between our own men and confederate prisoners when their sick and wounded have been in our hands.

Question. You have treated both the same?

Answer. Yes, sir. When any one of their men, wounded or sick, has been a patient in our hands, we have treated him the same as we do our own men.

By Mr. Julian:

Question. Have their sick and wounded been kept separate from ours, or have they been kept together?

Answer. In Washington they were kept separate, but at Antietam, where an hospital was established, in order to have the patients treated where they were injured, the Union and confederate patients were treated together and alike. At Hagerstown almost every body is secesh. Well, the most I can say is, that some of the secesh ladies there came to me and stated that they were very glad to see that we treated their men the same as ours.

Question. It is sometimes said, by the rebel newspapers, at least, that they have given the same rations to our prisoners that they give to their own soldiers. Now, I want to ask you, as a medical man, if it is possible, with the amount of food that our prisoners have had, for men to retain their health and vigor, and perform active service in the field?

Answer. I do not believe that the rebels could fight as well, or make such marches as they have done, upon such small rations as our prisoners have received.

Question. Can the health of men be preserved upon such rations as they have given our prisoners?

Answer. No, sir; it cannot, not only on account of quantity, but quality. I have seen some specimens of their rations brought here by our paroled prisoners, and I know what they are.

Question. As a general rule, what is the effect of treating men in that way?

Answer. Just what we hear every day — men dying from starvation and debility. Many of these men — mostly all the wounded men — are

suffering from hospital gangrene, which is the result of not having their wounds dressed in time, and having too many crowded in the same apartment. We have had men here whose wounds have been so long neglected that they have had maggots in them by the hundred.

Acting Assistant Surgeon J. H. Longenecker, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. What is your position in the United States service?

Answer. Acting Assistant Surgeon.

Question. How long have you been stationed here?

Answer. Since the twenty-seventh of July, 1863.

Question. Will you state what has been the condition of our paroled prisoners, received here from the rebels, during the time you have been stationed here?

Answer. As a general thing, they have been very much debilitated, emaciated, and suffering from disease, such as diarrhoea, scurvy, lung diseases, etc.

Question. In your opinion, as a physician, by what have these diseases been produced?

Answer. By exposure and want of proper food, I think.

Question. Are you able to form any opinion, from the condition of these men, as to the quantity and quality of food which they have received?

Answer. From their appearance and condition, I judge the quality must have been very bad, and the quantity very small, not sufficient to preserve the health.

Question. We have seen and examined several patients here this morning, who are but mere skeletons. They have stated to us, as you are aware, that their suffering arose wholly from the want of proper food and clothing. In your opinion, as a medical man, are these statements true?

Answer. I believe that these statements are correct. We have had some men who look very well. How they managed to preserve their health I am not able to say; but, as a general thing, the men we receive here are very much debilitated, apparently from exposure, and want of sufficient food to keep up life and health.

Question. Are you acquainted with the case of Howard Leedom?

Answer. Yes, sir; I am.

Question. Will you state about that case?

Answer. I did not see the patient until recently, when he was placed in my charge. I found him with all his toes gone from one foot in consequence of exposure. He has suffered from pneumonia also, produced by exposure, and there have been very many cases of pneumonia here, produced by the same cause, many of whom have died; and we have held post-mortem examinations upon many of them, and found ulcers upon their intestines, some of them being ulcerated the whole length of their bowels.

Question. Have you made many post-mortem examinations here?

Answer. We have made quite a number of them. We make them whenever we have an opportunity; whenever bodies are not called for or are not likely to be taken away.

Question. Are you enabled, from these post-mortem examinations, to determine whether or not these prisoners have had sufficient quantities of proper food?

Answer. Not from that. Those examinations merely indicate the condition in which the prisoners are returned to us.

Question. From all the indications given by the appearance of these men, are you satisfied that their statements, that they have not had sufficient food, both in quantity and quality, are true?

Answer. These statements have been repeated to me very often, and from their condition I believe their statement to be true.

Question. How many paroled prisoners were brought here by the last boat?

Answer. Three hundred and sixty-five, I think.

Question. In your opinion, how many of these men will recover?

Answer. Judging from their present condition, I think that at least one hundred of them will die.

Question. What, in your opinion, will be the primary cause of the death of these men?

Answer. Exposure and want of proper food while prisoners.

Assistant Surgeon William S. Ely, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Harding:

Question. What is your position in the service?

Answer. Assistant Surgeon of the United States volunteers and executive officer of hospital Division Number One, or Naval Academy hospital.

Question. Please state the sanitary condition and appearance, etc., of the paroled prisoners received here, together with their declarations as to the cause of their sickness, and your opinion as to the truth of their statements?

Answer. I have been on duty in this hospital since October third, 1863. Since that time I have been present on the arrival of the steamer New-York on five or six different occasions, when bringing altogether some three or four thousand paroled prisoners. I have assisted in unloading these prisoners from the boat, and assigning them to quarters in the hospital. I have found them generally very much reduced physically, and depressed mentally, the direct result, as I think, of the ill-treatment which they have received from the hands of their enemies—whether intentional or not I cannot say. I have frequently seen on the boat bodies of those who have died while being brought here, and I have frequently known them to die while being conveyed from the boat to the hospital ward. Their condition is such (their whole constitution being under-

mined) that the best of care and medical treatment, and all the sanitary and hygienic measures that we can introduce appear to be useless. Their whole assimilative functions appear to be impaired. Medicines and food appear, in many cases, to have no effect upon them. We have made post-mortem examinations repeatedly of cases here, and on all occasions we find the system very much reduced, and in many cases the muscles almost entirely gone—reduced to nothing literally but skin and bone; the blood vitiated and depraved, and an anæmic condition of the entire system apparent. The fact that in many cases of post-mortems we had discovered no organic disease, justifies us in the conclusion that the fatal result is owing principally, if not entirely, to a deprivation of food and other articles necessary to support life, and to improper exposure. On all occasions when arriving here, these men have been found in the most filthy condition, it being almost impossible, in many cases, to clean them by repeated washings. The functions of the skin are entirely impaired, and in many cases they are incrustated with dirt, owing, as they say, to being compelled to lie on the sand at Belle Island; and the normal function of the skin has not been recovered until the cuticle has been entirely thrown off. Their bodies are covered with vermin, so that it has been found necessary to throw away all the clothing which they had on when they arrived here, and provide them entirely with new clothing. Their hair has been filled with vermin, so that we have been obliged to cut their hair all off, and make applications to kill the vermin in their heads. Many of them state that they have had no opportunity to wash their bodies for six or eight months, and have not done so.

Question. What have been their statements to you in their conversation with you?

Answer. Their reply almost invariably has been, that their condition is the result solely of ill-treatment and starvation; that their rations have consisted of corn-bread and cobs ground with corn, of a few beans at times, and now and then a little piece of poor meat. Occasionally one is heard to say, that in his opinion the rebels are unable to treat them in any better manner; that they have been treated as well as possible; and I have found several who stated that their physicians were kind to them and did all they could, but complained of want of medicines.

Question. Is it your conclusion, as a physician, that the statements of these paroled prisoners, in regard to the treatment they have received, are correct, and that such treatment would produce such conditions of health as you witness among them upon their arrival here?

Answer. Yes, sir; and that in many cases their statements fall short of the truth, as evinced by the results shown in their physical appearance; and these men are in such a condition that even if they recover, we consider them almost entirely unfitted for further active field service—almost as much so, we frequently say, as if they had been shot on the field.

Miss Abbie J. Howe, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Gooch :

Question. From what State are you, and what position do you occupy in this hospital ?

Answer. I am from Massachusetts, and am here acting as nurse.

Question. How long have you been here ?

Answer. Since the fifteenth of September, 1863.

Question. Have you had charge of the sick and paroled prisoners who have come here during that time ?

Answer. Yes, sir ; some of them.

Question. How many of them have you had charge of, should you think ?

Answer. I should think I have had charge of at least two hundred and fifty who have come under my own charge.

Question. Can you describe to us the general condition of those men ?

Answer. Almost all of them have had this dreadful cough. I do not think I ever heard the like before ; and they have had chronic diarrhoea, very persistent indeed. Many of them have a great craving for things which they ought not to have. One patient who came in here had the scurvy, and he said, "I can eat any thing that a dog can eat. Oh ! do give me something to eat ;" and in their delirium they are crying for "bread, bread," and "mother, mother." One of them called out for "more James River water to drink."

Question. What has been their general complaint in regard to their treatment while prisoners ?

Answer. Their chief complaint has been want of food and great exposure. Many of them who had clothes sent them by friends or our Government, were obliged to sell every thing until they were left as destitute as at first, in order to get more food. I have seen some of their rations, and I would myself rather eat what I have seen given to cattle, than to eat such food as their specimens brought here. One man had the typhoid fever, but was in such haste to get away from the hospital in Richmond in order to get home, that he would not remain there. He had the ravenous appetite which men with typhus fever have ; and other men told me that they gave him their rations which they could not eat themselves. This produced a terrible diarrhoea, and he lived but a few days after he arrived here.

Question. What has been the physical condition of these, emaciated or otherwise ?

Answer. Just skin and bone. I have never imagined any thing before like it.

Question. Have their statements, in relation to their exposure and deprivation of food, corresponded entirely with each other ?

Answer. Yes, sir, entirely so, except those who were able, by work, to get extra rations ; and those extra rations were not any thing like what our men have here, but it gave them as much and as good as their guards had ; and they have not only been treated in this way, but they have been ill-used in almost every way. They

have told me that when one of them was sitting down, and was told to get up, and was not moving quickly in consequence of his sickness, he was wounded by the rebels in charge. They have often told me that they have been kicked and knocked about when unable to move quickly. I could give a great many instances of ill-treatment and hardships which have been stated to me, but it would take a great deal of time to tell them.

Rev. H. C. Henries, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Odell :

Question. What is your position here ?

Answer. Chaplain of the hospital.

Question. How long have you been here ?

Answer. I have been on duty since December seventh, 1861.

Question. You are familiar with the facts connected with the condition of paroled prisoners arriving here from the South ?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Will you state generally what was their condition ?

Answer. I think it would be impossible for me to give any adequate description, for I think all language fails to fully express their real condition as they land here. Their appearance is haggard in the extreme ; ragged, destitute even of shoes, and very frequently without pants or blouses, or any covering except their drawers and shirts, and perhaps a half a blanket, or something like that ; sometimes without hats, and in the most filthy condition that it is possible to conceive of either beast or man being reduced to in any circumstances ; unable to give either their names, their residence, regiments, or any facts, in consequence of their mental depression, so that I believe the surgeons have found it quite impossible sometimes to ascertain their relation to the army. Their statements agree almost universally in regard to their treatment at the hands of the rebels. There have been a very few exceptions, indeed, of those who have stated that perhaps their fare was as good as, under the circumstances, the rebels were able to give them ; but the almost universal testimony of these men has been, that they were purposely deprived of the comforts and medical care which could have been afforded them, in order to render them useless to the army in the future. That has been the impression which a great many of them have labored under. They have given their testimony in regard to their condition on Belle Isle. There were three in one room here not long since, who told me that some eight of their comrades died during one or two days, and their bodies were thrown out on the banks that inclosed the ground and left there for eight days unburied, and they were refused the privilege of burying their comrades, until the hogs and the dogs had well-nigh eaten up their bodies. Yesterday, one man told me that he was so starved, and his hunger had become so intolerable, that his eyes appeared to swim in his head, and at times to be almost lost to all consciousness. Others have stated that

they have offered to buy dogs at any price for food, of those who came in there; and one actually said that when a man came in there with a dog, and went out without the dog noticing it, they caught him and dressed him and roasted him over the fire, over a gas-light, as best they could, and then ate it; and, as he expressed it, "it was a precious mite to them." Their testimony in regard to the cruelty of the guards and others set over them is to the effect that in one instance two comrades in the army together, who were taken prisoners together, and remained in the prison together, were separated when the prisoners were exchanged. One was returned here and the other left. The one who was left went to the window and waved his hand in adieu to his comrade, and the guard deliberately shot him through the temple, and he fell dead. I mentioned this fact to others of our prisoners here in the hospital, and they said that they knew it to be so. Some of them were there at the time the man was shot.

Question. Do you keep any record of the deaths here?

Answer. I have not kept a record. I have the official notice of the deaths; but inasmuch as the records are kept at the office, and we have had so many other duties crowding upon us—so many deaths here—it has been almost impossible for us to keep any record. I think it is impossible for any description to exaggerate the condition of those men. The condition of those here now is not so bad, as a class, as some we have received heretofore.

By the Chairman:

Question. Has the treatment of our prisoners latterly been worse than before, from their testimony?

Answer. I think there has been no very material change of late. I think it has grown worse from the very first; but for a year past, I should judge it could not be made any worse.

Question. Just the same thing we now see here?

Answer. Yes, sir. I would give just another fact in regard to the statements made here by large numbers of our returned prisoners. On Belle Isle, their privies were down from the main camp. From six o'clock in the morning until six o'clock in the evening they were permitted to go to these sinks or privies, but from six at night until six in the morning they were refused the privilege of going there, and consequently, so many suffering with diarrhoea, their filth was deposited all through their camp. The wells from which they drew their water were sunk in the sand around through their camp, and you can judge what the effect of that has been. Some of these prisoners, soon after they were put on Belle Isle, not knowing the regulations there, and suffering from chronic diarrhoea, when making the attempt to go down to these privies after six o'clock at night, were shot down in cold blood by the guards, without any warning whatever. Several such instances have been stated to me by parties who have arrived here.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. You make these statements from the testimony of prisoners received here?

Answer. Yes, sir; from testimony that I have the most perfect confidence in. Men have stated these things to me in the very last hours of their lives.

By the Chairman:

Question. Were they conscious of their condition at the time they made their statements?

Answer. Yes, sir; I think they were perfectly conscious; yet there is one thing which is very remarkable, that is, these men retain their hope of life up to the hour of dying. They do not give up. There is another thing I would wish to state: all the men, without any exception, among the thousands that have come to this hospital, have never, in a single instance, expressed a regret (notwithstanding the privations and sufferings that they have endured) that they entered their country's service. They have been the most loyal, devoted, and earnest men. Even on the last days of their lives they have said that all they hoped for was just to live and enter the ranks again and meet their foes. It is a most glorious record in reference to the devotion of our men to their country. I do not think their patriotism has ever been equalled in the history of the world.

The Committee then proceeded, by steamer, from Annapolis to Baltimore, and visited the West Hospital, and saw the patients there. As they presented the same reduced and debilitated appearance as those they had already seen at Annapolis, and in conversation gave the same account of their treatment at the hands of the rebels, the Committee concluded their examination by taking merely the testimony of the surgeon and chaplain of the hospital.

WEST HOSPITAL, BALTIMORE, MD., May 6, 1864.

Dr. William G. Knowles, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. Will you state whether you are in the employment of the Government; and if so, in what capacity?

Answer. I am, and have been for nearly three years a contract physician in the West Hospital, Baltimore.

Question. Have you received any of the returned Union prisoners, from Richmond, in your hospital?

Answer. We have received those we have here now; no others.

Question. How many have you received?

Answer. We have received one hundred and five.

Question. When did you receive them?

Answer. Two weeks ago last Tuesday. On the nineteenth of April.

Question. Will you state the condition those prisoners were in when they were received here?

Answer. They were all very emaciated men, as you have seen here to-day, only more so than they appear to be now. They were very emaciated and feeble, suffering chiefly from diarrhoea,

many of them having, in connection with that, bronchial and similar affections. From the testimony given to me by these men I have no doubt their condition was the result of exposure and—I was about to say starvation; but it was, perhaps, hardly starvation, for they had something to eat; but I will say, a deficient supply of food and of a proper kind of food; and when I say “exposure,” perhaps that would not be sufficiently definite. All with whom I have conversed have stated that those who were on Belle Isle were kept there even as late as December with nothing to protect them but such little clothing as was left them by their captors; with no blankets, no overcoats, no tents, nothing to cover them, nothing to protect them; and that their sleeping-place was the ground—the sand.

Question. What would you, as a physician of experience, aside from the statements of these returned prisoners, say was the cause of their condition?

Answer. I should judge it was as they have stated. Diarrhoea is a very common form of disease among them, and from all the circumstances, I have every reason to believe that it is owing to exposure and the want of proper nourishment. Some of them tell me that they received nothing but two small pieces of corn-bread a day. Some of them suppose (how true that may be I do not know) that that bread was made of corn ground with the cobs. I have not seen any of it to examine it.

Question. How many have died of the number you have received here?

Answer. Already twenty-nine have died, and you have seen one who is now dying; and five were received here dead, who died on their way from Fortress Monroe to Baltimore.

Question. How many of them were capable of walking into the hospital?

Answer. Only one; the others were brought here from the boat on stretchers, put on the dumb-waiter, and lifted right up to their rooms, and put on their beds. And I would state another thing in regard to these men; when they were received here they were filthy, dirty, and lousy in the extreme, and we had considerable trouble to get them clean. Every man who could possibly stand it we took and placed in a warm bath and held him up while he was washed, and we threw away all their dirty clothing, providing them with that which was clean.

Question. What was the condition of their clothing?

Answer. Very poor, indeed. I should say the clothing was very much worn, although I did not examine it closely, as that was not so much a matter of investigation with us as was their physical condition. Their heads were filled with vermin, so much so that we had to cut off their hair and make applications to destroy the vermin.

Question. What portion of those you have received here do you suppose are finally curable?

Answer. We shall certainly lose one third of them; and we have been inclined to think that, sooner or later, we should lose one half of them.

Question. Will the constitutions of those who survive be permanently injured, or will they entirely recover?

Answer. I think the constitutions of the greater part of them will be seriously impaired; that they will never become strong and healthy again.

Question. What account have these men given you as to the comparative condition of those left behind? Did the rebels send the best or the poorest of our prisoners?

Answer. I could not tell that; I have never inquired. But I should presume they must have sent the worst they had.

Question. You have had charge of confederate sick and wounded, have you not?

Answer. Yes, sir; a large number of them. This was the receiving hospital for those from Gettysburgh.

Question. What was the treatment they received from us?

Answer. We consider that we treated them with the greatest kindness and humanity; precisely as we treated our own men. That has been our rule of conduct. We gave them the very best the hospital would afford; and not only what properly belonged to the hospital, but delicacies and luxuries of every kind were furnished them by the hospital, and by outside sympathizers, who were permitted to send delicacies to them.

Question. It has been stated in many of the rebel newspapers that our prisoners are treated the same and fed with the same rations as their soldiers in the field. In your judgment as a physician, would it be possible for their soldiers to retain their health and energy if fed as our prisoners have been?

Answer. No, sir; it would be impossible; multitudes of them would have died under such treatment.

Question. I do not know as I desire to question you further. Is there any thing more you desire to state?

Answer. I do not know that there is; it is all in a nut-shell.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. Is not the disease as evinced among those men clearly defined as resulting from exposure and privations, and want of proper food and nourishment?

Answer. That is our decided opinion as medical men; the opinion of all of us who have had any thing to do with these men.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. The condition of all these men appears to be about the same. Is there really any difference in their condition except in degree?

Answer. I think that is all. Some men have naturally stronger constitutions than others, and can bear more than others. That is the way I account for the difference.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. Are the minds of any of them affected permanently?

Answer. We have had two or three whose in-

telleet is very feeble; some of them are almost like children in that respect.

Question. Do you think that grows out of the treatment they have received?

Answer. I think the same cause produced that as the other.

By the Chairman:

Question. Is not that one of the symptoms attendant upon starvation, that men are likely to become deranged or idiotic?

Answer. Yes, sir; more like derangement than what we call idiocy.

By Mr. Gooch:

Question. Can those men whose arms you bared and held up to us—mere skeletons, nothing but skin and bone—can those men recover?

Answer. They may; we think that some of them are in an improving condition. But we have to be extremely cautious how we feed them. If we give them a little excess of food under these circumstances, they would be almost certain to be seriously and injuriously affected by it.

Question. It is your opinion, you have stated, that these men have been reduced to this condition by want of food?

Answer. It is; want of food and exposure are the original causes. That has produced diarrhoea and other diseases as a natural consequence, and they have aided the original cause and reduced them to their present condition. I should like the country and the Government to know the facts about these men; I do not think they can realize it until the facts are made known to them. I think the rebels have determined upon the policy of starving their prisoners, just as much as the murders at Fort Pillow were a part of their policy.

Rev. J. T. Van Burkalow, sworn and examined.

By the Chairman:

Question. What is your connection with this hospital?

Answer. I am the chaplain of the hospital.

Question. How long have you been acting in that capacity?

Answer. I have been connected with the hospital in that capacity ever since the twentieth of October, 1862.

Question. What has been your opportunity of knowing the condition of our returned prisoners?

Answer. I have mingled with them and administered unto them ever since they have been here, night and day. I have written, I suppose, something like a hundred letters for them to their relatives and friends since they arrived here.

Question. Have you attended them when they were dying?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. And conversed with them about their condition, and the manner in which they have been brought to that condition?

Answer. Yes, sir; I have.

Question. Please tell us what you have ascertained from them?

Answer. The general story I have gotten from

them was to the effect, that when captured, and before they got to Richmond, they would generally be robbed of their clothing, their good United States uniforms, even to their shoes and hats taken from them, and if any thing was given to them in place of them, they would receive only old worn-out confederate clothing. Sometimes they were sent to Belle Isle with nothing on but old pants and shirts. They generally had their money taken from them, often with the promise of its return, but that promise was never fulfilled. They were placed on Belle Isle, as I have said, some with nothing on but pants and shirts, some with blouses, but they were seldom allowed to have an overcoat or a blanket. There they remained for weeks, some of them for six or eight weeks, without any tents or any kind of covering.

Question. What time of the year was this?

Answer. All along from September down to December, as a general thing, through the latter part of the fall. There they remained for weeks without any tents, without blankets, and in many instances without coats, exposed to the rain and snow, and all kinds of inclement weather. And where some of them had tents, they were old worn-out army tents, full of holes and rents, so that they are very poor shelters indeed from the storms. I have been told by several of them that several times, upon getting up in the morning, they would find six or eight of their number frozen to death. There are men here now who have had their toes frozen off there. They have said that they have been compelled to get up during the night and walk rapidly back and forth to keep from dying from the cold.

Question. What do they say in regard to the food furnished them?

Answer. They represent that as being very little in quantity, and of the very poorest quality, being but a small piece of corn-bread, about three inches square, made of meal ground very coarsely—some of them suppose made of corn and cobs all ground up together—and that bread was baked and cut up and sent to them in such a manner that a great deal of it would be crumbled off and lost. Sometimes they would get a very small piece of meat, but that meat very poor, and sometimes for days they would receive no meat at all. And sometimes they would receive a very small quantity of what they call rice-water—that is, water with a few grains of rice in it.

Question. You have heard their statements separately?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. Do they all agree in the same general statement as to their treatment?

Answer. Yes, sir; they do.

Question. How were they clothed when they arrived here?

Answer. They were clothed very poorly indeed, with old worn-out filthy garments, full of vermin.

Question. What was their condition and appearance as to health when they arrived here?

Answer. They looked like living skeletons—that is about the best description I can give of them—very weak and emaciated.

Question. Have you ever seen men at any time or place so emaciated as these are—so entirely destitute of flesh?

Answer. I think I have a few times, but very rarely; I have known men to become very emaciated by being for weeks affected with chronic diarrhoea, or something of that kind. But the chronic diarrhoea, and liver diseases, and lung affections, which those men now have, I understand to have been superinduced by the treatment to which they have been subjected; their cruel and merciless treatment and exposure to inclement weather without any shelter or sufficient clothing or food, reducing them literally to a state of starvation.

Question. Could any of them walk when they arrived here?

Answer. I think there was but one who could make out to walk; the rest we had to carry into the hospitals on stretchers.

By Mr. Odell:

Question. Did these men make these statements in their dying condition?

Answer. Yes, sir.

By the Chairman:

Question. Were the persons who made these statements conscious of approaching dissolution?

Answer. Yes, sir; I know of no particular cases where they spoke of these things when they were right on the borders of death; but they made them before, when they were aware of their condition.

Question. So that you have no reason to doubt that they told the exact truth, or intended to do so?

Answer. None whatever. There has been such a unanimity of testimony on that point, that I cannot entertain the shadow of a doubt.

Question. And their statements were corroborated by their appearance?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. You have had under your charge and attention confederate sick and wounded, have you not?

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. How have they been treated?

Answer. In my judgment they have been treated just as well as any of our own men ever were treated. In fact, they have got better treatment than our men did formerly, for the reason that, in addition to what we have given them—and we have tried to treat them just as we would have them treat our men—in addition to that, we have allowed the rebel sympathizers of Baltimore to bring them, every day, delicacies in abundance.

Question. Were these rebel sympathizers bountiful to them in that line?

Answer. Yes, sir, very.

Question. What has been the feeling evinced by our returned prisoners, after having received such treatment, in regard to having entered the

service? Have they ever expressed any regret that they entered our army?

Answer. As a general thing, they have not. In fact, I have heard but one express a different sentiment. He was a mere youth, not more than sixteen or seventeen years of age now. His feet were badly frozen. He remarked that he had regretted, even long before he got to Richmond, that he entered the service. But I have heard a number of them declare that if they were so fortunate as to recover their health and strength, they should be glad to return to the service, and still fight for their country.

Question. They then bear their misfortunes bravely and patriotically?

Answer. Yes, sir, they do.

Question. And without complaining of their Government?

Answer. Yes, sir, without complaining of their fate, except so far as to blame their merciless enemies.

Doc. 8.

ATTACK ON THE DEFENCES OF MOBILE.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report to the Department that this morning I entered Mobile Bay, passing between Forts Morgan and Gaines, and encountering the rebel ram Tennessee and gunboats of the enemy, namely, Selma, Morgan, and Gaines.

The attacking fleet was under way by forty-five minutes past five a.m., in the following order: The Brooklyn, with the Octorara on her port side; Hartford, with the Metacomet; Richmond, with the Port Royal; Lackawanna, with the Seminole; Monongahela, with the Tecumseh; Ossipee, with the Itasca, and the Oneida with the Galena.

On the starboard of the fleet was the proper position of the monitors or iron-clads. The wind was light from the south-west, and the sky cloudy, with very little sun. Fort Morgan opened upon us at ten minutes past seven o'clock, and soon after this the action became lively. As we steamed up the main ship channel, there was some difficulty ahead, and the Hartford passed on ahead of the Brooklyn. At forty minutes past seven the monitor Tecumseh was struck by a torpedo and sunk, going down very rapidly, and carrying down with her all the officers and crew, with the exception of the pilot and eight or ten men, who were saved by a boat that I sent from the Metacomet, which was alongside of me.

The Hartford had passed the forts before eight o'clock, and finding myself raked by the rebel gunboats, I ordered the Metacomet to cast off, and go in pursuit of them, one of which—the Selma—she succeeded in capturing.

All the vessels had passed the forts by half-past eight, but the rebel ram Tennessee was still apparently uninjured in our rear.

Signal was at once made to all the fleet to turn again and attack the ram, not only with guns, but with orders to run her down at full speed. The Monongahela was the first that struck her, and though she may have injured her badly, yet she did not succeed in disabling her. The Lackawanna also struck her, but ineffectually. The flag-ship gave her a severe shock with her bow, and as she passed poured her whole port broadside into her of solid nine-inch shot and thirteen pounds of powder, at a distance of not more than twelve feet. The iron-clads were closing upon her, and the Hartford and the rest of the fleet were bearing down upon her, when, at ten A.M., she surrendered. The rest of the rebel fleet—namely, the Morgan and Gaines—succeeded in getting back under the protection of Fort Morgan. This terminated the action of the day.

Admiral Buchanan sent me his sword, being himself badly wounded with a compound fracture of the leg, which it is supposed will have to be amputated.

Having had many of my own men wounded, and the surgeon of the Tennessee being very desirous to have Admiral Buchanan removed to the hospital, I sent a flag of truce to the commanding officer of Fort Morgan, Brigadier-General Richard L. Page, to say that if he would allow the wounded of the fleet, as well as their own, to be taken to Pensacola, where they can be better cared for than here, I would send out one of our vessels, provided she would be permitted to return, bringing back nothing she did not take out.

General Page consented, and the Metacomet was despatched.

The list of casualties on our part, as far as ascertained, is as follows:

Flag-ship Hartford—Nineteen killed, twenty-three wounded.

Brooklyn—Nine killed, twenty-two wounded.

Lackawanna—Four killed, two wounded.

Oneida—Seven killed, twenty-three wounded.

Monongahela—Six wounded.

Metacomet—One killed, two wounded.

Ossipee—One killed, seven wounded.

Galena—One wounded.

Richmond—Two wounded.

In all, forty-one killed and eighty-eight wounded.

On the rebel ram Tennessee were captured twenty officers and about one hundred and seventy men. The following is a list of the officers: Admiral F. Buchanan; Commander Joseph D. Johnson; Lieutenants Wm. D. Bradford, A. P. Wharton, E. J. McDennett; Masters J. R. De Moley, H. W. Perron; Fleet-Surgeon R. C. Bowles; Engineers G. D. Leneng, J. O'Connell, John Hays, O. Benson, W. B. Patterson; Paymaster's Clerk, J. H. Conen; Master's Mates W. A. Forrest, Beebe, and R. M. Carter; Boat-swain, John McCudie; Gunner, H. S. Smith.

On the Selma were taken ninety officers and men. Of the officers I have only heard the names of two, namely, Commander Peter U. Murphy, and Lieutenant J. H. Comstock. The latter was killed.

I will send a detailed despatch by the first opportunity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Admiral Commanding W. G. R. Squadron.

To Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

List of killed and wounded on board U. S. S. Hartford in the action with the rebel Fort Morgan and fleet, August fifth, 1864:

Killed—David Morrow, quarter-gunner; Wm. Osgood, ordinary seaman; Thos. Baine, ordinary seaman; Benjamin Harper, seaman; Wm. Clark, boy; Charles Schaffer, seaman; Frank Stillwell, nurse; George Walker, landsman; John C. Scott, ordinary seaman; Thomas Wilde, ordinary seaman; Wm. Smith, boy; Wm. Andrews, captain after-guard; Frederick Munsell, captain after-guard; Lewis McLane, landsman; Peter Duncan, landsman; ——— Smith, fireman; Thomas Baines, fireman; Thomas Stanton, fireman; ——— Cannel, fireman. Total, nineteen.

Wounded—Lieutenant Adams, slightly; Acting Third Assistant-Engineer McEwan, amputation arm; Acting Master's Mate R. P. Herrick, slightly; Acting Ensign W. H. Heginbotham, severely, (since dead;) Wilder Venner, landsman, leg; Adolphus Pulla, seaman, severe flesh wounds, legs; Hiram Elder, seaman, right leg; R. Dumphery, coal-heaver, both arms; Wm. Thompson, ordinary seaman, one leg; E. Johnson, boy, contusion, side; Walter Lloyd, boy, leg; M. Forbes, captain mizzen-top, contusion, side; Wm. Stanley, seaman, contusion and on leg; C. Stevenson, boy, contusion; F. Campbell, seaman, contusion; Wm. Doyle, boy, contusion, side; Auguste Simmons, landsman; Peter Pitta, boy; Michael Fayal, landsman; David Ortin; Wm. Trask, left leg; Charles Dennis, both arms; Thomas O'Connell, right hand off. Total, twenty-three.

CONGRATULATORY LETTER TO REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, August 15, 1864. }

SIR: Your despatch of the fifth instant, stating that you had, on the morning of that day, entered Mobile Bay, passing between Forts Morgan and Gaines, and encountering and overcoming the rebel fleet, I had the satisfaction to receive this day. Some preliminary account of your operations had previously reached us through rebel channels.

Again it is my pleasure and my duty to congratulate you and your brave associates on an achievement unequalled in our service by any other commander, and only surpassed by that unparalleled naval triumph of the squadron under your command in the spring of 1862, when, proceeding up the Mississippi, you passed Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and, overcoming all obstructions, captured New-Orleans, and restored unobstructed navigation to the commercial emporium of the great central valley of the Union.

The Bay of Mobile was not only fortified and guarded by forts and batteries on shore, and by

submerged obstructions, but the rebels had also collected there a formidable fleet, commanded by their highest naval officer—a former captain in the Union navy—who, false to the government and the Union, had deserted his country in the hour of peril, and levelled his guns against the flag which it was his duty to have defended. The possession of Mobile Bay, which you have acquired, will close the illicit traffic which has been carried on by running the blockade in that part of the Gulf, and gives point and value to the success you have achieved.

Great results in war are seldom obtained without great risks, and it was not expected that the possession of the harbor of Mobile would be secured without disaster. The loss of the gallant Craven and his brave companions, with the *Tecumseh*, (a vessel that was invulnerable to the guns of Fort Morgan,) by a concealed torpedo, was a casualty against which no human foresight could guard. While the nation awards cheerful honors to the living, she will ever hold in grateful remembrance the memory of the gallant and lamented dead, who perilled their lives for their country and died in her cause.

To you and the brave officers and sailors of your squadron, who participated in this great achievement, the Department tenders its thanks, and those of the Government and country.

Very respectfully, etc.,

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

Rear-Admiral DAVID G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding West Gulf Blockading Squadron, Mobile Bay.

SURRENDER OF FORT POWELL.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, WEST GULF BLOCKADING
SQUADRON, MOBILE BAY, August 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department that Fort Powell was evacuated on the night of the fifth instant. The rebels blew up much of the fort, but we took all of the guns, and those of the best quality, a list of which will be forwarded. We took some covered barges also from Fort Powell and Cedar Point, which do us good service as a work-shop. The Fleet Engineer and Fleet Paymaster came in the Stockdale, with iron, etc., for the repairs of our vessel.

On the afternoon of the sixth, the Chickasaw went down and shelled Fort Gaines, and on the morning of the seventh I received a communication from Colonel Anderson, commanding the Fort, offering to surrender to the fleet, asking the best conditions. I immediately sent for General Granger, and in the evening had Colonel Anderson and Major Browne on board, and the agreement was signed by all parties.

At seven A.M., August eighth, Fleet Captain Drayton, on the part of the navy, and Colonel Myer, on the part of the army, proceeded to the Fort to carry out the stipulations of the agreement, and at forty-five minutes past nine, the Fort surrendered, and the Stars and Stripes were hoisted on the staff amid the cheers of the fleet.

Inclosed herewith are copies of the letters of Colonel Anderson, and the reply of General Granger and myself, marked No. 1 and 2, respectively.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.
Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

LETTER FROM COLONEL ANDERSON TO REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

HEADQUARTERS, FORT GAINES, August 7, 1864.

To Admiral Farragut, Commanding Naval Forces off Dauphin Island:

Feeling my inability to maintain my present position longer than you may see fit to open upon me with the fleet, and feeling also the uselessness of entailing upon ourselves further destruction of life, I have the honor to propose the surrender of Fort Gaines, its garrison, stores, etc.

I trust to your magnanimity for obtaining honorable terms, which I respectfully request that you will transmit to me, and allow me sufficient time to consider them and return an answer.

This communication will be handed to you by Major W. R. Browne.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. D. ANDERSON,
Colonel Commanding.

JOINT LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT AND MAJOR-GENERAL GRANGER TO COLONEL ANDERSON.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, August 7, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with the proposal made in your letter of this morning for the surrender of Fort Gaines, I have to say that, after communicating with General Granger, in command of our forces on Dauphin Island, the only offers we can make are—

First. The unconditional surrender of yourself and the garrison of Fort Gaines, with all of the public property within its limits.

Second. The treatment which is in conformity with the custom of the most civilized nations toward prisoners of war.

Third. Private property, with the exception of arms, will be respected.

This communication will be handed you by Fleet Captain P. Drayton, and Colonel Myer of the U. S. army, who fully understand the views of General Granger and myself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral.

G. GRANGER,
Major-General U. S. Army.

Colonel C. D. ANDERSON,
Commanding Fort Gaines.

ATTACK ON THE DEFENCES OF MOBILE—DETAILED REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 12, 1864.

SIR: I had the honor to forward to the Department, on the evening of the fifth instant, a report of my *entrée* into Mobile Bay on the morning of that day, and which, though brief, contained all the principal facts of the attack.

Notwithstanding the loss of life, particularly

on this ship, and the terrible disaster to the *Tecumseh*, the result of the fight was a glorious victory, and I have reason to feel proud of the officers, seamen, and marines of the squadron under my command, for it has never fallen to the lot of an officer to be thus situated and thus sustained. Regular discipline will bring men to any amount of endurance, but there is a natural fear of hidden dangers, particularly when so awfully destructive of human life as the torpedo, which requires more than discipline to overcome.

Preliminary to a report of the action of the fifth, I desire to call the attention of the Department to the previous steps taken in consultation with Generals Canby and Granger. On the eighth of July I had an interview with these officers on board the *Hartford*, on the subject of an attack upon Forts Morgan and Gaines, at which it was agreed that General Canby would send all the troops he could spare to cooperate with the fleet. Circumstances soon obliged General Canby to inform me that he could not despatch a sufficient number to invest both forts, and in reply I suggested that Gaines should be the first invested, engaging to have a force in the sound ready to protect the landing of the army on Dauphin Island in the rear of that fort, and I assigned Lieutenant Commander De Krafft, of the *Conemaugh*, to that duty.

On the first instant General Granger visited me again on the *Hartford*. In the mean time the *Tecumseh* had arrived at Pensacola, and Captain Craven had informed me that he would be ready in four days for any service. We therefore fixed upon the fourth of August as the day for the landing of the troops and my entrance into the bay; but owing to delays mentioned in Captain Jenkins's communication to me, the *Tecumseh* was not ready. General Granger, however, to my mortification, was up to time, and the troops actually landed on Dauphin Island.

As subsequent events proved, the delay turned to our advantage, as the rebels were busily engaged during the fourth in throwing troops and supplies into Fort Gaines, all of which were captured a few days afterward.

The *Tecumseh* arrived on the evening of the fourth, and every thing being propitious, I proceeded to the attack on the following morning.

As mentioned in my previous despatch, the vessels outside the bar, which were designed to participate in the engagement, were all under way by forty minutes past five in the morning, in the following order, two abreast, and lashed together: Brooklyn, Captain James Alden, with the *Octorara*, Lieutenant Commander C. H. Green, on the port side; *Hartford*, Captain Percival Drayton, with the *Metacomet*, Lieutenant Commander I. E. Jouett; Richmond, Captain T. A. Jenkins, with the *Port Royal*, Lieutenant Commander B. Gherardi; Lackawanna, Captain J. B. Marchand, with the *Seminole*, Commander E. Donaldson; *Monongahela*, Commander J. H. Strong, with the *Kennebec*, Lieutenant Commander W. P. McCann; *Ossipee*, Commander W. E. Le Roy, with the *Itasca*, Lieutenant Com-

mander George Brown; *Oncida*, Commander I. R. M. Mullany, with the *Galena*, Lieutenant Commander C. H. Wells. The iron-clads—*Tecumseh*, Commander T. A. M. Craven; the *Manhattan*, Commander I. W. A. Nicholson; the *Winnebago*, Commander T. H. Stevens; and the *Chickasaw*, Lieutenant Commander G. H. Perkins—were already inside the bar, and had been ordered to take up their positions on the starboard side of the wooden ships, or between them and Fort Morgan, for the double purpose of keeping down the fire from the water-battery and the parapet guns of the fort, as well as to attack the *ram Tennessee* as soon as the Fort was passed.

It was only at the urgent request of the Captains and commanding officers that I yielded to the Brooklyn being the leading ship of the line, as she had four chase-guns and an ingenious arrangement for picking up torpedoes, and because, in their judgment, the flag-ship ought not to be too much exposed. This I believe to be an error; for apart from the fact that exposure is one of the penalties of rank in the navy, it will always be the aim of the enemy to destroy the flag-ship, and, as will appear in the sequel, such attempt was very persistently made, but Providence did not permit it to be successful.

The attacking fleet steamed steadily up the main ship-channel, the *Tecumseh* firing the first shot at forty-seven minutes past six o'clock. At six minutes past seven the Fort opened upon us, and was replied to by a gun from the Brooklyn, and immediately after the action became general.

It was soon apparent that there was some difficulty ahead. The Brooklyn, for some cause which I did not then clearly understand, but which has since been explained by Captain Alden in his report, arrested the advance of the whole fleet, while, at the same time, the guns of the Fort were playing with great effect upon that vessel and the *Hartford*. A moment after I saw the *Tecumseh* struck by a torpedo, disappear almost instantaneously beneath the waves, carrying with her her gallant commander and nearly all her crew. I determined at once, as I had originally intended, to take the lead, and after ordering the *Metacomet* to send a boat to save, if possible, any of the perishing crew, I dashed ahead with the *Hartford*, and the ships followed on, their officers believing that they were going to a noble death with their commander-in-chief.

I steamed through between the buoys, where the torpedoes were supposed to have been sunk. These buoys had been previously examined by my Flag-Lieutenant, I. Crittenden Watson, in several nightly reconnoissances. Though he had not been able to discover the sunken torpedoes, yet we had been assured by refugees, deserters, and others, of their existence, but, believing that from their having been some time in the water, they were probably innocuous, I determined to take the chance of their explosion.

From the moment I turned to the north-westward, to clear the middle ground, we were enabled to keep such a broadside fire upon the bat-

teries of Fort Morgan that their guns did us comparatively little injury.

Just after we passed the Fort, which was about ten minutes before eight o'clock, the ram Tennessee dashed out at this ship, as had been expected, and in anticipation of which I had ordered the Monitors on our starboard side. I took no further notice of her than to return her fire.

The rebel gunboats, Morgan, Gaines, and Selma, were ahead, and the latter particularly annoyed us with a raking fire, which our guns could not return. At two minutes after eight o'clock I ordered the Metacomet to cast off and go in pursuit of the Selma. Captain Jouett was after her in a moment, and in an hour's time he had her as a prize. She was commanded by P. N. Murphy, formerly of the United States navy. He was wounded in the wrist, his executive officer, Lieutenant Comstock, and eight of the crew, killed, and seven or eight wounded. Lieutenant Commander Jouett's conduct during the whole affair commands my warmest commendations. The Morgan and Gaines succeeded in escaping under the protection of the guns of Fort Morgan, which would have been prevented had the other gunboats been as prompt in their movements as the Metacomet; the want of pilots, however, I believe, was the principal difficulty. The Gaines was so injured by our fire that she had to be run ashore, where she was subsequently destroyed, but the Morgan escaped to Mobile during the night, though she was chased and fired upon by our cruisers.

Having passed the forts and dispersed the enemy's gunboats, I had ordered most of the vessels to anchor, when I perceived the ram Tennessee standing up for this ship. This was at forty-five minutes past eight. I was not long in comprehending his intentions to be the destruction of the flag-ship. The Monitors and such of the wooden vessels as I thought best adapted for the purpose, were immediately ordered to attack the ram, not only with their guns, but bows on at full speed, and then began one of the fiercest naval combats on record.

The Monongahela, Commander Strong, was the first vessel that struck her, and in doing so carried away his own iron prow, together with the cutwater, without apparently doing her adversary much injury. The Lackawanna, Captain Marchand, was the next vessel to strike her, which she did at full speed; but though her stem was cut and crushed to the plank ends for the distance of three feet above the water-edge, to five feet below, the only perceptible effect on the ram was to give her a heavy list.

The Hartford was the third vessel which struck her, but, as the Tennessee quickly shifted her helm, the blow was a glancing one, and, as she rasped along our side, we poured our whole port broadside of nine-inch solid shot within ten feet of her casemate.

The Monitors worked slowly, but delivered their fire as opportunity offered. The Chickasaw succeeded in getting under her stern, and a fifteen-inch shot from the Manhattan broke

through her iron plating and heavy wooden backing, though the missile itself did not enter the vessel.

Immediately after the collision with the flag-ship, I directed Captain Drayton to bear down for the ram again. He was doing so at full speed when, unfortunately, the Lackawanna run into the Hartford just forward of the mizzen-mast, cutting her down to within two feet of the water's edge. We soon got clear again, however, and were fast approaching our adversary, when she struck her colors and run up the white flag.

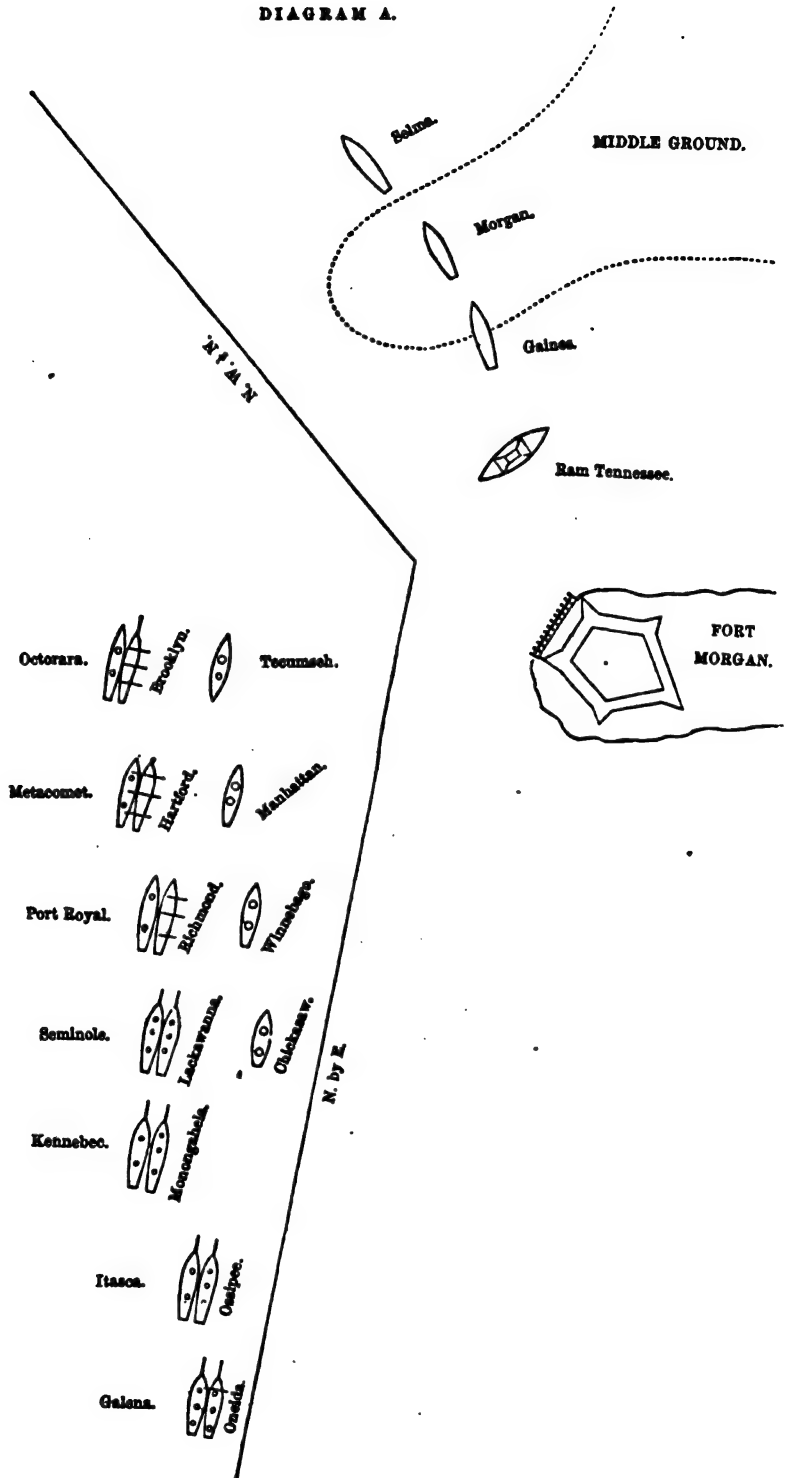
She was at this time sore beset; the Chickasaw was pounding away at her stern, the Ossipee was approaching her at full speed, and the Monongahela, Lackawanna, and this ship were bearing down upon her, determined upon her destruction. Her smoke-stack had been shot away, her steering chains were gone, compelling a resort to her relieving tackles, and several of her port shutters were jammed. Indeed, from the time the Hartford struck her until her surrender she never fired a gun. As the Ossipee, Commander Le Roy, was about to strike her, she hoisted the white flag, and that vessel immediately stopped her engine, though not in time to avoid a glancing blow.

During this contest with the rebel gunboats and the ram Tennessee, and which terminated by her surrender at ten o'clock, we lost many more men than from the fire of the batteries of Fort Morgan.

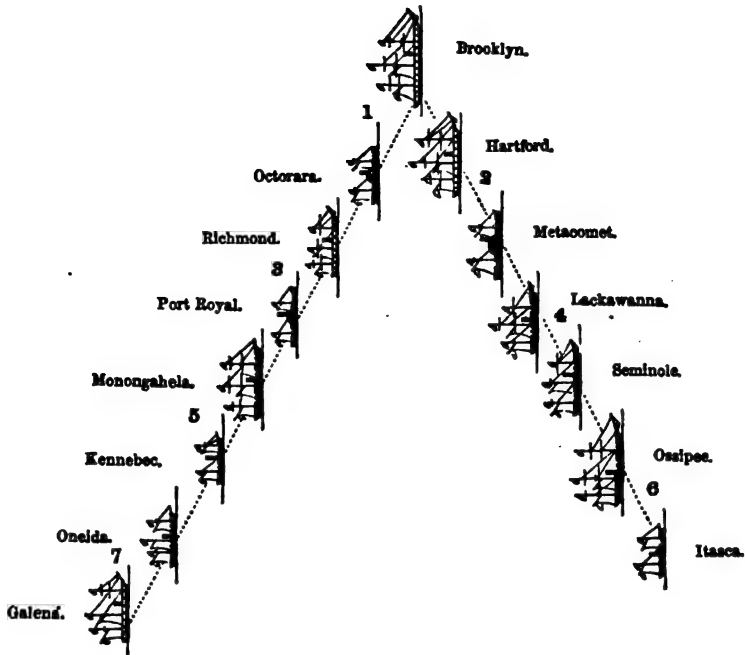
Admiral Buchanan was wounded in the leg; two or three of his men were killed, and five or six wounded. Commander Johnston, formerly of the United States navy, was in command of the Tennessee, and came on board the flag-ship, to surrender his sword and that of Admiral Buchanan. The surgeon, Doctor Conrad, came with him, stated the condition of the Admiral, and wished to know what was to be done with him. Fleet Surgeon Palmer, who was on board the Hartford, during the action, commiserating the sufferings of the wounded, suggested that those of both sides be sent to Pensacola, where they could be properly cared for. I therefore addressed a note to Brigadier-General R. L. Page, commanding Fort Morgan, informing him that Admiral Buchanan and others of the Tennessee had been wounded, and desiring to know whether he would permit one of our vessels, under a flag of truce, to convey them, with or without our wounded, to Pensacola, on the understanding that the vessel should take out none but the wounded, and bring nothing back that she did not take out. This was acceded to by General Page, and the Metacomet proceeded on this mission of humanity.

I inclose herewith the correspondence with that officer, (marked numbers one, two, three, and four.) I forward also the reports (marked numbers five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, and twenty-one) of the commanding officers of the vessels who par-

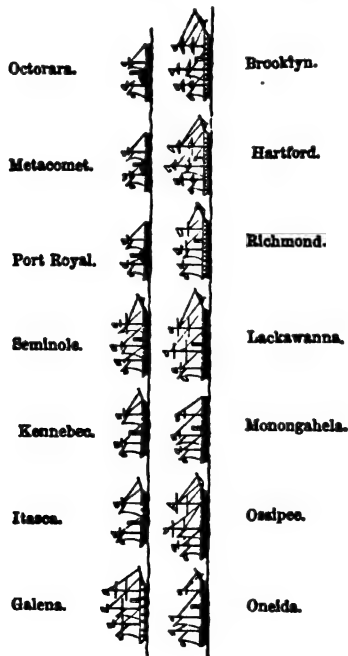
DIAGRAM A.



SECOND ORDER OF SAILING.



THIRD ORDER OF SAILING.



ticipated in the action, and who will no doubt call attention to the conduct of such individuals as most distinguished themselves.

As I had an elevated position in the main rigging near the top, I was able to overlook not only the deck of the Hartford, but the other vessels of the fleet. I witnessed the terrible effects of the enemy's shot, and the good conduct of the men at their guns, and although no doubt their hearts sickened, as mine did, when their shipmates were struck down beside them, yet there was not a moment's hesitation to lay their comrades aside, and spring again to their deadly work.

Our little consort, the *Metacomet*, was also under my immediate eye during the whole action up to the moment I ordered her to cast off in pursuit of the *Selma*. The coolness and promptness of Lieutenant Commander Jouett throughout merit high praise; his whole conduct was worthy of his reputation.

In this connection I must not omit to call the attention of the Department to the conduct of Acting Ensign Henry C. Nields, of the *Metacomet*, who had charge of the boat sent from that vessel, when the *Tecumseh* sunk. He took her in under one of the most galling fires I ever saw, and succeeded in rescuing from death ten of her crew, within six hundred yards of the Fort. I would respectfully recommend his advancement. The commanding officers of all the vessels who took part in the action deserve my warmest commendations, not only for the untiring zeal with which they had prepared their ships for the contest, but for their skill and daring in carrying out my orders during the engagement. With the exception of the momentary arrest of the fleet, when the *Hartford* passed ahead, and to which I have already adverted, the order of battle was preserved, and the ships followed each other in close order past the batteries of Fort Morgan, and in comparative safety too, with the exception of the *Oneida*. Her boilers were penetrated by a shot from the Fort, which completely disabled her, but her consort, the *Galena*, firmly fastened to her side, brought her safely through, showing clearly the wisdom of the precaution of carrying the vessels in two abreast. Commander Mullany, who had solicited eagerly to take part in the action, was severely wounded, losing his left arm.

In the encounter with the ram, the commanding officers obeyed with alacrity the order to run her down, and without hesitation exposed their ships to destruction to destroy the enemy.

Our iron-clads, from their slow speed and bad steering, had some difficulty in getting into and maintaining their position in line, as we passed the Fort, and, in the subsequent encounter with the *Tennessee*, from the same causes were not as effective as could have been desired, but I cannot give too much praise to Lieutenant Commander Perkins, who, though he had orders from the Department to return North, volunteered to take command of the *Chickasaw*, and did his duty nobly.

The *Winnebago* was commanded by Commander T. H. Stevens, who volunteered for that position. His vessel steers very badly, and neither of his turrets will work, which compelled him to turn his vessel every time to get a shot, so that he could not fire very often, but he did the best under the circumstances.

The *Manhattan* appeared to work well, though she moved slowly. Commander Nicholson delivered his fire deliberately, and, as before stated, with one of his fifteen-inch shot broke through the armor of the *Tennessee*, with its wooden backing, though the shot itself did not enter the vessel. No other shot broke through her armor, though many of her plates were started, and several of her port shutters jammed by the fire from the different ships.

The *Hartford*, my flag-ship, was commanded by Captain Percival Drayton, who exhibited throughout that coolness and ability for which he has been long known to his brother officers. But I must speak of that officer in a double capacity. He is the Fleet Captain of my squadron, and one of more determined energy, untiring devotion to duty, and zeal for the service, tempered by great calmness, I do not think adorns any navy. I desire to call your attention to this officer, though well aware that in thus speaking of his high qualities, I am only communicating officially to the Department that which it knew full well before. To him, and to my staff, in their respective positions, I am indebted for the detail of my fleet.

Lieutenant I. Crittenden Watson, my Flag-Lieutenant, has been brought to your notice in former despatches. During the action he was on the poop attending to the signals, and performed his duties as might be expected, thoroughly. He is a scion worthy the noble stock he sprang from, and I commend him to your attention.

My Secretary, Mr. McKinley, and Acting Ensign H. H. Brownell, were also on the poop, the latter taking notes of the action, a duty which he performed with coolness and accuracy.

Two other Acting Ensigns of my staff, Mr. Bogart and Mr. Heginbotham, were on duty in the powder division, and, as the reports will show, exhibited zeal and ability. The latter, I regret to add, was severely wounded by a raking shot from the *Tennessee*, when we collided with that vessel, and died a few hours after. Mr. Heginbotham was a young married man, and has left a widow and one child, whom I commend to the kindness of the Department.

Lieutenant A. R. Yates, of the *Augusta*, acted as an additional aid to me on board the *Hartford*, and was very efficient in the transmission of orders. I have given him the command temporarily of the captured steamer *Selma*.

The last of my staff, and to whom I would call the attention of the Department, is not the least in importance. I mean Pilot Martin Freeman. He has been my great reliance in all difficulties in his line of duty. During the action, he was in the main-top, piloting the ships into

the bay. He was cool and brave throughout, never losing his self-possession. This man was captured early in the war in a fine fishing-smack which he owned, and though he protested that he had no interest in the war, and only asked for the privilege of fishing for the fleet, yet his services were too valuable to the captors as a pilot not to be secured. He was appointed a first-class pilot, and has served us with zeal and fidelity, and has lost his vessel, which went to pieces on Ship Island. I commend him to the Department.

It gives me pleasure to refer to several officers who volunteered to take any situation where they might be useful, some of whom were on their way North, either by orders of the Department, or condemned by medical survey. The reports of the different commanders will show how they conducted themselves.

I have already mentioned Lieutenant Commander Perkins of the Chickasaw, and Lieutenant Yates of the Augusta. Acting Volunteer Lieutenant William Hamilton, late commanding officer of the Augusta Dinsmore, had been invalidated by medical survey, but he eagerly offered his services on board the iron-clad Chickasaw, having had much experience in our Monitors. Acting Volunteer Lieutenant P. Giraud, another experienced officer in iron-clads, asked to go in on one of these vessels, but as they were all well supplied with officers, I permitted him to go in on the Ossipee, under Commander Le Roy. After the action he was given temporary charge of the ram Tennessee.

Before closing this report, there is one other officer of my squadron of whom I feel bound to speak, Captain T. A. Jenkins, of the Richmond, who was formerly my Chief of Staff, not because of his having held that position, but because he never forgets to do his duty to the Government, and takes now the same interest in the fleet as when he stood in that relation to me. He is also the commanding officer of the Second division of my squadron, and, as such, has shown ability and the most untiring zeal. He carries out the spirit of one of Lord Collingwood's best sayings: "Not to be afraid of doing too much; those who are, seldom do as much as they ought." When in Pensacola, he spent days on the bar, placing the buoys in the best positions, was always looking after the interests of the service, and keeping the vessels from being detained one moment longer in port than was necessary. The gallant Craven told me only the night before the action in which he lost his life: "I regret, Admiral, that I have detained you; but had it not been for Captain Jenkins, God knows when I should have been here. When your order came I had not received an ounce of coal."

I feel that I should not be doing my duty did I not call the attention of the Department to an officer who has performed all his various duties with so much zeal and fidelity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

I inclose herewith my General Orders, Nos. 10 and 12, (marked twenty-two and twenty-three,) issued before the action, and General Orders Nos. 12 and 13, (marked twenty-four and twenty-five,) issued after the engagement.

LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. L. PAGE.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, August 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General R. L. Page, Commanding Fort Morgan:

SIR: Admiral Buchanan is severely wounded, having lost his leg. There are in addition four or five others of the crew of the Tennessee who require more comfortable quarters than we can give them in the fleet. Will the commanding officer at Fort Morgan permit a vessel to take them to our hospital at Pensacola, with or without our own wounded? The understanding being that the flag of truce vessel takes nothing whatever but the wounded, and brings nothing back that she did not take out, and my honor is given for the above time. Very respectfully,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. L. PAGE TO REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, D. G.,
FORT MORGAN, ALA., August 5, 1864. }

SIR: Your communication of this date is received. I am much obliged for the information regarding Admiral Buchanan.

Your request relative to the wounded of the Tennessee, and also those of your own command, being taken to Pensacola, will be permitted under a flag of truce, and to return on the conditions you propose.

I would be glad if Admiral Buchanan, having lost a leg, be permitted, under parole, to go to Mobile, where he can receive earlier and more prompt attention.

If the latter request is granted, please inform me, and I will have a boat from town to take him up. Very respectfully,

R. L. PAGE,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

Rear-Admiral DAVID G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. Squadron, Mobile Bay.

LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. L. PAGE.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: In reply to your note of this date, I would say that it is altogether out of the question that I should permit Admiral Buchanan to be sent to Mobile, but I will send him to Pensacola, where he will receive the same comforts as our own wounded, which I apprehend are as good as they could be at Mobile.

It was simply as an act of humanity that I made the proposition I did to-day. I would be glad to bury my dead on shore, but if there is any objection to it, they can have a sailor's grave in the deep, honored by the heartfelt sighs of their shipmates. Very respectfully,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral Commanding.
Brigadier-General R. L. PAGE,
Commanding Fort Morgan.

LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. L. PAGE TO
REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

Fort Morgan, August 6, 1864.

SIR: Your note of the fifth received. There is no objection to your burying your dead on shore. When they arrive near the wharf here, a point will be designated for the burial.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. PAGE,

Brigadier-General U. S. A.

To Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,

Commanding U. S. Naval Forces, Mobile Bay

REPORT OF CAPTAIN PERCIVAL DRAYTON.

Flag-SHIP HARTFORD, Mobile Bay, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to offer the following report of the part which this vessel took in the action of yesterday:

According to previous arrangement, the Metacomet lashed alongside of us at half-past four A.M., and at half-past five we got under way, following the Brooklyn, which led the line. After some little delay, which was required to allow of all the vessels getting into position, we moved on in the direction of Fort Morgan, which opened on us at about two miles distance at six minutes past seven. The enemy's fire was at once answered by our bow hundred-pounder rifle, the only gun that could be brought to bear, until about half-past seven, when we commenced firing the broadside guns with great rapidity, which was continued as long as they could be of use. About thirty-five minutes past seven, I heard the cry that a monitor was sinking, and looking on the starboard-bow, saw the turret of the Tecumseh just disappearing under the water, where an instant before I had seen this noble vessel pushing on gallantly in a straight line to attack the enemy's ram Tennessee, which had apparently moved out to give her an opportunity.

As our boats could not be lowered, by your direction, one was sent which was towing astern of the Metacomet, the vessel lashed to us.

The rapidity of our fire, together with the smoke, so completely disordered the enemy's aim, that we passed the Fort with no great injury or loss of life, a shell which came through the side and exploded a little abaft the mainmast, killing and wounding a large portion of number seven gun's crew, being the only one that caused much destruction. As we, however, were getting by the shore batteries, we came directly under the fire of the gunboats Selma, Morgan, and Gaines, and the ram Tennessee, and being only able to direct our fire on one of them at a time, the shots from the others were delivered with great deliberation and consequent effect, a single shot having killed ten and wounded five men at number one and two guns.

The Tennessee also followed us for some distance, throwing an occasional shot, but finding that she did not come up, and we being now a mile ahead of the remainder of the fleet, she turned and ran down to them, not wishing, I suppose, to be entirely cut off from Fort Morgan.

At this time, by your order, the Metacomet

was cast off and directed to chase the Selma, which, keeping on our bow, had annoyed us excessively with her three stern guns, which we could not answer, owing to our rifle gun-carriage having been destroyed by a shell.

She was just sheering off as the Metacomet was loosed from us, and being followed into shallow water was overtaken and captured by the latter vessel, after an exciting running fight of an hour.

The other two gunboats, the Morgan and Gaines, also got into shallow water, and not being followed by any of our light-draft vessels, escaped to Fort Morgan, where one was run ashore and afterward burned; and the other, the Morgan, got into Mobile during the night by keeping close in shore.

The fight appearing to be now over, we anchored and made signal to the fleet to do the same, supposing that as the Tennessee had got under Fort Morgan, she would remain there, when a quarter of an hour later it was reported that she had come out and was steering toward us. I could not, however, believe in such temerity at first, but its truth becoming soon evident, by your order, I commenced heaving up the anchor, and should have slipped had it not been for the jamming of a shackle-pin; but the ship was soon under way again, steering for the ram, which we struck with great force, although not on her beam, as she turned toward us as we approached. After striking we dropped close alongside, and delivered our broadside of solid nine-inch shot with thirteen pounds of powder, at a distance of perhaps not more than eight feet from her side, as I believe, however, from subsequent observation, without doing any injury. The ram at the time had only two guns in broadside.

One missed fire several times, as we could distinctly hear; the shell from the other passed through our berth-deck and exploded just inside, killing and wounding a number of men, and the pieces broke through the spar and berth-decks, even going through the launch and into the hold where were the wounded.

We then stood off, and were making another circuit to run into the ram again, when in mid career the Lackawanna struck us a little forward of the mizzenmast, cutting us completely down to within two feet of the water. This caused a detention of perhaps five minutes, but finding that we were not sinking, the ship was, by your order, pointed again for the ram, and we were going for her at full speed, when it was observed that a white flag was flying.

This ended the action, and at ten minutes past ten we had again anchored at about four miles distant from Fort Morgan. I have now only to speak of the officers and crew.

To Lieutenant Commander Kimberly, the executive officer, I am indebted, not only for the fine example of coolness and self-possession which he set to those around him, but also for the excellent condition to which he had brought every thing belonging to the fighting department of the ship, in consequence of which there was

no confusion anywhere, even when, from the terrible slaughter at some of the guns, it might have been looked for.

All did their duty, but I cannot but mention Lieutenants Tyson and Adams, and Ensign Whiting, to whose example and exertions it was in a great measure owing, no doubt, that the great loss at some of the guns was not followed by confusion or delay in repairing damages. Acting Master's Mate Finelli, who took charge of the Third division after Lieutenant Adams was wounded, is spoken of to me very highly. Acting Third Assistant-Engineer McEwan is also strongly noticed in the report of Chief-Engineer Williamson. He lost his right arm while busily employed on the berth-deck, where he was stationed, in assisting and comforting the wounded. He is spoken of by his superiors as most competent to fill the position of Third Assistant-Engineer in the regular service, for which I would beg you to recommend him to the Hon. Secretary of the Navy.

The last shell fired at us—that from the ram—killed my clerk, Ensign W. H. Heginbotham.

Although this was the first time he had been in action, nothing, I am told, could exceed the coolness and zeal with which he performed his duties in the powder division, and I feel his loss most seriously, as his general intelligence and many amiable qualities had made him almost necessary to me.

I must also thank Lieutenant A. R. Yates, a volunteer from the United States steamship Augusta, who acted as an aid both to you and myself, and was to me most useful.

The two after-guns were entirely manned by marines, who, under the direction of Captain Charles Heywood, performed most efficient service.

Thanks to the unremitting supervision of Chief-Engineer Williamson, all had been so thoroughly prepared in his department, that nothing was required of the engines during the day which they could not perfectly perform.

The devoted attention of Fleet-Surgeon Palmer, Surgeon Lansdale, and Assistant-Surgeon Commons to our wounded was beyond praise, and it was owing to their skill and untiring exertions that the large number of desperately wounded were prepared by eight o'clock in the evening for removal to the hospital at Pensacola, for which place they left at daylight on the following morning in the Metacomet, under a flag of truce.

Boatswain Dixon was nearly knocked overboard by a splinter, but absented himself from the deck only long enough to have his wounds dressed, when he returned to his duties.

Acting Master's Mate Henrick, while superintending the passage of powder and shell on the berth-deck, was very seriously wounded by a piece of shell which entirely disabled him at the time, and may, I am afraid, prove very serious. Up to this time his conduct and bearing are spoken of by the commanding officer of the division in the highest praise.

I must also thank Lieutenant Watson, your

Flag-Lieutenant, who, besides attending most faithfully to the signals, found time to assist me on several occasions when it was important to give directions in detail about the firing.

Of the crew, I can scarcely say too much. They were most of them persons who had never been in action, and yet I cannot hear of a case where any one attempted to leave his quarters or showed any thing but the sternest determination to fight it out. There might perhaps have been a little excuse had such a disposition been exhibited, when it is considered that a great part of four guns' crews were at different times swept away almost entirely by as many shells. In every case, however, the killed and wounded were quickly removed; the injuries at the guns made good, and in a few moments, except from the traces of blood, nothing could lead one to suppose that any thing out of the ordinary routine had happened.

In conclusion, I request that you will recommend to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, for the medal of honor, the men whose names accompany this in a separate report. They well deserve the distinction. Very respectfully,

P. DRAYTON.
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding U. S. B. Squadron.

With this report I inclose those of the executive officer, the officers of divisions, and of the gunner, carpenter, and sailmaker, and I beg leave to heartily indorse all that is said in them about the officers and men of their respective commands.

I would also beg leave to say that although there was very considerable loss of life in the powder division, thanks to the good arrangements and the example of Ensign Dana, who was in charge of it, there was no confusion.

He was also greatly assisted in the after-part of the division by sailmaker T. C. Herbert, whose example tended much to give confidence to those around him; he is a most deserving officer. The gunner, J. L. Staples, and carpenter, George E. Burcham, also deserve notice for their strict attention to duty. Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
P. DRAYTON.
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding U. S. B. Squadron.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: Agreeably to your order, I submit the following reports of the passage of this ship by Forts Morgan and Gaines, and our engagement with the ram Tennessee, iron-clad, and with the gunboats Selma, Gaines, and Morgan.

On the morning of the fifth, called all hands at three A.M., stowed hammocks, and gave the people an early breakfast, hove in to twenty fathoms of chain, and prepared to receive the United States steamer Metacomet alongside. At daylight the Metacomet came on our port side and made fast, our battery on that side having been run in for that purpose.

Hove up our anchor, and at forty minutes past five A.M. stood in to take our position astern of the Brooklyn, which ship was slowly standing in for the bar, followed by the Hartford. Lashed our anchors to the bows, and secured the chains with extra stoppers, beat to quarters, and cleared ship for action. A few minutes after seven o'clock, Fort Morgan opened upon us, and continued firing until the fleet had passed.

We commenced and continued to fire with our starboard hundred-pounder Parrott on the top-gallant forecastle, until our starboard broadside could bear, which was not, however, until we got nearly abreast of the Fort, when we opened with our twelve nine-inch guns, loaded with ten-second shell. We now fired rapidly, and as we approached used five-second shell and shrapnel, with fuses cut at two seconds, which had the effect to drive the enemy from their water-batteries and parapet guns whilst we were abreast of the Fort. The Brooklyn now having stopped and commenced backing, the Hartford went ahead and led the fleet until we anchored up the bay.

After passing the Brooklyn, the rebel ram and gunboats paid their individual attention to this ship, taking position ahead and on our starboard bow, and with their heavy guns raking us, we not being able to bring any guns to bear on them, except those mounted on the top-gallant forecastle. We continued, however, to advance, they preserving their position until we got some distance from Fort Morgan, when the rebel ram went back to attack our ships astern. The three gunboats, however, still stuck by us. We had now so altered our course as to bring them to bear on our starboard bow and beam, and opened on them with the starboard broadside; we now were on a footing with them, and delivered our fire with effect on all three, they edging off and increasing their distance, but still keeping up a hot fire, from which we suffered very much. This part of the action had now lasted some thirty minutes, most of the time their fire raking us, cutting down our men at the guns fearfully, and damaging gun-carriages and material, when the Metacomet cast off and pursued. The enemy by this time having been pretty well handled, hauled off, separated, the Gaines and Morgan making for the fort, and the Selma falling a prize to the Metacomet. Our ships now having come up, we steamed up the bay and anchored with fifteen fathoms of chain in three and a quarter fathoms of water, when the ram was seen approaching; hove up our anchor, went to quarters, and stood down for the enemy; endeavored to strike her, but our anchor hanging from the hawse-pipe, sheered us off from the ram, so that the ships passed, the port sides grazing each other; depressed our port guns and fired with thirteen pounds of powder and solid shot. After passing, put our helm hard a starboard, to come around for another butt, the ship, however, making a larger circle in getting around; approached near to our own ships that were bound down for the rebel ram; one of them, the Lackawanna, struck us on the starboard side abast the main-chains, knocking two of our ports

into one, capsized a nine-inch gun, carried away the gig and davits, and starboard M. S. M. back-stays, also cutting us down to within two feet of the water. We cleared, and stood down for the ram, which had turned and was running away without a smoke-stack, followed by our iron-clads, the Ossipee and other ships. When we were nearly up to the enemy, she hoisted the white flag and surrendered—this ship turned back a short distance and anchored.

The conduct of the crew was splendid, and their enthusiasm was unbounded, notwithstanding the raking fire that we suffered. When men fell, others filled the gaps, until almost two entire crews had been swept away. Nothing could be more noble than the spirit displayed by our wounded and dying, who cheered and smiled in their agony, seemingly contented at the sacrifice of their lives for the victory vouchsafed to their country. Such men are our heroes.

The officers, one and all, did their whole duty, and in a measure to their exertions and example may be attributed the unflinching conduct of those they so well instructed, drilled, and commanded. Conspicuous was Ensign Whiting, who worked the forecastle guns under the most trying circumstances and under the most scathing fire. Mr. Dixon, our boatswain; Wm. McEwan, Acting Assistant Engineer; Mr. Herrick, Acting Master's Mate; Acting Ensigns Bogart and Heg-inbotham, deserve praise for their coolness and assistance in the powder division, which was at one time a perfect slaughter-house.

Lieutenant Yates, of the U. S. Steamer Augusta, and Acting Ensign Marthow, of the U. S. Steamer Tennessee, who volunteered for the fight, also deserve praise for their very valuable services.

Appended are the reports of the divisional officers, whose mention of particular acts of men under their immediate command will enable you to recommend the men mentioned to notice; also the reports of the several officers in charge of the different departments and of the damages sustained therein.

Very respectfully,

L. A. KIMBERLY,

Lieutenant Commander and Executive Officer.

Captain P. DRAYTON,

Commanding U. S. S. Hartford.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the conduct of the officers and men in the First division, during the engagement of yesterday.

Acting Ensign W. H. Whiting, in charge of the forecastle guns, deserves special mention for his gallantry in serving and working both one-hundred pounder rifles under the most trying circumstances.

The three captains of guns, Henry Clark, Peter W. Stanley, and Wm. H. Wright, displayed an amount of courage and coolness which I have rarely seen equalled. But the two men of whom I wish particularly to speak are Charles Melville and Thomas Fitzpatrick. A rifle shell burst between the two forward nine-inch guns, killing and wounding fifteen men. Charles Melville was

among the wounded, and was taken down with the rest to the Surgeon, but came on deck almost immediately, and although scarcely able to stand, refused to go below, and worked at the gun during the remainder of the action. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Captain of No. 1 gun, was struck several times in the face by splinters, and had his gun disabled by a shell. In a few minutes he had his gun in working order again, with new truck, breeching, side-tackle, etc., his wounded below, the dead clear, and was fighting his gun as before, setting a splendid example to the remainder of his crew. His conduct came particularly under my notice, and during the entire action was distinguished for coolness and bravery.

The First division had thirteen killed and ten wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
HERBERT B. TYSON,
Lieutenant Commanding First Division.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the conduct of the Second division during the engagement of yesterday, the fifth, with Fort Morgan and the rebel gunboats and ram Tennessee. But a few moments elapsed after the drum beat to quarters before every man was at his station, the guns cast loose and ready for action. Every man seemed determined to do his duty, which he did faithfully, not a man shrinking. Where all did their duty so well, it is hard to discriminate, still it gives me pleasure to mention a few who were the most conspicuous.

Acting Master's Mate Wm. H. Childs displayed great courage in assisting me in the division; the Captains of the guns, Charles Lake, (Coxswain,) Joseph Perry, (Quartermaster,) James Smith, (Captain mizzen-top,) the Second Captains, James Bennett, (seaman,) Owen Holland, (Second Captain mizzen-top,) and Samuel McFall, (Captain After-Guard) showed an example of coolness, energy, and bravery, which stimulated those less brave than themselves, and reflected credit upon themselves. The loaders and spongers, Beonth Diggings, (ordinary seaman,) Augustus Pauly, (seaman,) Charles Davidson, (Captain Forecastle,) Henry Wright, (ordinary seaman,) and Robert Emerson, (landsman) did nobly, and I am proud to have such men under my command; the Quarter-Gunner David Morrow was killed. The battery constituting the Second division is in perfect order — not a gun injured.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE MUNDY,
Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Commanding Second Division.
Lieutenant Commander L. A. KIMBERLY,
Executive Officer U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the conduct of the officers and men of the Third division during the engagement of yesterday with Fort Morgan, the rebel gunboats, and the ram.

When the drum beat to quarters, every man was at his station instantly, and the guns cleared

for action. We were unable to bring our guns to bear until nearly abreast of the Fort. We then fired with ten-inch shell and forty degrees of elevation. The fire was kept up with great rapidity, using five-inch shell and decreasing the elevation as we neared the Fort. When abreast of it two rounds of shrapnel cut for two-inch were fired by us. As we passed ahead of the Brooklyn, two shell struck by No. 7 gun, disabling the crew; but one man escaped uninjured on the right side of that gun. Another shell followed in a few seconds, wounding the captain of No. 7, three men at No. 8, and myself. Four men were killed and nine wounded in all, and by those three shell. The gun-captains behaved splendidly — Forbes, Ingersoll, Pinto. Wm. E. Stanley, shellman of No. 8 gun, continued to pass shell after being wounded, till compelled by loss of blood to go below; he deserves especial mention. Every man did his duty in the most gallant manner. I am proud to have had command of so brave a set of men. Acting Master's Mate J. J. Tinelli I cannot fail to mention. He behaved with great gallantry, encouraging the men by his example, and served the guns of the division with great spirit, against the rebel gunboats and ram, after I was sent below.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LA RUE P. ADAMS,
Lieutenant Commanding Third Division.
Lieutenant Commander L. A. KIMBERLY,
Executive Officer Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit to you a report of the conduct of the officers and men of the Master's division during the engagement yesterday with Fort Morgan, the rebel gunboats, and the ram Tennessee. I have great pleasure in mentioning Acting Master's Mate G. R. Avery, who assisted in covering the ship during the entire action, for the great coolness he displayed in his — a responsible — position. John McFarland, (Captain Forecastle,) James Wood, (Quartermaster,) Joseph Cassier, (seaman,) and James Reddington, (landsman,) deserve especial mention for their marked composure. They were at the wheel, and obeyed every order promptly and correctly. Henry Williams (Boatswain's Mate) served the twelve-pounder howitzer in the main-top with courage and great judgment. I had not the power of witnessing the conduct of the remaining men of this division, namely, those of the signal corps and carpenter's-gang, but from the officers commanding those departments I have learned that one and all deserve the greatest praise.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE B. GLIDDEN,
Ensign Commanding Master's Division.
Lieutenant Commander L. A. KIMBERLY,
Executive Officer Hartford.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I submit the following report of the conduct of the officers and men of the powder division during the engagement of the fifth.

Acting Ensign Bogart exhibited much coolness and presence of mind.

Acting Master's Mate R. P. Herrick deserves especial mention, for until seriously wounded he performed his duties with great coolness and spirit. Acting Ensign W. H. Heginbotham also deserves special mention for his coolness and bravery. He performed his duties in the most exemplary manner until he received his death-wound.

The few men I had on deck passing powder acted with great coolness, and at no time were there any signs of shrinking or fear. Nelson, (Ship's Cook) John Wallington, (landsman,) and Mellage, (Paymaster's Steward,) deserve special mention.

Seven of the forward part of the division were wounded and three of them killed; most of the wounds were mortal.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. STARR DANA,

In Charge of Powder Division.

Lieutenant Commander L. A. KIMBERLY,
U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford.

In addition to the above, I would call attention to the conduct of Sailmaker F. C. Herbert, whose conduct and cool courage is spoken of as most remarkable.

P. DRAYTON,
Captain.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: The conduct of the officers and men belonging to the Engineer's Department was characterized by coolness and energy during the engagement of yesterday. Their duties were performed as if nothing extraordinary was going on.

Acting Third Assistant-Engineer William G. McEwan deserves special mention for the prompt and efficient manner in which he attended to getting the wounded below, near his station at the berth-deck hose, and he continued to do so until near the close of the action, when he lost his right arm.

The following men deserve to be noticed: Thomas Walkley, (First C. F.), for his coolness and attention to duties, although frequently covered with splinters.

James R. Garrison (C. H.) had his great toe shot off, but dressed his wound himself and then returned to his station, where he remained until badly wounded in the chest.

Thomas O'Connell was sick and hardly able to work, but went to his station and remained until his right hand was shot away.

William Caffrey (Second C. F.) and Joseph Fallen (Second C. F.) were inclined to skulk, and required to be compelled to assist the wounded.

The loss in the Engineer's Department was three men killed and three men wounded.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. WILLIAMSON,

Chief-Engineer U. S. N.

Lieutenant Commander L. A. KIMBERLY,
Executive Officer U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully beg leave to report the damage received by this ship in the hull, spars,

etc., during the action, August fifth, 1864, with the rebel Fort Morgan, the water-batteries, rebel ram Tennessee, and rebel fleet, namely:

No. 1. Solid shot cut through starboard head-rail, starboard bow-chock, and crushed side-tackle block of port rifle-gun on fore-castle.

No. 2. Shell came over starboard-bow, struck axle-tree, fore-transom, and truck of port rifle on fore-castle, and started bow-chock, head-rail, and water-rail.

No. 3. Shell cut through starboard lower boom, hammock-rail and netting, cut main top-mast-stay half, then struck after-part of foremast two feet above the partner's scoring, scarring starboard side of mast and piercing galley-funnel, where it exploded.

No. 4. Shell struck the forward part of No. 2 gun-port, cutting away top timber, bulwarks, and port-sill, struck starboard sheet cable-bitt, crushing the iron plating and collar, then exploded, scarring the deck between Nos. 1, 2, and 3 guns.

No. 5. Shell struck outer planking six inches above the water-line between No. 2 and 3 guns, cut through timbers, ceiling, and water-way on berth-deck, struck foremast, scored in the depth of five inches, eighteen inches below the spar-deck partners, carrying away after-part of port-sheet cable-bitts, part of spar-deck beam and knee on port side, and after diagonal knee and fastening started.

No. 6. Shell struck starboard chain-armor two feet below the gunwale, between Nos. 5 and 6 guns, cut through outer plank and timber and lodged in deck-knee.

No. 7. Solid shot struck chain-armor, cut through armor, pierced outer plank and timber, and lodged in spar-deck beam.

No. 8. Solid shot struck starboard chain-armor four inches above the water-line, under No. 6 gun, cut through armor, pierced outer planking, and lodged in timber.

No. 9. Struck chain-armor on the water-line between Nos. 8 and 9 guns, cut through armor, and pierced the outer plank.

No. 10. Two hundred pound rifle-shell struck aft of the armor, two feet above the water-line, under No. 9 gun, pierced outer plank, crushing four timbers and two streaks of ceiling, breaking down the fore and aft bulkhead of the starboard steerage, cutting in two the between-deck stanchion under ward-room hatch-beam, passed into the chief-engineer's room on the port side of ward-room, and dropped on a lounge without exploding.

No. 11. Solid shot struck gunwale-streak, between Nos. 8 and 9 guns, pierced through gunwale, top timber, and bulwarks, struck capstan, crushing the pawls, casting, and gear, splitting engine-room, hatch-combing, and capstan-bed.

No. 12. Struck the spare spars in the main-chains, breaking in two the main and mizzen top-gallant and mizzen royal-yards, crushed through the main-rail and hammock-netting, passed over to the port side, and went through bulwarks, top timbers, outer planks, and sentry-board shaft the port-gangway.

No. 13. Shell passed over between fore and mainmast, struck inner hammock-rail on port side, cut through netting and outer hammock-rail, breaking a hole in third cutter.

No. 14. Shell—one hundred and fifty pounder—fired from the ram Tennessee while alongside, the muzzles of her guns touching our port side; the shell struck the outer planking on the port side, pierced through the timbers and ceiling inside, exploded on the berth-deck, fragments of the shell going through the streaks of plank on the spar-deck, through the launch, first and second cutters; portions of the shell also went through the deck-plank and hatches on the berth-deck and dropped into the hold, scarring spar-deck beams and deck-frame below fore and main-hatches from port side to starboard.

No. 15. Shell struck grub-beam on fore-castle, crushed the upper edge and glanced overboard.

No. 16. Conical shot, or shell, struck the band on starboard side of mainmast, eighteen feet from the partners, pierced through the mast-band and buried its length in the mast.

No. 17. Shot struck the forward starboard-quarter of the mainmast, sixteen feet above the partners, scoring one and a half inches.

No. 18. Shell struck collar of fore-stay, shattered trussle-trees, forward lower cross-tree, heel of fore-topmast, and lodged in forward nut of trussle-trees.

No. 19. Shell struck port side of main-top, crushed a hole in deck of top, and glanced overboard.

No. 20. Shot through smoke-pipe.

In the collision with the rebel ram the port-head pump was crushed in, two feet below the water-line. The copper on the stem and port-bow was peeled off by the iron plating of the ram.

The ship received considerable damage by being run into by the Lackawanna. She crushed in the after-part of the main-channel, broke two of the main-chains and spar-crane, with the spars that were stowed, namely, spare-main and mizzen top-gallant and mizzen royal-yards, the main-rail, hammock-rails, netting, bulwarks, top-timbers, outer planking; timbers and ceiling, from gun-wale down to two feet of the water-line, were crushed in and broken on the starboard side abaft the main rigging, from the after-side of No. 10 gun-port to the forward side of No. 11 gun-port. The deck-knees, diagonal and hanging, are broken, the iron diagonal braces are badly bent in-board, the spar-deck beams and deck-plank moved to starboard; abreast of the fracture, the water-way is cut in two. It will be necessary to caulk a large portion of the quarter-deck. The gig-davits were broken, also her keel and planking.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

GEORGE E. BURCHAM,
Carpenter.

Captain P. DRAYTON,
Commanding U. S. S. Hartford.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of the sixth instant, I respectfully submit the following report of damages to the rigging of this ship during

an engagement with the enemy in Mobile Bay, August fifth, 1864, namely:

After-shroud of fore-rigging shot away, and one collar of the fore-stay shot away; also the lower boom topping-lift and fall and port fore-brace; also port and starboard jib-sheets; also port and starboard fore-topsail braces; main topmast-stay stranded; also main topmast staysail halliards and main topsail-halliards and starboard after main topmast backstay stranded and main-lift shot away; also port and starboard croc-braces shot away, and two starboard main topmast backstay screws carried away.

Very respectfully, ROBERT DIXON,
Boatswain U. S. N.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to orders, I respectfully report the damage sustained in the Gunner's department of this ship, and the amount of ammunition expended in the action on the fifth of August with the rebel forts and fleet, to be as follows, namely:

The port one-hundred pounder rifle gun-carriage struck twice and completely shattered; No. 19 gun-carriage, starboard side, struck by shell, splintering right bracket, breaking bracket-bolt and knocking rear dumb-truck out of place; No. 29 gun-carriage, starboard side, scarred by shell bursting and having port-truck broken to pieces; No. 10 nine-inch gun-carriage, injured by being upset when in collision with Lackawanna; three roller hand-spikes broken and four ordinary hand-spikes broken, three nine-inch gun-tackles carried away, one one-hundred pounder rifle side-tackle-block shattered, one one-hundred pounder breeching and one nine-inch breeching cut with shot, one nine-inch bristle-sponge shot away, two rammers, nine-inch, broken.

Number of rounds expended in action:

POWDER.

Ninety-five charges thirteen pounds nine-inch, or one thousand two hundred and thirty-five pounds of powder.

Ninety-two charges ten pounds nine-inch, or nine hundred and twenty pounds of powder.

Twenty-seven charges ten pounds one-hundred pounder rifle, or two hundred and seventy pounds of powder.

SHELL.

Seventy-seven shell, five second, nine-inch.

Fifty-five shell, ten second, nine-inch.

Eighteen shell one-hundred pounder rifle concussion.

Three shell one-hundred pounder rifle Parrott, percussion.

Seven shell twelve-pounder heavy howitzer.

Six shell twelve-pounder light howitzer.

SHRAPNEL.

Nine shrapnel nine-inch.

SOLID SHOT.

Thirty-three shot nine-inch.

Six shot one-hundred pounder rifle, chilled ends.

Very respectfully,

JOHN L. STAPLES,
Gunner U. S. N.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN T. A. JENKINS.

U. S. STEAMSHIP RICHMOND, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: It is my agreeable duty to report that the officers and crew of this ship have, without exception, shown an unsurpassed zeal in preparing this ship for battle, and a coolness and courage in conflict with the enemy, that has won my admiration and thanks.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
THORNTON A. JENKINS,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Flag-Ship Hartford,
Mobile Bay.

U. S. STEAMSHIP RICHMOND, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor and very great pleasure to report that in the action this forenoon with the batteries at Fort Morgan, and the rebel ram Tennessee, this ship has received no serious damage, and there were no persons killed. Two men were wounded, but not seriously, and the ship struck a number of times in the hull and rigging.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
THORNTON A. JENKINS,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. STEAMSHIP RICHMOND, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor respectfully to submit the following report of the ammunition expended in the attack on the morning of the fifteenth instant, upon Fort Morgan and its water-batteries, and subsequently upon rebel iron-clad casemated steamer Tennessee, namely: In approaching toward and steaming from Fort Morgan and batteries—

- (40) Forty ten-second fuze, nine-inch shell.
- (30) Thirty fifteen-second " "

ARREST OF THE PORT AND BATTERIES.

- (60) Nine-inch shell with five-second fuzes.
- (16) One-hundred pounder rifle concussion-shell.
- (9) One-hundred pounder solid shot.
- (14) Thirty-pounder concussion-shell.
- (2) Thirty-pounder solid shot.
- (5) Twelve-pounder howitzer (heavy) shell from main-top into the water-battery.
- (10) Twelve-pounder howitzer (light) shell from fore-top into the water-battery.
- (4) Twelve-pounder howitzer (light) shrapnel from fore-top into the water-battery.

IRON-CLAD TENNESSEE.

- (1) One nine-inch solid shot with thirteen-pound charge, fired at the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, at the distance of about four hundred yards.
- (32) Solid shot, with thirteen-pound charge, fired at the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, at distances varying from fifty to two hundred yards, and embracing a period of about twenty minutes' time.
- (155) Ten-pound charges, expended for nine-inch and one-hundred pounder rifle-guns.
- (30) Three and a quarter pound charges for thirty-pounder rifle.
- (33) Thirteen-pound charges.

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The exact number of rifled musket-shots fired into the Tennessee's ports is not known.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
THORNTON A. JENKINS,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commander-in-Chief W. G. Squadron.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN J. B. MAROCHAND.

U. S. STEAM-SLOOP LACKAWANNA, }
MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that about sunrise to-day this ship was gotten under way, and the Seminole lashed on the port side. Our position being in the centre of the line of battle, we crossed the bar, and following close on the leading vessels, stood up the channel, and as soon as our guns could be brought to bear, a fire was opened on Fort Morgan with shells, and continued until passing it, when the Seminole was cast off.

Soon after the fleet had passed the middle ground, the rebel iron-clad Tennessee commenced approaching, with the design of attacking our vessels, and in obedience to your signal, I started under the heaviest headway to run her down, and succeeded in striking her at right angles at the after-end of the casemate.

The concussion was great, but the effect on her was only a heavy list, whilst our stern was cut and crushed to the plank ends for a distance of three feet above the water-edge to five feet below, and causing a considerable leak in forward store-room and peak. Fortunately our yards and top-masts were down, otherwise they, in all probability, would have been carried away by the concussion, which caused the ship to rebound, and the stern of the Tennessee to recede. Some panic must have existed on board the enemy, as they fired but two guns through our bows. After striking, the two swung head and stern alongside of each other, and as our guns have been pivoted for the opposite side, we succeeded in discharging but one nine-inch shell, that struck one of the enemy's port shutters, which was distant about twelve feet, destroying it, and driving some of the fragments into her casemate. A few of the enemy were seen through their ports, who were using most opprobrious language. Our marines opened upon them with muskets; even a spittoon and a holy-stone were thrown at them from our deck, which drove them away. Upon separating from the Tennessee, our helm was put hard over to make another attempt at running the enemy down, but our great length, and the shallowness of the water, caused us to turn so slowly, that we had not gotten round until again amongst our fleet, and, unfortunately, we collided with the flag-ship, which was running toward the Tennessee, although every exertion was used to prevent it by backing. By this accident two of the quarter-deck ports of the Hartford were knocked into one, without this ship sustaining any injury. After the collision with the flag-ship, I again started to run down the Tennessee, but whilst still at a distance she surrendered to our fleet.

Our loss throughout the day was four killed and thirty-five wounded.

Herewith I send the reports of the Surgeon, Engineer, and Board of Officers, on the injuries and expenditures.

Under no circumstances could more coolness and bravery have been shown by the crew.

I cannot express my deep feeling for the undaunted courage and the aid given me by all the officers.

Second Lieutenant Hiram Adams, of the Army Signal Corps, with two assistants, were on board, and great credit is due them for their promptness in transmitting signals.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. MARCHAND, Captain.

Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. LACKAWANNA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 7, 1864.

SIR: In the report made of the part taken by the Lackawanna in passing the forts, and entering Mobile Bay, on the fifth instant, I inadvertently omitted to state that Commander Edward Donaldson, commanding the Seminole, which was lashed alongside of this ship, rendered most efficient service by his coolness and judgment in piloting both vessels until passing Fort Morgan, the regular pilot being sick.

My additional thanks are due him and all his officers and men for volunteering to aid in manning the guns of the Lackawanna, and the continuous fire which they kept up whilst their guns could bear upon the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. MARCHAND, Captain.

Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. LACKAWANNA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of the fifth instant, we, the undersigned, have held a strict and careful survey on this ship, and find the damages herewith stated to have resulted from the action of the fifth instant.

That there are five shot-holes through hull of ship, two of which are eighteen inches above water-line, and damages resulting therefrom are as follows: timber, planking, and ceiling badly cut up; spirketing in wake of fore-rigging, and on each of ship, shot away; port forward hammock netting-rail shot away, and panel-work much injured; port sheet cable-bitt splintered the entire length, and iron casing completely shattered; two stanchions of fore fife-rail entirely shot away, also a quarter of fore-mast and after-part, and eighteen inches above deck; water-closets and bulkheads broken down; several hatch gratings much injured, and port swinging boom broken in two.

Between decks we find stanchion, two carlings, hanging knee, water-pipe connecting with condenser, and jackstay shot away; several spar-deck beams, coal shoot, starboard sheet cable bitt, bulkheads and doors to fire-room, and forward officers' quarters badly injured with frag-

ments of shell; dispensary very much shattered; berth-deck ladder and two awning stanchions (the latter being placed below for security) broken in two; berth-deck planking, directly forward of galley and under platform, also much injured with fragments of shell.

The damages sustained by running down the rebel iron-clad ram Tennessee, as follows:

The head and outwater badly injured; the stem, for distance of eighteen feet, and up to wood ends, completely gone; that portion of it comprised between the water-line and draft-mark eight, forced in, causing the planking for distance of several feet to be wrenched from fastening, the ends of which, exposed considerably, and leaving that portion of the bow in a much exposed condition. Not having the means for examining below the draft-mark eight, we are therefore unable to arrive at the extent of injury received below that mark.

We also find the rigging damaged to the following extent: bobstays and port bowsprit shroud carried away; main-stay, after shroud of port fore rigging and screw, boat davit and spanker boom topping lifts, and two nine-inch double blocks shot away.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

FELIX McCURLEY,
Acting Master.

JOHN H. ALLEN,
Acting Master.

THOMAS KELLY,
Acting Boatswain.

FRANCIS A. STANLEY,
Acting Carpenter's Mate.

Captain J. B. MARCHAND,
Commanding U. S. Steamship Lackawanna.

U. S. S. LACKAWANNA, IN MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the engines, boilers, and appurtenances thereto of this ship are apparently in good working order, though derangements may subsequently become visible, of which we have now no knowledge.

The severe concussion, consequent upon the heavy blow dealt the rebel ram Tennessee, by this vessel, under full headway, may have thrown the engines out of line, or strained the boilers and braces.

Our bunkers being full of coal, we cannot of course speak decidedly with reference to the staying of the boilers.

Very respectfully,
JAMES W. WHITTAKER,
First Assistant Engineer.

Captain J. B. MARCHAND,
Commanding U. S. S. Lackawanna.

U. S. S. LACKAWANNA, IN MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of the fifth instant, we have held a strict and careful survey of the amount of ordnance stores used and injured in passing the forts, and beg leave to submit the following report:

We find the rear hurter, strap, band, and tackle-blocks of Parrott's one hundred and fifty pounder rifle, (number twelve,) carried away by a shot entering starboard bow, and the following amount of ordnance, equipment, and stores:

Twenty twenty-pound charges of powder, twelve sixteen-pound charges of powder, twenty-eight fifteen-pound charges of powder, three thirteen-pound charges of powder, twenty-nine ten pound charges of powder, thirteen four-pound charges of powder, eight boarding pikes, four cutlass scabbards, three battle-axe scabbards, two division boxes, six waist-belts, four Enfield rifle bayonets, six Enfield rifles, two navy revolvers, four percussion primer boxes, (tin,) three battle-axes, four brass padlocks, three percussion-cap boxes, (tin,) two pistol frogs, forty musket-ball cartridges, eleven eleven-inch solid shot, one hundred and twenty percussion primers, nine nine-inch solid shot, thirty Enfield rifle-ball cartridges, five one hundred and fifty pounder Parrott's solid shot, (long,) seventy revolver percussion-caps, thirty-seven eleven-inch shell, filled and fuzed five seconds; twenty friction primers, twenty-three nine-inch shell, filled and fuzed five seconds; sixty pistol-ball cartridges, seven one hundred and fifty pounder Parrott shell, filled and fuzed, five seconds; thirteen fifty-pounder Hotchkiss shell, filled and fuzed, five seconds; two cutlasses, (Ames,) two hundred musket percussion-caps, three cutlass scabbards, seven Parrott rings, for time fuzes; seven metal time fuzes, five seconds; six eleven-inch selvagee wads, eight nine-inch selvagee wads, two nine-inch passing-boxes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants.

S. A. McCARTY,
Lieutenant United States Navy.
G. H. WADLEIGH,
Ensign.

JOHN G. FOSTER,
Gunner, United States Navy.

Captain J. B. MARCHAND,
Commanding U. S. S. Lackawana.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN JAMES ALDEN.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part that this ship took in the action of yesterday, with Fort Morgan and the rebel ram and gunboats.

In accordance with your instructions and by signal, at fifteen minutes past five we got under way with the Octorara lashed on our port side, and proceeded toward the bar of Mobile entrance. After some little delay in waiting for the ships to form into line, and for the iron-clads to precede us, we steamed ahead and passed up the channel toward Fort Morgan, being the leading ship, closely followed by the Admiral and the rest of the fleet in line of battle. At fifteen minutes past six, when about one and a half miles from the Fort, the enemy opened fire upon us, which was immediately returned with bow-chasers, (our two one hundred-pound Parrotts.) The action then commenced, the fire of the enemy being almost entirely directed at the wooden vessels; their ram Tennessee and gunboats soon joining in the fight.

The starboard battery was opened on the Fort, as soon as the guns could be brought to bear. Our progress up the channel was slow, owing to

our carrying, as directed, low steam, and the very deliberate movements of our iron-clads which occupied the channel close ahead of us. When we had arrived abreast of the Fort, by a rapid and timely fire of grape, their several batteries were almost entirely silenced.

At this juncture I observed the ill-fated Tecumseh, which was then about three hundred yards ahead of us, and on our starboard bow, careen violently over, and sink almost instantaneously. Sunk by a torpedo! Assassination in its worst form! A glorious though terrible end for our noble friends, the intrepid pioneers of that death-strewn path! Immortal fame is theirs! Peace to their manes! We were now somewhat inside of the Fort, when shoal-water was reported, and at the same time, as the smoke cleared up a little, a row of suspicious-looking buoys was discovered directly under our bows. While we were in the act of backing to clear them, our gallant Admiral passed us and took the lead. Getting headway again as soon as possible, we pushed up the channel at full speed in his wake, when the rebel ram was discovered making for the flag-ship, and at the same time throwing shot and shell at us, which inflicted considerable damage at and above the water-line forward. The rebel gunboats having now taken shelter in shoal-water, I cast off the Octorara from alongside, and directed her to close in and assist the other gunboats in their attack upon them. The Hartford having steamed past the ram with her broadside playing vigorously upon him, continuing our course at full speed and exchanging broadsides as we could bring our guns to bear, she missed us, and just passed clear of our stern only a few yards distant; we then gave her some parting blows with our sixty-pounder Parrott from the poop. At fifty minutes past eight anchored near the flag-ship, about five miles above the Fort, the rebel gunboats firing a few shots at us at long-range as we passed up. At about nine a.m., the Tennessee was discovered standing for the fleet, and we, in company with the flag-ship and several other vessels, made toward him, firing solid shot from our bow-chasers. When within a short distance the Chickasaw crossed our bows and prevented our ramming him. As soon as the ram was clear of the last-named vessel, he made directly at us; put our helm a-port and made at him with full speed, but seeing our torpedo-catcher hanging under the bows, and thinking it was a real torpedo (as an officer belonging to her has since told me) he put his helm hard up and avoided us, giving us some heavy shots in passing. Our shot—solid nine-inch, with thirteen pounds of powder—struck him repeatedly, but without any material effect, except one, which, as it is believed, carried away his smoke-stack. We then turned to try it again, but the iron-clads had fairly engaged her, and shortly afterward she surrendered.

The fleet here came to near the former anchorage.

The surgeon's list of killed and wounded, together with the forward officers' report of injuries

done to the ship by the enemy's shot, and the number of projectiles expended, etc., are herewith inclosed.

Lieutenant Commander Lull, the executive officer, has, at my request, made a statement of some very interesting incidents, giving a list of men who most distinguished themselves during the action, which I take great pleasure in forwarding, with a hearty approval of it, and the suggestions it contains.

It will be seen that we have fifty-four casualties on board; eleven killed, and forty-three wounded; many of the latter, I am happy to say, are slight. The list will not appear large when it is considered that we were nearly two hours under fire. Among the others, we have to regret the loss of an officer, Acting Master's Mate William H. Cook, who was killed while bravely doing his duty, having already been wounded.

By the Carpenter's report, it will be seen that the hull has received extensive and serious injuries, having been struck twenty-three times. Our mainmast is ruined, having been shot through and through the centre, three times between the cathar-pins and the deck, the shot-holes being about equidistant from each other. Shot struck the other spars seven times, injuring some badly. The boatswain's report shows the rigging to have been struck and cut in twenty-nine places, making an aggregate of some fifty-nine hits in the hull, rigging, and spars.

The number of projectiles expended is one hundred and eighty-three.

In conclusion, I must beg leave to state that as far as I can learn, every one did his duty nobly and well, and while the officers generally would seem to deserve some especial mention, I must, from the nature of circumstances, confine my notice to those on whom devolved the more important duty of controlling and fighting the ship.

To my executive officer, Lieutenant Commander E. P. Lull, my thanks are especially due, not only for his cool, steady bearing in the fight, but also for the efficient training of the crew, which have been together now less than three months, but displayed in the action the steadiness of veterans, fighting their guns almost as coolly as if they were at an ordinary exercise. Lieutenant Thomas L. Swann, the ordnance officer, had every thing ready, and the working of his department was admirable; he was principally occupied during the action with the bow-chasers. The other division officers—Captain Houston, of the marines, Lieutenant Charles F. Blake, Ensigns Cassel and Sigsbee, with their assistants, Master's Mates Duncan and Stevens—fought their guns nobly and well.

The powder division, under Acting Ensign Utter, could not have been conducted better.

Chief-Engineer Kellogg's department worked beautifully.

Doctor Maulsby was fully prepared for the wounded, and extended to those unfortunates all the solicitude and care that a generous nature could dictate.

Ensign Pendleton, my aid and signal officer,

afforded me great assistance, being always prompt and active in his duties.

To our pilot, Mr. Christopher Lawrence, great credit is due for the handsome manner he piloted the ship.

I ought to mention before closing this report, that I was particularly pleased with the cheerful bearing and aid afforded me by Captain E. A. Denicke, of the Army Signal Corps, in watching and pointing out the effect of our shot in the batteries, and upon the rebel ram and gunboats.

In accordance with your directions, I also send a separate report in regard to those men who were most conspicuous for good conduct and gallantry in the action. It is taken mostly from the report of Lieutenant Commander Lull, the executive officer.

Congratulating you upon the handsome result of the day, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES ALDEN,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FAIRBAGUT,
Commanding U. S. W. G. B. Fleet, U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: In accordance with your instructions, I herewith append a list of the crew who most distinguished themselves for gallantry and good conduct during the action with Fort Morgan and the rebel ram and gunboats. Feeling satisfied that they have earned that justly prized distinction, the "medal of honor," I trust the Department will confer it upon them.

J. Henry Dennig, (Sergeant of Marines,) Michael Hudson, (Sergeant of Marines,) and William M. Smith, Miles M. Oriatt, (Corporals of Marines,) for their conspicuous good conduct at their guns.

Barnett Kenna, (Quartermaster,) and William Halsted, (Coxswain,) coolness, bravery, and skill in the working of their guns. Their conduct was particularly meritorious.

Joseph Brown (Quartermaster) and Joseph Irlane, (seaman,) stationed at the wheel, behaved with great coolness and bravery, sending the other two men who were stationed with them, to replace men disabled at the guns.

Edward Price, (Captain,) great coolness and bravery under fire; his gun became disabled by the sponge's breaking, leaving the head in the gun; he proceeded to clear it by pouring down powder into the vent and blowing the sponge-head out.

Alexander Mack, (Captain of —,) activity, zeal, and skill displayed in handling his gun, as well as great courage; he was also severely wounded.

William Nichols, (Quartermaster,) perfect coolness and dexterity in handling his gun; always sure of his aim before he would consent to fire.

Nicholas Irwin, (seaman,) John Cooper, (Coxswain,) John Brown, (Forecastle Captain,) and John Irwin, (carpenter,) very conspicuous for bravery, skill, coolness, and activity at their guns.

William Blagden, (ship's cook,) William Madden, (coal-heaver,) James Machon, (boy,) William H. Brown, (landsman,) James Mifflin, (engineer's cook,) conspicuous for bravery, performing their

duty in the powder division, at a point where the ship was riddled very much, and in the immediate vicinity of the shell-whips, which were twice cleared of men by bursting shells. Brown was also wounded.

James E. Sterling, (coal-heaver,) bravery in remaining at his post when wounded, and passing shell until struck down a second time and completely disabled.

Richard Dennis (Boatswain's Mate,) and Samuel H. Davis displayed much courage, bravery, and coolness, the first in operating the torpedo-catcher, and assisting in working the bow-chaser, and the latter in acting as a lookout for torpedoes and other obstructions.

Samuel Todd, (quartermaster,) conspicuous coolness at the commencement.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES ALDEN,

Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. BACCHUS, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: The accompanying reports of the boatswain, gunner, and carpenter, of the damages sustained by this ship, and of the ammunition expended during our action of yesterday with the rebel forts and gunboats, and with the ram Tennessee, are respectfully forwarded:

The sailmaker being one of the wounded, is not able to make a report, but the damages in his department are a number of cloths cut in the port head of the fore-topsail, and considerable injury to the hammock cloths fore and aft.

One of the shots mentioned by the carpenter as wounding the rail of the top-gallant fore-castle, struck directly under the breast of the bow, and had its force not been nearly spent, as is supposed, by its having previously passed through some of the wood-work of the iron-clad Chickasaw, it must inevitably have disabled the gun.

In the vicinity of number four port on the starboard side, in the space of about eight feet square, five shot or shells passed through the side, and one shell struck the sheet-anchor which was stowed above this port, breaking the shank. The lower fluke is also broken off. The gun was entirely disabled.

Acting Master's Mate Cook and three men were killed, and Lieutenant Blake and six men wounded. A shell which exploded on the berth-deck forward killed or wounded every man at the two shell-whips, and those who were passing shell between them, also carrying away one whip.

Acting Ensign Utter, and his assistant, sailmaker Brayton, rigged another whip and stationed new men to man it, and just as they were recommencing work, a second shell exploded again, clearing away every man, this time including Mr. Brayton among the wounded, and depriving us of the services of an active and very efficient officer.

Mr. Baker, the Paymaster's Clerk, performed very good service in the powder division, taking voluntary charge of the after-shell whip, at which no officer was stationed, owing to our

being short of officers. Our chain-cable, ranged up and down the starboard side, saved our boilers from one shot, and the sand-bags upon the berth-deck saved them from one if not two more.

The ship's company behaved remarkably well, so much so as to make it difficult to specify even conspicuous conduct without making a rather large list; but I beg to call your especial attention to the following cases mentioned by the division officers, many of which also fell under my own observation, and to request that you will recommend them for the "medal of honor:"

J. Henry Dennig, (Sergeant of Marines,) Michael Hudson, (Sergeant of Marines,) and William M. Smith and Miles M. Oriatt, (Corporals of Marines,) for conspicuous good conduct at their guns.

Barnett Kenna, (Quartermaster,) and William Halsted, (Coxswain,) coolness, bravery, and skill in working their guns. Their conduct was particularly meritorious.

Joseph Brown, (Quartermaster,) and Joseph Irlane, (seaman,) stationed at the wheel, behaved with great coolness and bravery, sending the other two men who were stationed with them to replace men disabled at the guns.

Edward Price, (Coxswain,) great coolness and bravery under fire; his gun became disabled by the sponge breaking, leaving the head in the gun; he proceeded to clear it by pouring down powder into the vent and blowing the sponge-head out.

Alexander Mack, (Captain of Top,) remarkable coolness and courage, was wounded and sent below, but immediately returned and took charge of his gun; remained until he was again wounded twice and entirely disabled.

William Robinson, (Captain of Top,) activity, zeal, and skill displayed in handling his gun, as well as great courage.

William Nichols, (Quartermaster,) perfect coolness and dexterity in handling his gun; always sure of his aim before he would consent to fire.

Nicholas Irwin, (seaman,) John Cooper, (Coxswain,) John Brown, (Captain of Forecastle,) and John Irwin, (Coxswain,) very conspicuous for bravery, skill, coolness, and activity at their guns.

William Blagden, (ship's cook,) William Madden, (coal-heaver,) James Machon, (boy,) William H. Brown, (landsman,) and James Miffin, (engineer's cook,) conspicuous for bravery, performing their duty in the powder division, at a point where the ship was riddled very much, and in the immediate vicinity of the shell-whips, which were twice cleared of men by bursting shells.

James E. Sterling, (coal-heaver,) bravery in remaining at his post when wounded, and passing shell until struck down a second time and completely disabled.

Richard Dennis (Boatswain's Mate,) and Samuel H. Davis displayed much courage and coolness, the first in operating the torpedo-catcher, and assisting in working of the bow-chaser, and the latter in acting as a lookout for torpedoes and other obstructions.

Samuel Todd, (Quartermaster,) conspicuous coolness at the commencement.

We have found upon our decks and extracted

from the wood-work over eleven hundred pounds of iron in the shape of eight, nine, and ten-inch solid shot of rifle bolts—shells and fragments of shells—all thrown at us by the enemy, a large amount as being at very close quarters, nearly all their shot passed through and through us.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
EDWARD P. LULL.

Lieutenant Commander and Executive Officer.
Captain JAMES ALDEN,
Commanding U. S. S. Brooklyn.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following as the damages inflicted upon this ship during our engagement of to-day, with the rebel Fort Morgan, and the rebel gunboats.

1. Shot carried away a portion of the rail on top-gallant fore-castle directly under the breast of bow gun.

2. Shot passed directly through the stem about one foot from water's edge.

3. Passed through the side, just under the bridle-port, struck the deck above upon the opposite side, and shows in the water-way above.

4. Passed through the side just at the copper's edge, or little abaft the bridle-port. Entered the store-room, destroying a hanging knee, and wounding a beam, did much damage to fixtures of store-room; struck the opposite side, but did not penetrate.

5. Passed through side just forward of and under number two port, and struck the galley.

6. Passed through side on berth-deck, abreast of galley, destroying hanging knee.

7. Passed through the side diagonally about two feet above berth-deck, passed out through opposite side.

8. Through side abreast fore-hatch, destroying an air-port and a berth-deck, hanging knee. Entered fireman's wash-room, arrested by sand-bags.

9. Under after-ports of fore-channels, through side destroying a berth-deck, hanging knee, and a force-pump, wounded berth-deck, cut starboard chain.

10. Four feet abaft number nine, passed through side, destroying an air-port, and two berth-deck hanging knees.

11. Passed through the side, and exploded in the dispensary, doing considerable damage.

12. Passed through side, through deck in Second Assistant Engineer's room, and into main hold, doing much damage.

13. Through side, cutting main rail, just abaft number two port.

14. On the same level, through side about four feet abaft number thirteen.

15. Struck and broke starboard sheet anchor-beak. Cut main rail just over number four port, passed through bottom of the launch, and destroyed forward shore of launch.

16. Through side just under number fifteen, cutting through spar deck water-way, and carrying away the starboard truck of gun number three.

17. Carried away flue of sheet-anchor. Cut

through main rail, destroyed after-shore of launch, and struck the breech of number five gun, port.

18. Passed through hammock netting starboard side, just abaft number eight port, and passed out through opposite side.

19. Plunging shot passed through port hammock netting just forward of break of poop.

20. Wounded top of hammock-rail on starboard side between numbers eight and nine ports, passed out through hammock netting on port side.

21. Followed same course of twenty a few feet farther aft.

22. A ricochet shot struck poop-deck, crushed it down together with beam underneath, and ricocheted overboard. This shot killed two marines, carrying one overboard with it.

23, 24, 25. Three shots passed through the mainmast, ruining the mast; number twenty-five also cut the brass band on starboard quarter of main-yard, wounding the yard.

26. Apparently a fragment of shell entered the mainmast.

27. Wounded jib-boom.

28. Passed along fore-topsail yard, destroyed port yard-arm.

29. A raking shot from ram Tennessee struck and passed along port side under the rail.

30. Carried away torpedo-catcher. A shot passed through the dingy. A plank was started in the barge, supposed to have been by a splinter.

Respectfully submitted,

R. G. THOMAS,
Carpenter.

Lieut. Com. EDWARD O. LULL,
Executive Officer.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, INSIDE MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully beg to report the damages sustained in the Ordnance Department of this ship during the engagement of the fifth inst., as follows, namely:

One nine-inch gun-carriage entirely destroyed; one one-hundred pounder elevating screw destroyed; one one-hundred pounder lock destroyed; one sixty-pounder lock destroyed; one nine-inch breech sight-brass damaged; one nine-inch breech sight-brass destroyed; one nine-inch gun-carriage slightly damaged; six nine-inch side-tackles destroyed; two nine-inch rammers destroyed; two nine-inch sponges destroyed; one nine-inch rolling hand-spike destroyed; one nine-inch ladle; one one-hundred pounder ladle.

I am, sir, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN QUERIDO,
Acting Gunner.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order, I respectfully submit the following report of damages done to rigging during the action of the fifth instant, with Fort Morgan, rebel ram Tennessee, and gunboats Selma, Morgan, and Gaines, having made a careful examination of the same.

Jib and flying jib, martingale-stays, and back-stays shot away

Port cat-block shot away, also three deck-stoppers. Fore-rigging, two shrouds starboard, and one port shot away; one shroud shot away in two places; two dead eyes starboard, fore-rigging shot away; starboard fore-topsail halliards shot away; port fore-brace shot away; port fore-topsail brace and block shot away; starboard sheet-anchor shank broke, and flue shot off; port main-stay shot away; main rigging six shrouds shot away, four starboard and two port; one dead eye port main rigging shot away.

Main lift and brace shot away.

Main topsail clewlines and buntlines shot away.

Main topmast rigging stranded.

One shroud, mizzen-rigging shot away. One laniard port mizzen-rigging shot away.

Starboard cross-tack, and mizzen topsail-brace shot away.

A shot passed through the top-gallant and royal rigging barricaded in the sick bay, and lodged in the port water-ways.

Starboard sheet-chain shot away.

No doubt a great deal of the gear is cut, but how much cannot be ascertained until broken out. Also the starboard bow-chain shot away.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES A. BRAYDON,
Boatswain U. S. N.

Lieut. Com. EDWARD O. LULL,
Executive Officer U. S. S. Brooklyn.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, INSIDE MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully report the expenditure of ordnance stores in this ship during the engagement of the fifth instant, as follows, namely:

One hundred ten-pound charges, (nine-inch;) thirty-two thirteen-pound charges, (nine-inch;) thirty-seven ten-pound charges, (one-hundred pounder;) fourteen six-pound charges, (sixty-pounder;) fifty five-second shell, (nine-inch;) twenty-five ten-second shell, (nine-inch;) twenty stands of grape, (nine-inch;) thirty-seven solid shot, (nine-inch;) twenty-five solid shot, (one-hundred pounder;) twelve shell Tico's concussion, (one-hundred pounder;) twelve solid shot, (sixty-pounder;) two shell, Tico's concussion, (sixty-pounder.)

I am, sir, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN QUEREDO,
Acting Gunner.

REPORT OF COMMANDER J. H. STRONG.

U. S. S. MONONGAHELA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by this ship under my command in the action of yesterday, in passing the Mobile Forts, etc.

At half-past five A.M. got under way in obedience to signal, took my station in the line, and prepared for action.

At ten minutes past seven the action was commenced by the first guns being fired from the Fort. After passing the forts I saw the rebel ram Tennessee head in for the line. I then sheered out of the line to run into her, at the same time ordering full speed as fast as possible.

I struck her fair, and swinging round poured in a broadside of solid eleven-inch shot, which apparently had but little if any effect upon her. Soon after, signal was made to my ship to again run into her. I did so, and was about to try it the third time, when she surrendered to the fleet.

During the action my officers and men, without exception, behaved in the most gallant manner. It would be impossible to make any distinction where all did every thing that could have been desired.

I would here mention that a volunteer crew from the U. S. S. Kennebec, in charge of Acting Ensign Ellis, came on board and manned one of my thirty-two pounder broadside guns during the engagement with Fort Morgan. Their conduct during the action was gallant, and met with my entire approbation.

I regret to say that my First Lieutenant, Mr. Prentiss, lost a leg in the action, and that fears are entertained for his life.

Inclosed I send you the Executive Officer's report of the expenditure of ammunition, and the damages sustained, also the Surgeon's and Engineer's reports.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
J. H. STRONG,

Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, U. S. S. Flag-Ship Hartford,
Mobile Bay.

U. S. S. MONONGAHELA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following injuries sustained by this vessel during the action of to-day with Fort Morgan and the rebel fleet inside.

In twice attempting to run down the rebel iron-clad ram Tennessee, our iron prow was entirely carried away, together with the cut-water. The butt ends of the planking on both bows are started from the stem and badly shattered, the port ones considerably sprung off.

Two six-inch rifle-shell from the ram entered our starboard bow; one between the planking and cutwater, grazing the perpendicular, striking the under side of the breast-hook, ricocheting, passing through the boatswain's store-room, and striking the berth-deck, where it lodged without exploding. The other entered about twelve feet further aft, and exploded on the berth-deck, slightly wounding three men, breaking an eleven-inch scraper and an eleven-inch worm, and bending a stanchion near the galley. A six-inch rifle-shell exploded underneath the No. 1 pivot port, raking up the side in ten or fifteen places, many of the pieces remaining in the side. One six-inch solid shot entered abreast No. 2 pivot port, passing through the boatswain's room, starboard side, berth-deck, paymaster's issuing room, port side, and lodging in the outer planking, springing off one butt about eight inches. One ten-inch shot or shell came in our starboard gangway, carrying away head-board of starboard quarter-deck hammock netting, grazing top-rail and mainmast, and passing through port side under main

channels. Pieces of the head-board were driven through the fire-room ventilators.

Lieutenant Prentiss and two men were wounded by this shot.

In the rigging fore-peak halliards, end of main stay and port ridge rope shot away.

I also report the following expenditure of ammunition:

Seventeen shells, one hundred and fifty pounder rifle; six solid shot, one hundred and fifty pounder rifle; eight solid shot, eleven-inch; seven shrapnel, eleven-inch; twenty-five shells, eleven-inch; four canister, eleven-inch; seven grape, eleven-inch; forty-seven shells, thirty-two-pounder; three solid shot, thirty-two-pounder; forty-seven shells, twelve-pounder rifle howitzer; one hundred and seventy percussion-primers; twenty-three cartridges, one hundred and fifty pounder rifle, sixteen pounds; eight cartridges, eleven-inch, twenty pounds; forty-three cartridges, eleven-inch, fifteen pounds; fifty cartridges, thirty-two-pounder, nine pounds; forty-seven cartridges, twelve-pounder rifle howitzer; four shells, twenty-four-pounder howitzer.

The slide of starboard twenty-four pounder howitzer was found to be rotten, and after the first few rounds, was rendered totally unfit for use. With this exception, the battery is in as good condition for service as before the action.

Very respectfully, etc.,

O. A. BATCHELLER,
Lieutenant and Executive Officer.

Commander J. H. STRONG,
Commanding Monongahela.

U. S. S. MONONGAHELA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have to report that during the engagement with the enemy to-day, we received no damage in the Engineer's Department, with the exception of a shot through fireroom ventilator, and one through the smoke-pipe.

At the time we ran into the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, the engines were making sixty-two revolutions per minute, with thirty pounds steam and throttle-valve wide open.

The engines worked well, and every engineer, fireman, and coal-heaver performed their respective duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. KUTZ,
Chief Engineer.

Commander J. H. STRONG,
Commanding U. S. S. Monongahela.

U. S. S. MONONGAHELA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 10, 1864.

SIR: The following persons, wounded in the action of the fifth instant, were sent to the Naval Hospital at Pensacola.

Lieutenant R. Prentiss, both legs, left one amputated.

Michael Smith, boy, scalp.

Wm. Feeney, private marine, contusions.

I am, respectfully,

DAVID KINDLEBERGER,
Surgeon U. S. Navy.

Commander JAMES A. STRONG,
Commanding U. S. S. Monongahela.

REPORT OF COMMANDER WM. E. LE ROY.

U. S. STEAM-SLOOP OSSIPEE.

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to report that in passing the forts, and in the attack upon the iron-clad Tennessee, this ship was struck four times in the hull and several times in the rigging, fortunately without disabling the ship. Our stem is somewhat injured by running against the Tennessee. Our casualties I am pleased to report as small. When about running down the Tennessee, she displayed a white flag, but not in time to prevent my colliding with her; having been so disabled by the fire of the fleet and unable longer to continue the contest, and I was fortunate in receiving her surrender from Commander Johnston, her Commander — Admiral Buchanan being wounded — a prize to the fleet under your command.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

WM. E. LE ROY,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay.

U. S. S. OSSIPEE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

ADMIRAL: In my report of the part this ship took in the passage of Fort Morgan yesterday, I neglected to allude to the efficient manner in which Lieutenant Commander George W. Brown, with the Itasca lashed alongside of me, performed his duty of piloting both vessels, etc.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. E. LE ROY,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay.

U. S. S. OSSIPEE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of damages received by this vessel in the late engagement with Fort Morgan and the rebel ram Tennessee.

Part of fore-foot gone, occasioned by collision with the Tennessee. One shot, a hundred and thirty pounder, passed through forward starboard section port and ship's side, destroying a knee in the boatswain's room, also carrying away the bulkheads of same and issuing room. Another shot passed through ship's side and starboard forward coal-bunker. One shot passed through the chain-armor, first forward of starboard gangway at water's edge, through ship's side and starboard coal-bunker, landing in port coal-bunker, passing within three inches of the steam-pipe. Also a shot-hole through ship's side and water-ways, under the starboard main channels; the shot carried away one chain-plate, and badly splintered the water-ways. The shot that passed through chain-armor and coal-bunker is a ten-inch columbiad.

Very respectfully, J. A. HOWELL,
Lieutenant and Executive Officer.

Commander W. E. LE ROY,
Commanding U. S. Steam-Sloop Ossipee.

U. S. S. OSSIPEE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose the accompanying reports of injuries sustained by this ship in the engagement of yesterday, as also of the amount of ammunition expended. In addition to my report of yesterday, I would state all under my command showed such zeal and energy that it would be invidious to select any one as more deserving than another.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. E. LE ROY,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay.

U. S. S. OSSIPEE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully report that the damages done to the rigging on board this vessel on the fifth instant were as follows:

Starboard fore-stay shot away, also three strands of the port fore-stay.

Very respectfully,
ANDREW MILNE,
Boatswain U. S. N.
Commander WM. E. LE ROY,
Commanding U. S. Steam-Sloop Ossipee.

U. S. S. OSSIPEE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I would most respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of ammunition and projectiles, while engaging the rebel forts and vessels of war, by this ship, August fifth, 1864.

Shells, five sec., thirty; ten sec., six; fifteen sec., two; twenty sec., seven; percussion, thirty-two. Solid shots, eleven-inch, four; one-hundred-pounder, two; thirty-two-pounder, six; hollow shots, thirty-pounder, four. Powder, number seven cannon, three hundred and sixty-five pounds; ordinary powder, three hundred and fifty-four pounds.

Very respectfully,
JOHN Q. ADAMS,
Gunner.
Commander WM. E. LE ROY,
Commanding.

REPORT OF COMMANDER E. DONALDSON.

U. S. STEAMER SEMINOLE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 7, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order for passing the forts on the fifth instant, at half-past five A.M., we went alongside, and made fast on the port side of the Lackawanna, and took our designated station in the line, and am happy to say we had no casualties on board.

The hull of the ship was not struck at all. One strand of the port mainstay was cut by a fragment of a shell.

At fifteen minutes past eight A.M. we cast off from the Lackawanna, and at fifteen minutes past eight A.M. came to anchor. At half-past nine A.M., seeing the rebel ram Tennessee approaching us, we slipped to avoid her, and at fifteen minutes past ten A.M. returned to our anchorage, after having delivered two broadsides at her, at a distance of about one thousand yards. I am happy to say that all the officers and crew behaved with the utmost coolness. Respectfully, etc.,

EDWARD DONALDSON,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay, Ala.

U. S. STEAMER SEMINOLE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have to report that, in passing the fort yesterday, we met with no casualties in killed or wounded. One shot from the water-battery cut one strand of our mainstay, which is the only injury done to the ship or rigging. Respectfully your obedient servant,

EDWARD DONALDSON,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford,
Mobile Bay, Ala.

U. S. STEAMER SEMINOLE, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: The following is a report of expenditure of ammunition on board this vessel in the engagement of yesterday: Five ten-second eleven-inch shell; four thirty-two pounder solid shot; sixteen thirty-pounder Parrott rifle-shell; two thirty-pounder Parrott rifle-shot; five fifteen-pound charges; four six-pound charges; eighteen three and a quarter pound charges.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
EDWARD DONALDSON,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay, Ala.

REPORT OF COMMANDER T. H. STEVENS.

U. S. MONITOR WINNEBAGO, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

To Rear-Admiral D. G. Farragut, Commanding W. G. B. Squadron:

SIR: I have the honor to report that, according to instructions, this vessel yesterday, at half-past five A.M. got under way from her anchorage near Sand Island, and proceeded up the bay for the purpose of attacking the enemy.

At seven took station between Fort Morgan and the wooden vessels of the fleet in line of battle.

At fifteen minutes past seven opened fire on the fort, the enemy firing rapidly. At eight the United States Monitor Tecumseh was blown up and sunk by a torpedo when within about a cable length of us, and shortly after the following men, having been saved from the wreck, were brought on board in a boat belonging to the Metacomet:

Acting Ensign John B. Zellick, Quartermaster Wm. Roberts, Quartermaster Chauncey P. Dean. Seamen: George Major, James McDonald. Ordinary seamen: James Burnes, Charles Packard, James Lands, William Tidder. Coal-passers: William West.

At half-past eight passed Fort Morgan, and steamed slowly up the bay. At ten minutes past nine the after-turret broke down. At fifteen minutes past nine received order from flag-ship to attack the rebel ram Tennessee, which surrendered at forty-five minutes past nine. Anchored with the fleet at forty-five minutes past ten in the lower fleet anchorage of Mobile Bay.

Inclosed please receive engineer's report of condition of the turrets, and the gunner's account of ammunition expended.

The Winnebago was struck nineteen times, three of the shot having penetrated the deck near the after-turret.

I have to report no casualties. The officers and men conducted themselves well; and to Acting Volunteer Lieutenant W. T. Shankland, First Assistant-Engineer John Purdy, who volunteered for this vessel, and the pilot, William H. Wroten, I am indebted for valuable assistance.

I have the honor to remain, your obedient servant,
T. H. STEVENS,
Commander.

U. S. S. WINNEBAGO, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the following is a correct list of ordnance stores expended whilst engaging the rebel batteries and fleet: Fifty-two eleven-inch charges, fifteen pounds each; two eleven-inch charges, twenty-five pounds each; six eleven-inch shell, five seconds each; twelve eleven-inch shell, ten seconds each; fourteen eleven-inch shrapnel, five seconds each; six stands of grape; two stands of canister; fourteen eleven-inch solid shot, ordinary steel; two eleven-inch solid shot, ordinary steel.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT SHERMAN,
Acting Gunner.

To Com. THOMAS STEVENS, U. S. Navy,
Commanding U. S. S. Winnebago.

REPORT OF COMMANDER J. W. A. NICHOLSON.

U. S. S. MANHATTAN, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this ship in the action of the fifth instant with Fort Morgan and the rebel iron-clad Tennessee.

At five minutes past seven A.M. I opened on the Fort, but owing to the dense smoke from the guns our firing was necessarily very slow.

After passing Fort Morgan, I devoted my attention entirely to the rebel iron-clad, firing my guns slowly and with great precision.

At forty-five minutes past nine I obtained a raking position under his stern, and fired a solid shot, which struck him on the port quarter, carrying away his steering gear.

At fifty-seven minutes past nine, when on the point of firing from the same position, he hauled down his colors and surrendered.

I fired at the Tennessee six times, namely, one shell, two solid, and three cored shot.

I am satisfied that most, if not all, the serious damage she has sustained was caused by the fifteen-inch shot from this vessel.

This ship was struck by the enemy's shot nine times, causing no material damage; but of this I will make a separate report.

No person was injured on board. Officers and men all did their duty; but I especially recommend Acting Ensign John B. Trott, who was stationed at the wheel steering the ship himself, for the admirable manner in which he performed his duty.

Also Acting Master Robert B. Ely, for the manner in which he worked his guns.

Both of these gentlemen, I think, are worthy of being advanced a grade in the service.

One of the fifteen-inch carriages is temporarily disabled by the breaking of some bolts.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. A. NICHOLSON,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay, Ala.

U. S. IRON-CLAD MANHATTAN, MOBILE BAY, ALA.,
August 8, 1864.

SIR: Of the six fifteen-inch projectiles fired from this vessel at the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, I claim four as having struck, doing most of the real injuries that she has sustained, namely: First, one shot on port beam, going entirely through the armor, and crushing the wood backing, making a hole completely through the vessel; second, one shot near the first, but higher up and farther forward, making a deep indentation, and then glancing over the ship; third, a shell striking her stern port shutter, disabling it, so that the gun could not be used; fourth, a shot striking her stern, ripping up the deck plating, carrying away her steering gear, and then striking her armor at the angle of the port quarter, crushing it and starting the wood backing through to the inside.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. A. NICHOLSON,
Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT, U. S. N.,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay, Ala.

U. S. IRON-CLAD MANHATTAN, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following as the expenditures of ammunition in action of to-day with the rebel Fort Morgan and the rebel iron-clad Tennessee: Four fifteen-inch shell; three fuzes—three and a half, seven, and ten sec. Three fifteen-inch solid shot; four fifteen-inch cored shot; four fifteen-inch charges, thirty-five pounds; four fifteen-inch charges, fifty pounds; three fifteen-inch charges, sixty pounds.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

C. M. SCHOONMAKER,
Lieutenant and Executive Officer.

Com. J. W. A. NICHOLSON, U. S. N.,
Commanding Manhattan.

U. S. IRON-CLAD MANHATTAN, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following damages sustained by this ship in action of to-day with the rebel Fort Morgan and the rebel iron-clad Tennessee:

TURRET.

One two and a quarter-inch indentation from conical steel-pointed shot, four feet from deck.

One seven-eighth inch indentation from glancing shot, two feet from deck.

One seven-eighth inch indentation just above base ring; outside, three rivet-heads knocked off and seven started.

Base ring separated slightly.

PILOT HOUSE.

One one and a quarter-inch indentation from conical shot, four feet three inches from base.

Outside, one rivet-head knocked off and two started.

Inside, one rivet-head knocked off and two started.

ARMOR.

Struck by glancing shot on starboard quarter, a few feet forward of propeller and ten inches below the deck.

Separated armor-plates slightly for five feet.

A shot passed through both quarters of our boat, and through the gunwale of the other.

One ventilator-stay was shot away.

Ventilator dented by a fragment of shell.

A shot passed through boiler-iron around rim of turret.

The carriage of port fifteen-inch gun was disabled by the recoil, carrying away six bolt-heads, securing composition plates.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

C. M. SCHOONMAKER,

Lieutenant and Executive Officer.

Commander J. W. A. NICHOLSON,

Commanding Manhattan.

U. S. S. MANHATTAN, August 5, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the working of the machinery of this vessel during the action to-day.

Though having been tested severely during the chase of the rebel ram Tennessee, every thing worked well, and is now ready for service at any moment.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

CHARLES L. CARTY,

Acting Chief-Engineer.

Commander J. W. A. NICHOLSON,

Commanding U. S. S. Manhattan.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER O. H. WELLS.

U. S. STEAMER GALENA, MOBILE BAY, ALA., Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I herewith report to you the part which this steamer took in passing Forts Morgan and Gaines yesterday.

Before leaving the anchorage off Mobile Bay, the Galena was lashed to the port side of the Oneida, according to your diagram of line of battle furnished, and occupied the rear of the line. Fort Morgan began firing at five minutes past seven A.M., when the Oneida replied and was followed by this vessel at twenty-five minutes past seven with the one-hundred pounder rifle on the forecastle, which took effect in the Fort. When abreast and within four hundred yards of it, Captain Mullany of the Oneida was wounded badly in the arm and leg, and the steering apparatus of his vessel was shot away, which was shortly afterward followed by the explosion of one of her boilers, caused by a heavy shot striking it; and this rendered it necessary for the Galena to tow the Oneida by Forts Morgan and Gaines under a severe raking fire from the former, which was accomplished by fifteen minutes past nine.

Both vessels were repeatedly struck, but the Oneida, from having been on the starboard side of this steamer, suffered severely, losing a number of men killed, and having a number wounded. Her Captain, J. R. M. Mullany, under the

most trying circumstances, displayed the utmost courage and gallantry whilst passing through a terrific fire, and only left the deck when he had been severely wounded. His executive officer, Lieutenant Huntington, cheerfully carried out my orders after the disability of Captain Mullany, and distinguished himself by his coolness and bravery.

I take pleasure in bringing to your notice the Executive Officer of this vessel, A. V. Lieutenant C. W. Wilson, who faithfully carried out my orders in passing Fort Morgan, as well as in the exhibition of coolness and bravery. Acting Master D. C. Kells, Acting Ensigns Pease and Miner, and Acting Master's Mates Tuttle and Delano, I would also recommend to your favorable notice for their good conduct under the fire of the enemy.

Mr. Buehler, First Assistant Engineer and Acting Chief, managed the Engineer's department in a highly creditable manner, in which he was sustained by the Assistant-Engineers Greenleaf, Scot, Burns, and Wecker.

Acting Assistant-Paymaster Kitchen and Lesley G. Morrow, Captain's Clerk, remained on deck during the action, and contributed their parts to my entire satisfaction. Acting Assistant-Surgeon George P. Wright not only attended to our three cases of wounded, (one mortally,) but gave his professional services to the Oneida, to several of their wounded who came on board of this steamer.

The crew manifested the utmost courage throughout the affair, which will always reflect creditably upon you and the Navy of the United States.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. WELLS,

Lieutenant Commander, U. S. N.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,

Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. STEAMER GALENA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I herewith inclose the following list of damages this steamer sustained in passing Forts Morgan and Gaines, between the hours of seven and ten on the morning of the fifth.

One ten-inch shot in starboard bow.

One ten-inch shot in starboard waist abaft plank sheer.

One ten-inch shot through smoke-stack above bridge.

One shot through gig.

One shot through cutter.

Mizzen-stay cut away.

One shot cutting away boat-davit.

One shot striking one-hundred pounder rifle.

Two stands grape cut away. Port boarding nettings cut by raking fire, cut up rails of top-gallant forecastle, cutting rammers and spongers of bow-pivot; mizzen rigging cut away by a stand of grape; chain and running rigging badly cut up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. WELLS,

Lieutenant Commander U. S. N.

Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,

Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER J. E. JOUETT.

U. S. S. METACOMET, BAY OF MOBILE, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: Agreeably to your order of the seventh instant, I have the honor to make the following report of the successful passage of the forts and the capture or dispersion of the rebel fleet inside the bay.

At half-past four A.M. of the fifth, I ran along-side of the Hartford and lashed on her port side. At fifty minutes after six the Tecumseh hoisted her colors and fired a gun. Fort Morgan replied. In a short time the action became general between the Fort, iron-clads, Brooklyn, Hartford, and Richmond. At this time the rebel fleet took their stations across the channel, delivering a raking fire upon our line. Thirty-five minutes past seven, amidst the hottest of the fire, the Tecumseh was blown up. I immediately sent a boat to her assistance in charge of Acting Ensign H. C. Nields, who pulled to the spot when she sank, and succeeded in saving one acting ensign, eight men, and a pilot. It is unnecessary for me to comment upon what he did; you know the situation under which he gallantly performed this duty; he delivered the men to the Winnebago, and then joined the Oneida, and asked for some duty. When the Oneida anchored he rejoined me up the bay. At forty minutes past seven the Brooklyn backed down the line, when the Hartford shot ahead, leading the fleet in past the forts. At this time a shell from the rebel gunboat Selma passed through this vessel into the forward store-room, killing one man and wounding another, and setting the ship on fire. By prompt action on the part of Acting Ensign G. E. Wing, in charge of powder division, we succeeded in extinguishing it. At five minutes past eight cast off from the Hartford and steamed for the three rebel gunboats, who were annoying the fleet by a raking fire. They steamed up the bay, engaging us with their stern guns, of which they had three each. At half-past eight the Gaines retreated under cover of the fort in a crippled condition. At nine the Morgan hauled off to starboard, and at ten minutes past nine the Selma struck her flag to this ship. I immediately despatched a boat, in charge of Acting Master N. M. Dyre, to take charge of the prize, and to send her Captain and First Lieutenant on board. He hoisted the American flag, and reported Captain Murphy wounded and First Lieutenant killed. He transferred fifty of her crew to this vessel, and at fifty minutes past nine Captain P. N. Murphy came on board and surrendered his sword and vessel. She had five killed and ten wounded, including the Captain, two of which have since died. The dead and wounded were attended to. The remainder of her crew and officers were sent to the Port Poyal. Put engineers and firemen on board and steamed to the fleet, reporting the capture of the confederate steamer Selma, which vessel mounted two nine-inch Dahlgren smooth bore, one six and a half inch rifle, and one eight and a half inch smooth bore, all on pivot, with a crew all told of ninety-four men. I am much indebted to the executive officer, H. T. Sleeper, for his

cool, prompt, and officer-like conduct; he is a valuable officer. For the efficient handling of the vessel, I am much indebted to Acting Master N. M. Dyre, who had permission to go North on leave, but volunteered to remain to assist in the attack upon the forts. Acting Ensign John White was cool and deliberate, working his rifle-gun with good effect. Acting Master's Mates Goodwin and Miller performed their duties with promptness and zeal, making good shots with their nine-inch guns. Acting Third Assistant-Engineer King, who was much exposed at the engine-bell, never failed to pull the proper bell; and to the efficient arrangement of the Engineer department and the prompt answer to the bells, I am indebted to First Assistant-Engineer Atkin. The gunner, Mr. Lamen, attended in both shell-rooms and magazines, forward and aft, and kept the guns more than supplied. I cannot close this long report without calling your attention to Assistant-Surgeon Payne of this vessel. By his report we had one killed and two wounded. That evening there were placed on board this vessel some sixty badly wounded officers and men, to be conveyed to Pensacola. He was untiring in his attention, watching and tending them at all times. He deserves especial mention for his great and successful exertions. This ship was struck eleven times, doing but little damage, shots mostly above the hull.

I herewith submit the reports of the Executive Officer and Surgeon.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES E. JOUETT,
Lieutenant Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. R. Squadron.

Ammunition consumed on board the U. S. S. Metacomet, August fifth, 1864:

Twenty-five charges powder, (ten pounds,) one-hundred pounder; fifteen shell, percussion, one-hundred pounder; ten shell, long five-second, one-hundred pounder; twenty charges powder, (ten pounds,) nine-inch gun; five shell, five-second nine-inch gun; ten shell, ten-second, nine-inch gun; five shot, grape, nine-inch gun; two shot, solid, nine-inch gun; six shot, solid, (thirty-two pounds;) one hundred primers, cannon; five charges powder, (one pound,) howitzer; five shell, percussion, howitzer; five fixed ammunition, howitzer; four shrapnel, howitzer; two shell, fixed ammunition, howitzer.

I do certify that the above is a correct statement of the ammunition consumed on the fifth day of August, 1864. Very respectfully,

JAMES LAMEN,
Acting Gunner.

Report of damages sustained by the U. S. S. Metacomet during the engagement of the fifth instant.

One shell through starboard-bow, exploding in the store-room; one shell on port bow; one shot through foremast, cutting two forward shrouds, port side; one cutting off heads of fire-room ventilators; one through smoke-stack; one through es-

cape-pipe; two bursting in starboard paddle-box; one through top of after pilot-house; one cutting mainsail in two; one striking and bending the after quarter davit. Very respectfully,

HENRY P. SLEEPER,
Executive Officer.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER B. GHERARDI.

U. S. S. FORT ROYAL, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that on the morning of the fifth instant, I took my position on the port side of the United States steamer Richmond, as her consort. I was able to open fire but twice; once as the rebel iron-clad Tennessee passed down the line. The second time as we kept away on a north-west course, I was able to bring the ten-inch pivot-gun to bear on Fort Morgan, and the rifled guns to bear on Fort Gaines.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BANCROFT GHERARDI,
Lieutenant Commander.

To Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER C. H. GREEN.

MOBILE BAY, U. S. S. OCTOBERA, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward to you the various reports of damages and casualties on board.

I bear cheerful testimony to the good conduct of officers and men; part of the latter volunteered to work one of the Brooklyn's guns, and although I have not yet heard of them from Captain Alden, I have every reason to believe they bore their part well.

To Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Urann, Executive Officer, I am much indebted for his zeal and efforts in having the ship ready to go under fire.

Acting Master Billings, a volunteer from the Vincennes, kept his post faithfully, and though quite severely hurt, still remained.

To Acting Master Young, Acting Ensigns Dodge and McEntee, my thanks are due, for their steadiness and promptness at their quarters.

The Engineer department, under the charge of Mr. Shipman, Acting Chief-Engineer, was well attended to, and his subordinates' conduct met my approbation.

To Assistant-Surgeon Dodge, and Paymaster Pynchon, and in fact all, I tender my hearty thanks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. H. GREEN,
Lieutenant Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. Farragut,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. OCTOBERA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of this day, I have the honor to submit the following report of damages done this ship by shot in passing the Fort this morning. They are as follows:

One shot in starboard-bow, entering just in wake of one-hundred pounder rifle; one on port-bow abreast of fore-mast; one through each paddle-box, two in foremast, one through smoke-stack, and one in mainmast, cutting two shrouds

of main rigging; one through the gig alongside; one cut one shroud on starboard side; one cut one shroud on port side; one cut pennant-tackle on starboard side; one cut vang falls on starboard side; one struck and carried away awning frame on the stem, and went through ensign; one struck wheel on hurricane-deck; one through boat on davit forward; one cut shroud on port side forward; one shot in forward part of forward guard starboard side; one through foresail.

Ammunition expended: Eight ten-pound charges for one-hundred pounder Parrott, and eight solid shot for one-hundred pounder.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM D. URANN,
A. V. Lieutenant and Executive Officer.
Lieutenant Commander C. H. GREEN.

U. S. S. OCTOBERA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of this day, I have the honor to submit the following report of damages done to the Engineer department of this vessel, during the action of the morning. They are as follows, namely: three shots through the starboard wheel, carrying away a portion of three inner rings and three arms; one shot through the smoke-pipe of boilers, about twenty feet above the hurricane-deck.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM W. C. SHIPMAN,
Acting First Assistant-Engineer in Charge.
C. H. GREEN,
Lieutenant Commander.

U. S. S. OCTOBERA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: The following is the amount of shot and ammunition expended, in passing the Fort this morning.

Eight ten-pound charges for one-hundred pounder rifle; eight shot for one-hundred pounder rifle. Respectfully yours, etc.,

WILLIAM D. URANN,
Acting Volunteer Lieutenant and Executive Officer.
To Lieut. Com. C. H. GREEN.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER W. P. McCANN.

U. S. S. KENNEBEC, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the inclosed reports of casualties, injuries sustained, and of ammunition expended on board of this vessel during the action with Forts Morgan and Gaines and the rebel flotilla, and while pursuing the rebel gunboat Morgan toward Dog River Bar.

The officers and crew of the Kennebec performed their duties gallantly under the enemy's fire. When lashed alongside the Monongahela, I sent Acting Ensign J. D. Ellis in charge of a gun's crew, to work a gun there, under the observation of Captain Strong, where he acted nobly.

I beg leave to call your attention to the good conduct of Acting Ensign H. E. Tinkham, who, when seriously wounded by the explosion of a shell from the rebel ram Tennessee, and when the vessel was supposed to be on fire, refused to leave his station. It affords me pleasure to bring to your favorable notice Acting Volunteer Lieu-

tenant Edmund Baker, the Executive Officer, Acting Ensign J. J. Butler and Second Assistant-Engineer L. W. Robinson. Acting Assistant-Surgeon, George W. Hatch rendered the most prompt assistance to the wounded. The crew fully sustained the proud reputation of the American sailor, for courage and bravery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. McCANN,

Lieutenant Commander, Commanding the Kennebec.
Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding U. S. B. Squadron.

U. S. GUNBOAT KENNEBEC, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: The following are the injuries sustained by this vessel in the action of the fifth instant.

One shot on starboard quarter, demolishing mooring chock, and passing through main rail in port side, also injured deck.

A shell from rebel ram Tennessee exploded in ship's side, below spurketing, causing the following damage:

Double iron chain stops broken, horizontal knee-stay torn away, four deck-planks broken and partially blown away, two side-planks broken; water-way and side timber broken, and partially blown away; bulwarks and hammock-rail broken; six planks on berth-deck broken; two planks on port-bow injured by collision with ram, which vessel left her boat across our bow, and iron davit on our port anchor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD BAKER,

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Executive Officer.

Lieut. Com. WM. P. McCANN,
Commanding U. S. S. Kennebec.

U. S. S. KENNEBEC, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: The following is the amount of ammunition expended by this vessel in the action of the fifth instant, namely:

Eight eleven-inch shells, twenty-five twenty-pound rifle shells. Powder: Two twenty-pound eleven inch charges; six fifteen-pound eleven-inch charges; twenty-five two-pound charges for rifle; thirty-three cannon-primers. Total rounds, thirty-three.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

H. E. TINKHAM,

Acting Ensign in Charge of Ordnance.

Lieut. Com. WM. P. McCANN,
Commanding U. S. S. Kennebec, Mobile Bay.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GEORGE BROWN,

U. S. STEAMSHIP ITASCA, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this vessel in the engagement of the fifth instant.

In obedience to your orders, this vessel was secured on the port side of the Ossipee, to aid her should she become disabled.

After having passed Fort Morgan, I cast off from the Ossipee, and started under sail and a full head of steam in pursuit of the rebel gunboats Morgan and Selma, that were being engaged by the Metacomet; but before I came within range the Morgan had succeeded in getting in such a position that I could not cut off her retreat to-

ward Fort Morgan, and the Selma had struck her flag to the Metacomet.

I take pleasure in testifying to the spirited willingness and desire manifested by all under my command, to take a more active part in the engagement, but the duty assigned us prevented us from using our guns in passing Fort Morgan, except for the purpose of increasing the density of smoke.

I am happy to be able to report that no casualties occurred.

The vessel was struck once in the mainmast.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE BROWN,

Lieutenant Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding U. S. B. Squadron.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER G. H. PERKINS,

U. S. MONITOR CHICKASAW, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report:

At six A.M., on Friday, August fifth, in obedience to orders I got under way, and took my position in the rear of the Winnebago, on the right of the line. I passed the forts with the rest of the fleet, firing as rapidly as possible.

Afterward, in obedience to orders, I attacked the rebel ram Tennessee, following her up closely, shooting away her smoke-stack, and firing solid shot at her till her flag was hauled down and a white flag raised. Her steering gear being shot away, I took her in tow and brought her to anchor near the Hartford. In the afternoon of the same day I again got under way, and brought a large barge, the Ingomar, out from under the guns of Fort Powell, exchanging several shot, and being struck three times.

On the morning of the sixth, I proceeded again to Fort Powell, which I found deserted and blown up. I towed out another barge.

In the afternoon I advanced and shelled Fort Gaines.

Too much praise cannot be given to all the officers and men for their coolness and efficiency under fire, and their endurance while at quarters.

I would mention in particular, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant William Hamilton, the executive officer, who, when on his way home, condemned by medical survey, volunteered for this vessel. I owe much to him for his energy in fitting out the vessel, and for his gallantry and coolness during the fight. Acting Master E. D. Percy, who also volunteered for the vessel, and commanded the guns in the after-turret, and gunner John A. McDonald, who commanded the forward turret, deserve especial mention for the skill and rapidity with which they fought their batteries. Chief Boatswain's Mate Andrew Jones, and Master-at-Arms James Seanor, who, although their time was out, volunteered for the fight from the Vincennes, are entitled to honorable mention.

During the entire action the vessel was struck a number of times, the smoke-stack was shot almost entirely away, and one shot penetrated the deck on the starboard bow. No serious in-

jury was suffered, and there were no casualties among officers or men.

I inclose the report of ammunition expended.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. H. PERKINS,

Lieutenant Commander.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,

Flag-Ship Hartford.

U. S. STEAMSHIP MONITOR CHICKASAW, Aug. 7, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following expenditures of ordnance and ordnance stores in the engagement of the fifth and sixth of August:

Shell expended upon Fort Morgan: seventy-five five-second; fifteen-pound charges, seventy-five: shot, steel, expended upon ram Tennessee, four; shot, cast-iron, forty-eight; twenty-pound charges fifty-two: shell expended upon Fort Powell, twenty-five five-second; fifteen-pound charges, twenty-five: shell expended upon Fort Gaines, fifteen five-second; sixteen ten-second; fifteen-pound charges, thirty-one; percussion primers expended, one hundred and ninety; lock-strings expended, two; sponges, two; rammers, one.

Very respectfully, JOHN A. McDONALD,

Gunner.

Lieut. Commander G. S. PERKINS,

Commanding U. S. Steamship Chickasaw.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT CHARLES L. HUNTINGTON.

U. S. S. SLOOP ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: Commander Mullany having been seriously wounded, it devolves upon me to make a report of the part taken by the Oneida in the engagement with Fort Morgan and the enemy's vessels on the fifth instant.

I have but few data to guide me, Mr. Ebbetts, the Captain's Clerk, having been required below, after Commander Mullany received his wound.

About half-past three A.M., our consort, the Galena, came alongside, and we proceeded to lash the ships together.

At ten minutes past four, we got under way in obedience to signal, and took our station in line as per diagram furnished to the commanding officers.

At five minutes past seven A.M., Fort Morgan opened fire, and at fifteen minutes past seven we opened with the thirty-pounder Parrott from our top-gallant forecastle, the Galena also firing with her one-hundred pounder Parrott rifle.

At twenty-five minutes past seven we commenced firing fifteen-second and ten-second shell from the eleven-inch pivot-guns. At forty-five minutes past seven opened with our entire star-board broadside with five-second shell, also firing two-second eleven-inch shrapnel when abreast the Fort. As the Oneida was the sternmost of the line, we had a good opportunity to observe the effects of the grape fired by the vessels ahead, and it appearing to fall in the water, it was determined to use only five-second shell and shrapnel with short fuze.

Fort Morgan fired very vigorously upon us, and sustaining as we did for a while the fire of

all its guns, the damages to the ship are very severe. At fifty minutes past seven a seven-inch rifle-shell passed through the chain-armor and the ship's side at the water-line into the star-board boiler, exploding there. Nearly the whole watch below of firemen and coal-heavers were scalded to death, or disabled by the escaping steam. This accident caused only a very temporary excitement on the part of the guns' crews near the fire-room and engine-room hatches, and the guns were gallantly served and fired while the steam was escaping. About this time also a seven-inch rifle-shell entered at the water-line, exploded in the cabin, cutting both wheel-ropes; the relieving tackles were immediately manned and worked very promptly and skillfully under the supervision of Alexander Lowe, Boatswain's Mate.

Observing the enemy's iron-clad ram Tennessee to be approaching us, the guns were ordered to be loaded with increased charge of powder and solid shot. She passed alongside of us not more than two hundred yards distant, attempting to discharge her guns. Fortunately the primers failed to explode the charges in the guns three times, and she only succeeded in giving us one shot, which struck the after eleven-inch pivot-gun on the chase.

Both train-tackles and one out-tackle of the forward eleven-inch gun having at this time been shot away, and the carriage of number five eight-inch gun having been disabled, we were only able to fire the after eleven-inch gun. The shot from this gun struck the ram.

The ram passing astern, delivered two raking fires into us, one of which disabled the twelve-pounder howitzer on the poop, severely wounding Commander Mullany; the effect of the other one I am unable to state, but think the only damage from it was to our rigging.

The command of the ship now devolved upon me, and the management of the two vessels upon Lieutenant Commander Wells of the Galena.

The battery was gallantly served while passing the forts, but the enemy raked us several times after our guns could not be brought to bear.

In passing the Fort we received a shell forward on the berth-deck which exploded, knocking out a dead-light on the port side, starting a fire on top of the magazine. Owing to the presence of mind of Acting Ensign Hall, commanding the powder division, and Gunner Wm. Parker, the fire was promptly extinguished, and the supply of powder was as rapid as ever before.

At thirty-five minutes past eight signal was made that the captain was wounded, and also that our boiler was disabled; not being answered from the flag-ship, hauled down signals. About a quarter past nine repeated signals, and they were not answered, but signal was made from the flag-ship to run down at full speed the enemy's principal vessel. Answered the signal, but I am sure the Admiral understands we could not obey it—we had no speed.

At ten o'clock A.M., the Itasca, Lieutenant Commander Brown, took us in tow and carried

us to an anchorage. At eleven anchored in three and a quarter fathoms water, with thirty fathoms of chain, ready for slipping.

The officers and crew of the *Oneida* are proud to have served in your fleet, and they are proud of their gallant commander, J. R. M. Mullany, who gave us all so noble an example of unflinching courage and heroism. His coolness in action could not possibly have been surpassed. Having scarcely become acquainted with Commander Mullany, he having only been on board two days, the highest compliment that can be paid him is the confidence and spirit with which the crew went into action.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to Lieutenant C. S. Cotton, Lieutenant E. N. Kellogg, and Acting Ensign John Sears, commanding gun divisions, for the admirable examples of courage they afforded their men, and for their skill in directing the fire of the guns.

The conduct of Acting Ensign Charles V. Gridley (regular) is beyond all praise. He had charge of the Master's division, and assisted in conning the ship from the top-gallant fore-castle.

Acting Ensign Hall's conduct has been previously mentioned. His duties were performed in the most satisfactory manner, and, under the Almighty God, we probably owe to his presence of mind at the time of the fire on the berth-deck the safety of the ship.

Acting Master's Mates Ed. Bird, Daniel Clark, and John Devereaux behaved courageously. Gunner Wm. Parker and Boatswain Hallowell Dickinson merit mention for their good conduct.

I leave it to Chief-Engineer W. H. Hunt to speak of the officers and men under his immediate supervision, but must speak of him personally in this report. He was cool and collected during the whole affair, and his gallantry was particularly apparent at the time of the accident to our starboard boiler. Mr. Hunt was scalded severely in both arms.

Surgeon John F. Taylor had a severe task imposed upon him, but his whole duty by the wounded was done quietly and skilfully. Medical assistance was offered from the *Galena*; it was accepted, and Acting Assistant-Surgeon George P. Wright came on board, for which we owe him our thanks. At the time that our boiler was exploded, five of our wounded went on board the *Galena*; four subsequently returned—the other was suffering much pain, and remained on board until transferred to the *Metacomet*.

The safety of the ship after the explosion depended upon the *Galena*. That we are here quietly at anchor attests how nobly Lieutenant Commander Clark H. Wells stood by us.

Assistant Paymaster George R. Martin assisted the Surgeon materially. He also superintended putting out a fire that broke out in the cabin. Paymaster's Clerk W. P. Treadwell rendered great service in passing orders to the bell, until he was required below to assist in caring for the wounded. He was quite badly

scalded himself. Mr. George A. Ebbetts, Captain's Clerk, behaved splendidly. He was knocked down at the same time that Captain Mullany was wounded. Whenever he could be spared from below after this accident, he cheerfully rendered assistance in carrying orders.

The Pilot, Mr. John V. Grivet, served part of the time on board the *Galena*, and part of the time on board this ship. That part of his conduct which came under my observation merits praise.

For the crew, they stood to their guns most nobly. Many deserve mention, but I shall only name those that came under my own observation. James Sheridan, Quartermaster, Captain of the after eleven-inch gun, was wounded in several places, but remained at his gun until the firing ceased, when he supplied the place of the Signal Quartermaster, who had been injured by a fall. Sheridan is very intelligent, understands the rudiments of navigation and the use of the sextant, and I recommend him to your favorable notice. John E. Jones, Quartermaster, stationed at the wheel, was also wounded. After the wheel-ropes were shot away he went on the poop to assist at the signals, and remained there until ordered to reeve new wheel-ropes. Wm. Gardner, seaman, behaved so coolly under fire as to draw my particular attention to him. John Preston, landsman, though severely wounded, remained at his gun until obliged to go to the Surgeon. He reported himself slightly hurt, assisted in taking care of the wounded below, and wanted to return to his station on deck. On examination, it was found that he was wounded quite severely in both eyes. Wm. Newland, O. S., first loader of after eleven-inch gun, behaved splendidly; he has been distinguished on board for his good conduct and faithful discharge of all his duties. David Nailor, landsman, powder-boy at the thirty-pounder Parrott rifle, had his passing-box knocked overboard out of his hand. The passing-box fell into one of the *Galena's* boats, which was right under our bow; Nailor jumped overboard, recovered his box and returned to his station. Charles Woomam, O. S., acting as an aid to the Executive Officer, distinguished himself by his cool courage; he carried orders intelligently and correctly. Thos. Kendrick, Cox., a volunteer from the *Bien-ville*, attracted my attention by his excellent conduct.

The marines conducted themselves with the usual distinguished gallantry of their corps. Sergeant James S. Roantree is particularly deserving of notice.

We are grateful to Almighty God for his protection.

Inclosed are the reports of damages in the different departments of the ship.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. L. HUNTINGTON,
Lieutenant U. S. Navy.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, ALA., Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I beg leave to submit the following report of damages sustained in the Engineer's department of this ship, in her passage by Fort Morgan, on the morning of the fifth instant.

A seven-inch Brooke's rifle projectile penetrated the forward out-board end of the starboard boiler, about eight inches above upper tube sheet, carrying away the entire sheet through which it entered; and exploding inside the boiler, inflicted serious damage to the entire forward end of the same, destroying all the angle-iron and the fore and aft braces thereto attached, starting the tube-sheets and all the tubes in the two forward tube-boxes. Two of the heaviest fragments of the shell were driven through the front of the boiler, destroying the upper man-hole plate, the entire sheet to which it was attached, and starting the riveting of the adjoining sheets.

As soon as it was practicable after this accident, the nature and extent of the damage was ascertained, the connection between the two boilers immediately shut off, and the engines operated with the remaining boiler.

I regret to state that through this accident to the starboard boiler, First Assistant-Engineer R. H. Fitch and six of the firemen and coal-heavers on watch below at the time, were seriously scalded by the hot water and escaping steam.

In its present condition the boiler is totally unfit for use. No further damages were sustained in this department. I cannot close this report without adverting to the coolness, zeal, and intrepidity displayed by the officers and men in general under my supervision.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to First Assistant-Engineer R. A. Fitch, who, at the time of the injury to the boiler, displayed the utmost courage and coolness, remaining at his station in the execution of his duties, until he was so badly scalded by the escaping steam as to be rendered almost helpless.

I desire also to refer in terms of the highest commendation to the conduct of Acting Third Assistant-Engineer Nicholas Dillon, who, after the disabling of Mr. Fitch, rendered me invaluable assistance in discovering the nature of damages, and making the requisite provision for working the engines with the remaining boiler.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. H. HUNT,
Chief-Engineer.

Lieutenant CHAS. L. HUNTINGTON,
Commanding U. S. S. Oneida.

U. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: The following is a report of the damages in the Master's department of this ship during the action of yesterday, namely:

One set wheel-ropes cut by shell; one tell-tale compass damaged; one Mobile Bay chart damaged; one spy-glass badly damaged; one binnacle-lamp lost overboard; two ward-room chains broken by shell; one lead and line lost overboard; two sets signal-halliards cut by

shell; fifteen fathoms stream-chain on fire-room hatch cut by shot; twelve fathoms starboard bower-chain on ship's side cut by shell; seven fathoms sheet-chain on engine-room hatch cut by shot; all cabin furniture destroyed entirely or badly damaged; one six-inch hawser cut badly.

Very respectfully,

E. W. KELLOGG,

Lieutenant in charge of Master's Department.
Lieutenant C. L. HUNTINGTON,
Senior Officer on board.

U. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of damages and injuries sustained in the gunner's department of this ship in the action of yesterday:

No. 8 gun—forward eleven-inch pivot: one intackle carried away by shot, one out-tackle carried away by shot.

No. 4 gun—eight-inch broadside: one side-tackle carried away by shot, one train-tackle carried away by shot.

No. 5 gun—eight-inch broadside: carriage badly damaged, breast-piece shot away, brackets on left side of carriage badly injured.

Shell-crane and tackle at fore-hatch broken by shot; one rammer knocked overboard; one hand-spike broken; two boring bits broken; one priming wire broken.

No. 6 gun—after eleven-inch pivot: chase of gun dented and cracked by shot; brackets on right side of carriage badly splintered and dented by expansion band of a shell striking them and remaining in them, fracturing the breeching also, making it unsafe for use; twelve-pounder howitzer boat-carriage disabled.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM PARKER,
Gunner.

Lieutenant CHAS. L. HUNTINGTON,
Executive Officer U. S. S. Oneida.

U. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully beg leave to submit the following report of injuries received by this ship in her rigging during the action of this day:

Starboard fore trysail vang shot away; port bowsprit guy shot away; three shrouds of starboard main rigging injured by shot, (one cut in two;) starboard main topmast backstay cut; mizzen-stay shot away; main spencer brail shot away; topping lift of whale boat's davits shot away; awning ridge rope starboard side shot away; sparker brails shot away.

Very respectfully,

HALLOWELL DICKINSON,
Boatswain.

Lieutenant CHAS. L. HUNTINGTON,
Executive Officer U. S. S. Oneida.

U. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: The following is a list of casualties in the Carpenter's department of this ship during the engagement of the fifth of August:

All the berths, bulkheads, and furniture in the cabin a total wreck, caused by the explosion of a seven-inch shell which entered at the water-line. One seven-inch rifle-shell passed through

the chain-armor and ship's side at the water-line, entered the starboard boiler, and then exploded. One eight-inch solid shot entered the mainmast, doing serious damage, and remains there yet. One shot through ash-shoot, through combings of fire-room, and out through port side.

Fore topmast slightly wounded by piece of shell; spanker-gaff in like manner.

Shot through starboard bow, below spar-deck, across berth-deck, out through port-bow.

Two raking shots from aft struck the top-gallant fore-castle, one passing out through starboard bow, one out through port-bow.

First cutter damaged by a piece of shell; second cutter and whale-boat badly smashed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES L. HUNTINGTON,

Lieutenant and Executive Officer.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: The following is a list of casualties in the Sailmaker's department during the engagement of the fifth of August:

Shot-holes in foresail, fore-staysail, and main-sail; spanker badly cut by shot; wind-sails for fire-room and engine-room rendered unfit for use; several shot-holes in hammock-cloths.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES L. HUNTINGTON,

Lieutenant and Senior Officer on Board.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. S. S. ONEIDA, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of ammunition, etc., on board this ship in the action of yesterday:

Four hundred and sixty-five pounds of powder in thirty-one bags of fifteen pounds each; twenty pounds of powder in one bag of twenty pounds; forty-five pounds of powder in five bags of nine pounds each; one hundred and eighty-four pounds of powder in twenty-three bags of eight pounds each; eighty-four pounds of powder in twenty-four bags of three and a half pounds each; two solid shot, eleven-inch; three shrapnel eleven-inch; six shells, eleven-inch, fifteen-second; fourteen shells, eleven-inch, ten-second; seven shells, eleven-inch, five-second; eight shells, eight-inch, ten-second; nine shells, eight-inch, fifteen-second; nine shells, eight-inch, five-second; two solid shot; eight shells, rifle, thirty-pounder, five-second; five shells, rifle, thirty-pounder, ten-second; seven shells, rifle, thirty-pounder, fifteen-second; four shot solid; one shrapnel, twenty-four pounder howitzer; three shrapnel, twelve-pounder howitzer; two canister, twelve-pounder howitzer; sixty cannon-primers; twenty-four friction-primers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PARKER,
Gunner.

Lieutenant CHAS. L. HUNTINGTON,
Commanding U. S. S. Oneida.

Forwarded, though I am confident that more shrapnel and less ten-second shell were fired.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES L. HUNTINGTON,

Lieutenant U. S. Navy.

GENERAL ORDERS OF REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT,
NOS. 10, 11, 12, AND 13.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, }
OFF MOBILE BAY, July 12, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDER, No. 10:

Strip your vessels and prepare for the conflict. Send down all your superfluous spars and rigging. Trice up or remove the whiskers. Put up the splinter-nets on the starboard side, and barricade the wheel and steersmen with sails and hammocks. Lay chains or sand-bags on the deck over the machinery, to resist a plunging fire. Hang the sheet-chains over the side, or make any other arrangement for security that your ingenuity may suggest. Land your starboard boats, or lower and tow them on the port side, and lower the port-boats down to the water's edge. Place a leadsman and the pilot in the port-quarter boat, or the one most convenient to the Commander.

The vessels will run past the forts in couples, lashed side by side, as hereinafter designated. The flag-ship will lead, and steer from Sand Island N. by E. by compass, until abreast of Fort Morgan; then N.W. half N. until past the Middle Ground; then N. by W.; and the others, as designated in the drawing, will follow in due order, until ordered to anchor; but the bow and quarter-line must be preserved, to give the chase-guns a fair range; and each vessel must be kept astern of the broadside of the next ahead. Each vessel will keep a very little on the starboard quarter of his next ahead, and, when abreast of the Fort, will keep directly astern, and, as we pass the Fort, will take the same distance on the port-quarter of the next ahead, to enable the stern-guns to fire clear of the next vessel astern.

It will be the object of the Admiral to get as close to the Fort as possible before opening fire; the ship, however, will open fire the moment the enemy opens upon us, with their chase and other guns, as fast as they can be brought to bear. Use short fuzes for the shell and shrapnel, and as soon as within three or four hundred yards, give the grape. It is understood that heretofore we have fired too high; but, with grape-shot, it is necessary to elevate a little above the object, as grape will dribble from the muzzle of the gun. If one or more of the vessels be disabled, their partners must carry them through, if possible; but if they cannot, then the next astern must render the required assistance; but as the Admiral contemplates moving with the flood-tide, it will only require sufficient power to keep the crippled vessels in the channel.

Vessels that can, must place guns upon the poop and top-gallant fore-castle, and in the tops on the starboard side. Should the enemy fire grape, they will remove the men from the top-gallant fore-castle and poop to the guns below, until out of grape-range.

The howitzers must keep up a constant fire from the time they can reach with shrapnel until out of its range.

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, July 29.
GENERAL ORDER, No. 11:

Should any vessel be disabled to such a degree that her consort is unable to keep her in her station, she will drop out of line to the westward, and not embarrass the vessels next astern by attempting to regain her station. Should she repair damages so as to be able to reënter the line of battle, she will take her station in the rear as close to the last vessels as possible.

So soon as the vessels have passed the Fort and kept away N.W., they can cast off the gunboats at the discretion of the senior officer of the two vessels, and allow them to proceed up the bay to cut off the enemy's gunboats that may be attempting to escape up to Mobile. There are certain black buoys placed by the enemy from the piles on the west side of the channel across it toward Fort Morgan. It being understood that there are torpedoes and other obstructions between the buoys, the vessels will take care to pass to the eastward of the easternmost buoy, which is clear of all obstructions.

So soon as the vessels arrive opposite the end of the piles, it will be best to stop the propeller of the ship, and let her drift the distance past by her headway and the tide; and those having side-wheel gunboats will continue on by the aid of their paddle-wheels, which are not likely to foul with the enemy's drag-ropes.

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.
GENERAL ORDER, No. 12:

The Admiral returns thanks to the officers and crews of the vessels of the fleet for their gallant conduct during the fight of yesterday.

It has never been his good fortune to see men do their duty with more courage and cheerfulness; for, although they knew that the enemy was prepared with all devilish means for our destruction, and though they witnessed the almost instantaneous annihilation of our gallant companions in the *Tecumseh* by a torpedo, and the slaughter of their friends, messmates, and gun-mates on our decks, still there were no evidences of hesitation in following their Commander-in-Chief through the line of torpedoes and obstructions, of which we knew nothing, except from the exaggerations of the enemy, who had given out: "That we should all be blown up as certainly as we attempted to enter."

For this noble and implicit confidence in their leader, he heartily thanks them.

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral, Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 7, 1864.
GENERAL ORDER, No. 13:

The Admiral desires the fleet to return thanks to Almighty God for the signal victory over the enemy on the morning of the fifth instant.

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT, TRANSMITTING ADDITIONAL REPORT OF CAPT. T. A. JENKINS.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, August 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith an additional report of Captain Jenkins, in connection with the engagement of the fifth instant, which was not received in time to accompany my detailed despatch No. 343.

Lieutenant Commander Gherardi's conduct is referred to in this report in high terms.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral, Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.
Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF CAPTAIN T. A. JENKINS.

U. S. STEAMSHIP RICHMOND, INSIDE OF MOBILE BAY,
August 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report that in obedience to your General Order and plan of battle for attacking Fort Morgan and the rebel fleet, Lieutenant Commander Bancroft Gherardi, commanding the U. S. steamer *Port Royal*, reported himself with his vessel to me, ready for action a little before daylight this morning.

The *Port Royal* was lashed on the port-side of this vessel, with her stern pivot-gun sufficiently far aft of the quarter of this ship to enable it to be used against the enemy as effectively as one of my own broadside guns.

To Lieutenant Commander Gherardi I am greatly indebted for his cool and courageous conduct, from the moment the attack commenced to the time that his vessel was cast off by my order to go in chase of the enemy's three wooden gunboats, the *Morgan*, *Gaines*, and *Selma*.

My orders on board of this ship to the helmsman, and to the officer stationed at the engine-bell, were repeated by him on board of his own vessel, and the soundings passed from his vessel to this with a coolness and clearness of voice that could not but excite my admiration.

The after pivot-gun of the *Port Royal* (the only one that could be brought to bear upon the enemy's batteries from that vessel) was worked most effectively.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THORNTON A. JENKINS,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Inside of Mobile Bay.

LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT, TRANSMITTING REPORT OF SURVEY ON THE REBEL RAM TENNESSEE.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, WEST GULF BLOCKADING
Squadron, August 16, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department that on the sixth instant I ordered a survey to be made of the hull, armor, etc., of the iron-clad *Tennessee*, and I herewith submit the report, (order of survey and report marked Nos. 1 and 2,) as well as a sectional view of the vessel made by Second Assistant-Engineer J. De Graff, of this ship, and a drawing in water-colors by

Second Assistant-Engineer Robert Weir, of the Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Rear-Admiral, Commanding W. G. R. Squadron.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF SURVEY ON THE REBEL RAM TENNESSEE.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, August 6, 1864.

GENTLEMEN: You will please make a strict and careful survey on the rebel iron-clad steamer Tennessee, captured in the engagement of yesterday, describing her hull, armor, machinery, armament, ammunition, the injuries to the vessel by shot, and those received when struck by the Monongahela, Lackawanna, and Hartford.

You will also state the repairs necessary to be made to put her again in serviceable condition; and the general internal arrangement of the vessel for light and ventilation, reporting to me in duplicate.

Very respectfully,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. R. Squadron.

Captain T. A. JENKINS.

Captain JAMES ALDEN.

Commander W. E. LE ROY

Chief-Engineer THOMAS WILLIAMSON.

U. S. STEAM-SLOOP RICHMOND, INSIDE OF MOBILE BAY, }
August 13, 1864.

SIR: In obedience to your order of the sixth instant, hereto appended, we have the honor respectfully to report that we have made a strict and careful survey of the iron-clad casemated steamer Tennessee, captured from the rebels in the engagement in this bay, on the morning of the fifth instant, by the fleet under your command, and submit as follows, namely:

DESCRIPTION OF TENNESSEE'S HULL.

The hull of the vessel appears to be exceedingly strongly built in every part, the material being oak and yellow pine, with iron fastenings. Length from stem to stern on deck, two hundred and nine feet. Greatest breadth of beam on deck, forty-eight feet. Mean average draught of water, about fourteen feet.

The deck is covered fore and aft with wrought-iron plates two inches thick.

The sides of the vessel are protected by an overhang, sponsoned, and covered with two layers of two inch wrought-iron.

This overhang extends about six feet below the water-line.

The sides of the vessel below the deck are believed to be eight feet thick, and the distance from the knuckle, or outside of the overhang on deck, to the base of the casemate on either side is ten feet.

The vessel is provided with a strong beak or prow, which projects about two feet under water, formed by the continuation of the sponsoning, and covered with wrought-iron plates.

CASEMATE.

The casemate of the vessel is very strongly built. It is seventy-eight feet, eight inches long,

and twenty-eight feet nine inches wide inside—the sides of the vessel extending ten feet from it on either side, at the greatest breadth of beam.

The framing consists of heavy yellow pine beams, thirteen inches thick, and placed close together vertically. Outside planking of yellow pine, five and a half inches thick, laid on horizontally, and outside of this horizontal planking there is a layer of oak timber four inches thick, bolted on vertically, upon which the iron plating is secured.

The plating or armor of the casemate forward is six inches thick, consisting of three two-inch iron plates, of about six inches wide each, and abaft and on the sides five inches thick, consisting of two two-inch and one one-inch iron-plates of the same width.

The yellow pine framing of the casemate is planked over inside with two and a half inch oak timber laid on diagonally.

The whole of the armor plating is fastened with through-bolts, one and a quarter inch diameter, with washers and nuts inside.

The casemate is covered on top with wrought-iron gratings, composed of bars two inches thick, and six inches wide, laid flat, and supported on wooden beams twelve inches square, and about five feet distant from each other. Some of these gratings are hinged and fitted to open from the inside.

There are ten gun-ports in the casemate—two in broadside, on either side, three forward and three aft.

The forward and after ports, to port and starboard, are placed so as to enable the forward and after pivot-guns to be used as broadside guns. The directly forward and after ports are on a line with the keel.

The ports are elongated and made just wide enough for the entrance of the muzzle of the guns in training, and only high enough to allow a moderate elevation and depression of the gun.

The wooden backing is cut away on each side of the ports inside of the casemate, to allow the guns to be trained about one point forward and aft. The gun-ports are covered with wrought-iron sliding plates or shutters five inches thick; those for the four broadside guns are fitted in slides. The sliding plates or shutters for the pivot-guns are pivoted on the edge, with one bolt that can be knocked out, detaching the shutter, if necessary, and are worked by a combination of racks and pinions.

ARMAMENT.

The armament of the Tennessee consists of six rifled guns, called by the rebels Brooke's rifles.

The two pivot-guns are seven and one eighth-inch bore, and the four broadside guns are six-inch bore. These guns are reinforced abaft by two wrought-iron bands, two inches thick respectively. Weight of projectiles ninety-five pounds and one hundred and ten pounds solid shot.

The pivot-guns are fitted on wooden slides,

with a rack let into them. On an arm attached to the carriage there is a pinion for running out the gun, and by raising the arm the rack is thrown out of gear to allow the gun to recoil.

The arrangements for working the battery, and the implements and machinery employed, appear to be very good.

QUARTERS FOR OFFICERS AND CREW.

The cabin is large and comfortable for an iron-clad vessel.

The ward-room is situated immediately over the engine, and is open to it, and although sufficiently commodious, we are of opinion that it would be impossible for officers or others, to preserve their health, or to live there comfortably for any considerable length of time in the absence of a better and more perfect ventilation than is at present provided.

The quarters of the crew are excellent, and exceedingly comfortable for an iron-clad vessel of her description. These quarters consist of a roomy berth-deck, with rooms fitted up on either side for the junior officers.

The berth-deck communicates with the casemate by means of a large hatch, and is provided with two large ventilators through the deck, outside of the casemate.

When in port and in moderately smooth sea, it is believed that the berth-deck will be found to be sufficiently well ventilated to insure a reasonable degree of comfort to the crew; but when the ventilators are unshipped, it is believed that the one blower now on board (and which is also used for forcing the fires) is not sufficient to produce a proper circulation of fresh air.

The steering arrangements appear to be very defective, and the accommodations for the pilot and helmsman bad. These defects can, however, be easily remedied and at a small cost.

MACHINERY.

The machinery of the vessel consists of two geared non-condensing engines.

Cylinders twenty-four inches diameter and seven-foot stroke, with poppet-valves arranged, as is the usual mode on board of western river steamers.

These engines were taken out of the river steamer called the Alonzo Child.

They are placed fore and aft in the vessel, geared to an idler-shaft by spur gearing, with wooden teeth, and from the idler-shaft to the propeller shaft by bevel cast-iron gear.

BOILERS.

There are four horizontal flue-boilers, twenty-four feet long, placed side by side, with one furnace under the whole of them; the products of combustion returning through the flues are delivered into one smoke-pipe.

The engine and fire-rooms are insufferably hot, and very badly ventilated.

INJURIES RECEIVED IN THE ACTION.

The injuries to the casemate of the Tennessee from shot are very considerable. On its after-side

nearly all the plating is started; one bolt driven in; several nuts knocked off inside; gun-carriage of the after pivot-gun damaged, and the steering rod or chain cut near that gun. There are unmistakable marks on the afterpart of the casemate of not less than nine eleven-inch solid shot having struck within the space of a few square feet, in the immediate vicinity of that port. On the port side of the casemate the armor is also badly damaged from shot. On that side, nearly amidships of the casemate, and between the two broadside guns, a fifteen-inch solid shot knocked a hole through the armor and backing, leaving on the inside an undetached mass of oak and pine splinters, about three by four feet, and projecting inside of the casemate about two feet from the side. This is the only shot that penetrated the wooden backing of the casemate, although there are numerous places on the inside, giving evidence of the effect of the shot.

There are visible between forty and fifty indentations and marks of shot on the hull, deck, and casemate, varying from very severe to slight; nine of the deepest indentations on the after part of the casemate, (evidently being eleven-inch shot,) and the marks of about thirty of other calibres on different parts of the vessel.

There are also a few other marks, being, however merely scratches or slight indentations of the plating.

The smoke-stack was shot away, although it is not improbable the heavy ramming by the Monongahela, Lackawanna, and Hartford, had previously prepared it for its fall.

Three of the wrought-iron port shutters or slides were so much damaged by shot as to prevent the firing of the guns.

There are no external visible marks or evidences of injury inflicted upon the hull of the Tennessee by the severe ramming by the Monongahela, Lackawanna, and Hartford; but inasmuch as the decks leak badly, and when there is a moderate sea running in the bay, her reported usual leakage of three inches an hour being now increased to five or six inches an hour, it is fairly to be inferred that the increased leakage is caused by the concussion of the vessels.

The Tennessee is in a state to do good service now.

To restore her to the state of efficiency in which she was when she went into the action with this fleet on the fifth instant, it will be necessary to overhaul much of the iron plating on the port and after sides of the casemate, and replace some of it.

The iron gun-port slides or shutters, which were damaged, must be either removed or repaired.

A new smoke-stack is required, and additional ventilators should be fitted.

Blowers are required to produce proper ventilation in the engine-room and on the berth-deck.

When these small repairs and additions shall have been made, the iron-clad Tennessee will be a most formidable vessel for harbor and river service, and for operating generally in smooth water, both offensively and defensively.

The original of this report is accompanied by sectional views of the Tennessee, and a sketch showing the effect of shot on the outside.

We are, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

THORNTON A. JENKINS,
Captain.

JAMES ALDEN,
Captain.

WILLIAM E. LEROY,
Commander.

T. WILLIAMSON,
Chief-Engineer.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, U. S. Flag-Ship Hartford.

LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT, TRANSMITTING ADDITIONAL REPORTS OF CAPTAINS DRAYTON, JENKINS, AND MARCHAND.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, W. G. B. SQUADRON, }
MOBILE BAY, Aug. 22, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith the reports of Captain Drayton of the Hartford, Captain Jenkins of the Richmond, and Captain Marchand of the Lackawanna, (marked Nos. 1, 2, and 3,) calling the attention of the Department to such of the petty officers and crew of their respective ships as particularly distinguished themselves in the action of the fifth instant, entitling them to special notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF CAPTAIN P. DRAYTON.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 9, 1864.

SIR: I beg leave to call your attention to the conduct of the following petty officers and others of this vessel, during the action of the fifth instant, which I think entitles them to the medal of honor.

1. Thomas Fitzpatrick (Coxswain) was captain of No. 1 gun. His gun was almost disabled by the bursting of a shell, which destroyed much of the material, and killed seven men, besides wounding several others, and among them himself. Notwithstanding this, he had the killed and wounded quietly removed, replaced the breeching, side-tackle and truck, etc., which had been cut to pieces, got a crew, and in a little while was firing the gun again as usual. I recommend that in addition to the medal he be made a Master's Mate.

2. Charles Melville (ordinary seaman.) This man, a loader at the same gun, was severely wounded by a piece of the shell. He was taken below, but would not remain there, and although scarcely able to stand, performed his duty until the end of the action.

3. William E. Stanley (shellman at No. 8 gun) was severely wounded, but refused to go below, and continued to perform his duties until at length he became so weak from loss of blood, as to be unable to stand.

4. William Pelham, (landsman.) When the crew of the gun to which he belonged was entirely broken up, owing to the number of its killed and wounded, he assisted to remove the

latter below, and then immediately returned, and without any direction to do so, took his place at the adjoining gun, where a vacancy existed, and continued to perform his duties there most faithfully for the remainder of the action.

5. John McFarlan (Captain of Forecastle) was at the wheel, which has been his station in all of the previous fights of this ship. As on every other occasion, he displayed the utmost coolness and intelligence throughout the action. When the Lackawanna ran into us, and for a moment there was every appearance of the men at the wheel being crushed, he never left his station, nor ceased for an instant to attend strictly to his duties. This evidence of coolness and self-possession, together with his good conduct in the other battles of the Hartford, I hope will entitle him to the medal.

6. James R. Garrison (coal-heaver) had one of his great toes shot off; but, without leaving his station at the shell-whip, bound up the wound, and remained at work until again severely wounded.

7. Thomas O'Connell, (coal-heaver.) Although on the sick-list and quite unwell, he went to his station at the shell-whip, where he remained until his right hand was shot away.

8. Wilson Brown (landsman) was stationed at the shell-whip on the berth-deck. A man was killed on the ladder above him, and thrown with such violence against Brown as to knock him into the hold, where he lay for a short time senseless, but, on recovering, he immediately returned to his station, though besides himself only one of the original six belonging there had escaped.

9. John Lamson (landsman) was one of the six men stationed at the shell-whip on the berth-deck; a shell killed or wounded the whole number. Lamson was wounded in the leg, and thrown with great violence against the side of the ship, but as soon as he recovered himself, although begged to go below, he refused, and went back to the shell-whip, where he remained during the action.

10. George Meelage (Paymaster's Steward.) Although quite badly hurt by splinters, refused to leave his station, and performed very efficient service until the end of the action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. DRAYTON,

Captain.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF CAPTAIN T. A. JENKINS.

U. S. & S. RICHMOND, INSIDE OF MOBILE BAY, }
August 10, 1864.

SIR: In my report of the fifth instant, I expressed my great admiration of, and thanks for, the cool and courageous conduct of every officer and of every man serving on board of this ship, in the terrible conflict with the rebel batteries at Fort Morgan, the iron-clad Tennessee, and gun-boats Selma, Morgan, and Gaines, on the morning of that day.

I consider it, however, but an act of plain and

simple duty on my part to go further now, and respectfully invite your attention, and that of the Department through you, to the highly meritorious conduct of the under-mentioned petty officers and seamen on board of this ship, who exhibited on that memorable occasion, and in conflict with the rebels previously, a will and determination, and set an example to their shipmates and messmates, worthy, in my opinion, of the highest commendation.

1. William Densmore (Chief Boatswain's Mate) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay, on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He has been in the naval service twelve years, was on board the sloop-of-war *St. Louis*, blockading off Pensacola and the head of the passes of the Mississippi, until the expiration of his term of service in 1861; reshipped the same year, and joined the Brooklyn; was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and with the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; was in the action with the Chalmette batteries; present at the surrender of New-Orleans; and on board the Brooklyn in the attacks upon the batteries below Vicksburgh, in 1862. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

2. Adam Duncan (Boatswain's Mate) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay, on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He has been six years in the naval service; was on board the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and with the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; was in the action with the Chalmette batteries; present at the surrender of New-Orleans; and on board the Brooklyn in the attack upon the batteries below Vicksburgh, in 1862. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

3. Charles Deakin (Boatswain's Mate) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay, on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He deserves special notice for his good example and zeal in going to and remaining at his quarters during the whole action, although quite sick. He has been in the naval service six years; was on board the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and with the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; was in the action with the Chalmette batteries; present at the surrender of New-Orleans; and on board the Brooklyn in the attack upon the batteries below Vicksburgh, in 1862. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

4. Cornelius Cronan (Chief Quartermaster) is recommended for coolness and close attention to duty in looking out for signals, and steering the ship in the action in Mobile Bay, on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He has been in the naval service eight years. Joined the Brooklyn in December, 1861; was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and

with the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; was in the action with the Chalmette batteries; present at the surrender of New-Orleans; and in the attack on the batteries below Vicksburgh, in 1862. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

5. William Wells (Quartermaster) is recommended for coolness and close attention to duty as leadsman and lookout, in the action in Mobile Bay, on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. Joined the Brooklyn in September, 1861. Was in the action with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and with the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans, and on board of the Brooklyn in the attack upon the batteries below Vicksburgh in 1862. He received two wounds in the left leg, and a severe one in the head, in the engagements with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, April twenty-fourth, 1862, the latter causing "opacity of the cornea, and loss of vision of the right eye," as certified by the Surgeon of the Brooklyn. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

6. Henry Sharp (seaman) is recommended for coolness and courage as captain of one-hundred pounder rifle-gun on top-gallant fore-castle, in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He fought his gun when under the hottest fire from the enemy's batteries, at short-range, with a coolness and effectiveness that won not only the admiration of the Commanding Officer of the division, but of all others who had an opportunity to observe him. He has been in the naval service thirty-two years; joined the Richmond at Norfolk when first put in commission, twenty-seventh September, 1860. At the expiration of his term of service in 1863, reshipped for the period of three years. He was in action on board of the Richmond with the rebels at the head of the passes of the Mississippi; at the bombardment of Fort McRea at Pensacola, which lasted an entire day, when he received a severe splinter wound in the left hand which permanently disabled two of his fingers, and notwithstanding the severity of the wound, as soon as it was dressed by the surgeon, he returned to his gun without the permission of the surgeon, and persisted in remaining at his quarters, using his right hand, until the action ceased. He was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and with the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; in action with the Chalmette batteries; present at the surrender of New-Orleans; fought the batteries of Vicksburgh twice; was in the memorable attack on Port Hudson on the fourteenth of March, 1863; was captain of a nine-inch gun in the naval nine-inch gun battery, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Edward Terry, placed in rear of Port Hudson during the siege of that place in 1863; he was also captain of a gun in the naval battery established at Baton Rouge, and commanded by Lieutenant Commander Edward Terry, after the repulse of the army and the death of General Williams at that place.

7. Walter E. Smith (ordinary seaman) is recommended for coolness and good conduct at the rifle one-hundred pounder on the top-gallant forecastle, and for musket-firing into the gun-ports of the rebel iron-clad Tennessee in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was on board the United States steamer Hatteras when that vessel was sunk by the piratical vessel commanded by the notorious Semmes off Galveston; joined the Richmond, after having been exchanged, September, 1863; and his conduct on board of the ship has been of the most exemplary kind.

8. George Parks (Captain of Forecastle) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He joined the Richmond in September, 1860; reshipped October, 1863; was in the actions with Fort McRea; with the rebel vessels at the head of the passes of the Mississippi; in passing Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; twice before Vicksburg batteries; at Port Hudson; was captain of a gun in the naval nine-inch gun battery at the siege of Port Hudson; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans.

9. Thomas Hayes (Coxswain) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as Captain of No. 1 gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was on board the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and the iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; with the Chalmette battery; batteries below Vicksburg; and was present at the surrender of New-Orleans.

10. Lebbeus Simkins (Coxswain) is recommended for coolness and courage in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He joined the Brooklyn in January, 1861; was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; Chalmette batteries; batteries below Vicksburg; and present at the surrender of New Orleans. Joined the Richmond, October, 1863.

11. Cliff Smith (Coxswain) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was on board the Richmond in the actions with Fort McRea; at the head of the passes of the Mississippi; with the Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; the Chalmette batteries; twice with the batteries of Vicksburg in attempting to pass; and at the siege of Port Hudson; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans. He has been coxswain on board the Richmond for twenty consecutive months.

12. Alexander H. Truett (Coxswain) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmette batteries; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; the batteries below Vicks-

burgh, and was present at the surrender of New-Orleans. He was present at and assisted in the capture of the piratical steamer Miramon, and Marquis de la Habana in March, 1860, near Vera Cruz.

13. Robert Brown (Captain of Top) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was on board the Westfield in the actions with Fort Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans; also with the batteries at Vicksburg. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

14. John H. James (Captain of Top) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He came off the sick-list at the commencement of the action, went to his quarters, and fought his gun well during the entire action. He was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; the Chalmettes; the batteries below Vicksburg; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans. Joined the Richmond, September, 1863.

15. Thomas Cripps (Quartermaster) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was in the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; batteries below Vicksburg; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

16. John Brazell (Quartermaster) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was in the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; batteries below Vicksburg; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

17. James H. Morgan (Captain of Top) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He joined the Colorado in May, 1861; volunteered for the United States steamer Mississippi; was in the action with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; Vicksburg; Port Hudson; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans; was on board the Ironsides at Charleston. Joined the Richmond in October, 1863.

18. John Smith, second, (Captain of Top,) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was on board the Varuna when she was sunk by the rebel vessels, after having passed Forts Jackson and St. Philip; was transferred to the Brooklyn; and was in the action with the batteries below Vicksburg. He joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

19. James B. Chandler (Coxswain) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the

action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of the fifth August, 1864. He deserves special notice for having come off the sick-list and going to and remaining at his quarters during the entire action. Joined the Brooklyn in November, 1861; was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; batteries below Vicksburgh; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

20. William Jones (Captain of Top) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of the fifth of August, 1864. Joined the Dacotah in September, 1861, and was on board the Cumberland when sunk by the Merrimac at Newport News. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

21. William Doolan (coal-heaver) is recommended for coolness and good conduct, and for refusing to leave his station as shot and shell-passer, after having been knocked down and badly wounded in the head by splinters; and upon going to quarters the second time he was found at his station nobly doing his duty, in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was in Fort Pickens when it was bombarded by the rebels; was on board the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; the batteries below Vicksburgh; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans.

22. James Smith, first, (Captain of Forecastle,) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864.

23. Hugh Hamilton (Coxswain) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. Was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; the batteries below Vicksburgh, present at the surrender of New-Orleans. Joined the Richmond in October, 1863.

24. James McIntosh (Captain of Top) is recommended for coolness and good conduct in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was present and assisted in the capture of the batteries at Hatteras Inlet, and on board the Cumberland when she was sunk by the Merrimac at Newport News. Joined the Richmond in September, 1863.

25. William M. Carr (Master-at-Arms) is recommended for coolness, energy, and zeal in the action of Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. Volunteered to direct, under the orders of the commander of the division, the passing of shells from the shell-rooms, in addition to his duties connected with the care of lights, which he performed most satisfactorily. Has been Master-at-Arms on board the Richmond since September, 1860; was in the actions with Fort McRea; at the head of the

passes of the Mississippi; Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; Vicksburgh; Port Hudson; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans.

26. Thomas Atkinson (yeoman) is recommended for coolness and energy in supplying the rifle ammunition, which was under his sole charge, in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. He was a petty officer on board the United States frigate Congress with me in 1842-46; was present and assisted in capturing the whole of the Buenos Ayrean fleet by that vessel off Montevideo. Joined the Richmond in September, 1860; was in the actions with Fort McRea; the head of the passes of the Mississippi; Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; Vicksburgh; Port Hudson; and at the surrender of New-Orleans.

27. David Sprowls (Orderly Sergeant of marine guard) is recommended for coolness and for setting a good example to the marine guard, working a division of great guns in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. Joined the Richmond September twenty-seventh, 1860; was in the actions with Fort McRea; the head of the passes of the Mississippi; Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; Vicksburgh; Port Hudson; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans. He has been in the service twenty-eight years.

28. Andrew Miller (Sergeant of Marines) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. Was on board the Brooklyn in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; batteries below Vicksburgh; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans.

29. James Martin (Sergeant of Marines) is recommended for coolness and good conduct as captain of a gun in the action in Mobile Bay on the morning and forenoon of August fifth, 1864. Was in the actions with Forts Jackson and St. Philip; the Chalmettes; the rebel iron-clads and gunboats below New-Orleans; Vicksburgh; Port Hudson; and present at the surrender of New-Orleans, on board of the Richmond.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
THORNTON A. JENKINS,

Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Flag-Ship Hartford, Mobile Bay.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF CAPTAIN J. B. MARCHAND.

U. S. STEAM-SLOOP LACKAWANNA, }
MOBILE BAY, AUG. 9, 1864.

SIR: In the action of the fifth instant the following named petty officers, and others of inferior rating, were conspicuous for their energy and bravery, and deserve medals of honor; but under the fourth rule of the General Order of the Navy Department No. 10, dated April third,

1863, their special signal acts of valor cannot be cited so as to authorize me to recommend their obtaining medals :

1. William Phinney, Boatswain's Mate, as captain of a gun, showed much presence of mind and coolness in managing it, and the great encouragement he gave the crew.

2. John Smith, Captain Forecastle, was first captain of a gun, and finding that he could not sufficiently depress his gun when alongside of the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, threw a hand holystone into one of the ports at a rebel using abusive language against the crew of the ship.

3. Samuel W. Kinnard, landsman, set an example to the crew by his presence of mind and cheerfulness, that had a beneficial effect.

4. Robert Dougherty, landsman, took the place of the powder-boy at his gun without orders when the powder-boy was disabled; kept up a supply and showed much zeal in his new capacity.

5. Michael Cassidy, landsman, first sponger of a gun, displayed great coolness and exemplary behavior, eliciting the applause of his officers and of the gun's crew.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. MARCHAND,
Captain.

Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. Squadron.

U. S. STEAM-SLOOP LACKAWANNA, }
MOBILE BAY, Aug. 9, 1864. }

SIR: I respectfully bring to your attention the following petty officers, etc., of this ship who evinced in the battle of the fifth instant signal acts of bravery, which should justly entitle them to medals of honor:

1. George Taylor, Armorer, although wounded, went into the shell-room, and with his hands extinguished the fire from a shell exploded over it by the enemy.

2. Lewis Copat, landsman, remained at his gun after he was severely wounded, until relieved by another person, was then taken below, and after reporting to the Surgeon, returned to his station at the gun, and resumed his duties till the action was over, and was then carried below.

3. James Ward, Quarter-Gunner, being wounded and ordered below, would not go, but rendered much aid at one of the guns when the crew was disabled, and subsequently remained in the chains heaving the lead, until nearly in collision with the rebel iron-clad Tennessee.

4. Daniel Whitfield, Quartermaster, remarkable coolness as captain of a gun in holding on to the lock-string and waiting for some time whilst alongside of the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, and firing that the shot might enter her port.

5. John M. Burns, seaman, severely wounded and sent below under the Surgeon's charge, would not remain unemployed, but assisted the powder division until the action was over.

6. John Edwards, Captain Top, second captain of a gun, although wounded, would not, when ordered, go below to the Surgeon, but took the place of the first captain during the remainder of the battle.

7. Adam McCulloch, seaman, being wounded, would not leave his quarters, although ordered to do so, but remained until the action was over.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. MARCHAND,
Captain.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. Squadron.

CAPTURE OF FORT MORGAN.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 28, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform the Department that on the evening of the twenty-first instant, General Granger informed me that his batteries would be ready to open on Fort Morgan at daylight the next morning. I accordingly gave directions for the monitors and the vessels with suitable guns, to move up and be ready to open upon it with the army.

I had previously landed four nine-inch guns and placed them in battery, under the command of Lieutenant H. B. Tyson, of the Hartford, and manned them with crews taken from the Hartford, Brooklyn, Richmond, and Lackawanna. They did good service in conjunction with the batteries of the army.

At daylight on the twenty-second the bombardment began from the shore batteries, the monitors and ships inside the bay and outside, and a more magnificent fire I think has rarely been kept up for twenty-four hours.

At half-past eight P.M., the citadel took fire, and the General ordered the near batteries to redouble their fire. At six this morning an explosion took place in the Fort, and at half-past six the white flag was displayed on the Fort. I immediately sent Fleet-Captain Drayton to meet General Granger to arrange the terms for the surrender of the Fort. These were, that the Fort, its garrison, and all public property should be surrendered unconditionally, at two o'clock to-day, to the army and navy forces of the United States. These terms were agreed to by Brigadier-General Richard L. Page, formerly a commander in the navy.

I shall send the garrison officers and men at once to New-Orleans.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Rear-Admiral.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, W. G. B. SQUADRON, }
MOBILE BAY, August 25, 1864. }

SIR: I had the honor, in my despatch No. 366, to report to the Department that Fort Morgan had surrendered on the twenty-third instant to the army and navy, though at the time that despatch was written and mailed the ceremony of surrender had not actually taken place.

The correspondence preliminary to that event is herewith forwarded, (marked Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4,) and the Department will perceive that the terms of capitulation were the same as in the case of Fort Gaines. General Page endeavored to obtain more favorable terms, but without success.

I regret to state that, after the assembling of the rebel officers at the appointed hour (two P.M.) for the surrender, outside the Fort, it was discovered, on an examination of the interior, that most of the guns were spiked, and many of the gun-carriages wantonly injured, and arms, ammunition, provisions, etc., destroyed, and that there was every reason to believe that this had been done after the white flag had been raised. It was also discovered that General Page and several of his officers had no swords to deliver up, and, further, that some of those which were surrendered had been broken.

The whole conduct of the officers of Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan presents such a striking contrast in moral principle that I cannot fail to remark upon it. Colonel Anderson, who commanded the former, finding himself in a position perfectly untenable, and encumbered with a superfluous number of conscripts, many of whom were mere boys, determined to surrender a fort which he could not defend, and in this determination was supported by all his officers save one; but from the moment he hoisted the white flag he scrupulously kept every thing intact, and in that condition delivered it over; whilst General Page and his officers, with a childish spitefulness, destroyed the guns which they had said they would defend to the last, but which they never defended at all, and threw away or broke those weapons which they had not the manliness to use against their enemies; for Fort Morgan never fired a gun after the commencement of the bombardment, and the advanced pickets of our army were actually on its glacis.

As before stated, the ceremony of surrender took place at two P.M., and that same afternoon all the garrison were sent to New-Orleans in the United States steamers Tennessee and Bienville, where they arrived safely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. L. PAGE TO REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT AND MAJOR-GENERAL GRANGER.

FORT MORGAN, August 28, 1864.

*Rear-Admiral D. G. Farragut, U. S. N.;
Major-General Gordon Granger, U. S. A.,
Commanding, etc., etc.:*

GENTLEMEN: The further sacrifice of life being unnecessary—my sick and wounded suffering and exposed—humanity demands that I ask for terms of capitulation.

Very respectfully, etc.,

R. L. PAGE,

Brigadier-General U. S. A.

LETTER FROM MAJOR-GENERAL GRANGER TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL PAGE.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 28, 1864.

GENERAL: I have notified Admiral Farragut of your desire to capitulate. Until his arrival

hostilities will be suspended, when your proposal will be duly considered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. GRANGER,

Major-General U. S. A., Commanding.

To Brigadier-General R. L. PAGE,
Commanding at Fort Morgan.

LETTER FROM CAPTAIN P. DRAYTON AND BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. ARNOLD, ON THE PART RESPECTIVELY OF REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT AND MAJOR-GENERAL GRANGER TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL PAGE.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 28, 1864.

*Brigadier-General R. L. Page, Commanding
Fort Morgan:*

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of this date, received by Captain Taylor, asking for terms of capitulation, we have to say that the only terms we can make are:

First. The unconditional surrender of yourself and the garrison of Fort Morgan, with all of the public property within its limits, and in the same condition that it is now.

Second. The treatment which is in conformity with the customs of the most civilized nations toward prisoners of war.

Third. Private property, with the exception of arms, will be respected.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

P. DRAYTON,

Captain U. S. N.

On the part of Admiral FARRAGUT, Commanding Naval Forces.

R. ARNOLD,

Brigadier-General U. S. A.

On the part of General GRANGER, Commanding United States Forces.

LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL PAGE TO CAPTAIN P. DRAYTON AND BRIGADIER-GENERAL R. ARNOLD, ACTING ON THE PART, RESPECTIVELY, OF ADMIRAL FARRAGUT AND GENERAL GRANGER.

FORT MORGAN, Aug. 28, 1864.

Captain P. Drayton, U. S. N., Brigadier-General R. Arnold, U. S. A., acting on the part, respectively, of Admiral Farragut and General Granger:

GENTLEMEN: Your conditions in communication of to-day are accepted; but I have still to request that the terms asked with my sick be granted and inserted in the capitulations.

I will be prepared to surrender at two o'clock, and to embark as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, etc., R. L. PAGE,

Brigadier-General U. S. A.

CONGRATULATORY LETTER TO REAR-ADMIRAL FARRAGUT.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Sept. 5, 1864.

SIR: Your despatch, numbered 368, is received, informing the Department of the capture, on the twenty-third ultimo, of Fort Morgan. This is the last and most formidable of all the defences erected to command the entrance to the bay of Mobile, and it is a gratification that its capitulation was effected sooner than had been anticipated. I will not, in this communication, stop to comment on the bad faith exhibited in the destruction of the arms and property in the Fort after its surrender, which is reprobated by you with just severity; but I desire to congratulate

you and your command on a series of achievements which put us in possession of the bay; and, until the integrity of the Union is fully vindicated and established, close all ocean communication with the city of Mobile. In the success which has attended your operations, you have illustrated the efficiency and irresistible power of a naval force led by a bold and vigorous mind, and the insufficiency of any batteries to prevent the passage of a fleet thus led and commanded. You have, first on the Mississippi, and recently in the bay of Mobile, demonstrated what had been previously doubted, the ability of naval vessels, properly manned and commanded, to set at defiance the best constructed and most heavily armed fortifications. In these successive victories you have encountered great risks, but the results have vindicated the wisdom of your policy, and the daring valor of our officers and seamen.

I desire that the congratulations which are hereby tendered to yourself, your officers and men, may be extended to the army who have so cordially coöperated with you.

Very respectfully, GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron, Mobile Bay.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES IN THE FLEET IN THE ATTACK ON THE DEFENCES OF MOBILE HARBOR.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: In my despatch number three hundred and thirty-five, written on the evening of the engagement of the fifth instant, the casualties then reported were forty-one killed and eighty-eight wounded.

More detailed reports, since received, make the casualties fifty-two killed and one hundred and seventy wounded, namely:

	Killed.	Wounded.
Hartford,	25	28
Brooklyn,	11	43
Lackawanna,	4	85
Oneida,	8	30
Monongahela,	none	6
Metacomet,	1	2
Ossipee,	1	7
Richmond,	0	2 slightly
Galena,	0	1
Octorara,	1	10
Kennebec,	1	0

I forward herewith the reports of the surgeons of these vessels, giving the names of the killed and wounded, and the character of the wounds.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. G. FARRAGUT, Rear-Admiral,
Commanding W. G. Blockading Squadron.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. HARTFORD.

Killed—Wm. H. Heginbotham, Acting Ensign; Charles Shaefer, ordinary seaman; Wm. Smith, landsman; Louis McLane, seaman; Benjamin

Harper, seaman; James B. Osgood, ordinary seaman; Adolphus Pulla, seaman; Thomas Bayne, ordinary seaman; John C. Scott, ordinary seaman; Thomas Stanton, seaman; James Alexander, landsman; Henry Clark, first-class boy; Wm. E. Andrews, Captain After-Guard; Frederick Munsell, landsman; George Walker, landsman; Thomas Wildes, landsman; George Stillwell, nurse; David Morrow, Quarter-Gunner; Peter Duncan, coal-heaver; Andrew E. Smith, coal-heaver; Francis Campbell, second-class fireman; Charles Stevenson, second-class boy; David Curtin, landsman.

Severely Wounded—Wilder Verner, landsman; M. C. Forbes, Captain Top; Michael Fanya, landsman; James S. Geddis, landsman; Wm. G. Trask, ordinary seaman; Wm. A. Stanley, seaman; Thomas O'Connell, coal-heaver; James R. Garrison, coal-heaver; E. E. Johnson, first-class boy; George E. Fleke, first-class boy; Charles Dennis, (colored,) landsman; Auguste Simmons, ordinary seaman; William Thompson, first ordinary seaman; Peter Pitts, (colored,) landsman; R. D. Dumphy, coal-heaver; Wm. Doyle, first-class boy; Wm. Eldin, seaman; Walter Lloyd, first-class boy; R. P. Herrick, Acting Master's Mate; Wm. McEwan, Acting Third Assistant-Engineer.

Slightly Wounded—L. P. Adams, Lieutenant; Robert Dixon, Boatswain; William A. Donaldson, seaman; George A. Wightman, landsman; Michael English, second-class fireman; James F. Brown, landsman; James Anderson, seaman; Stephen H. Jackson, first-class boy.

Killed, twenty-three; wounded severely and transferred to hospital at Pensacola, twenty; wounded slightly, remaining on board, eight. Total, fifty-one.

Respectfully,
P. LANSDALE,
Surgeon.

To Captain P. DRAYTON,
United States Navy, Commanding United States Steamer Hartford, Mobile Bay.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. BROOKLYN.

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, IN THE BAY OF
MOBILE, August 6, 1864.

SIR: In addition to the list of casualties resulting from the action of the rebel forts and fleet yesterday, I have to report thirteen more to-day, some of which were overlooked in the haste of making out the list, and others failed to report themselves. You will observe this addition of thirteen to the list of wounded makes a total of fifty-four instead of forty-three, the number reported yesterday.

I also submit the name, rate, and remarks in each case.

Killed—William H. Cook, Acting Master's Mate, splinter-wound of both legs and thighs, the left hand carried away; Eli Harwood, Captain's cook, left shoulder and arm badly lacerated; John Ryan, landsman, left half of head carried away; Charles B. Seymour, seaman, upper half of head carried away; Thomas Williams, seaman, spine and ribs carried away; Lewis Richards,

seaman, back part of chest and head carried away; Michael Murphy, private marine, right leg and half of the pelvis carried away; William Smith, private marine, struck by a shot and knocked overboard; Richard Burke, coal-heaver, back part of chest carried away, and compound fracture of left leg; Anthony Dunn, first-class fireman, abdomen and chest opened by shell; James McDermott, landsman, left side of abdomen carried away.

Wounded—Charles F. Blake, Lieutenant, flesh-wound of right leg, slight; Douglass R. Cassell, Acting Ensign, (in regular navy,) wound of scalp, slight; Daniel C. Brayton, sailmaker, contusion of right fore-arm, severe; Abraham L. Stephens, Acting Master's Mate, wound of face, slight; Alexander Mack, Captain Maintop, compound fracture of left hand, severe; Patrick Brierton, landsman, wound in right arm, severe; Francis Prior, ordinary seaman, compound fracture of rib, wound of scalp, dangerous; Rufus Brittell, landsman, left eye destroyed, severe; Patrick Duggin, landsman, fracture of left leg, severe; John McPherson, seaman, scalp-wound and contusions, severe; John Dunn, coal-heaver, left eye destroyed, severe; Charles Steinbeck, ordinary seaman, fracture of skull, severe; Daniel McCarthy, landsman, compound fracture of scapula, severe; George W. Hersey, seaman, flesh-wound over hip, severe; Wm. H. Harrison, ordinary seaman, flesh wound in right arm, severe; Thomas Dennison, landsman, wounded over left eye, severe; Frank Hanson, seaman, contusion of both eyes, severe; Alvin A. Carter, ordinary seaman, fracture of right thigh, severe; George R. Leland, private marine, bolt driven into left thigh, severe.

William McCaffrey, seaman, wound over right eye, slight; John Bryant, Armorer's Mate, scalp wound, slight; Roland M. Clark, ordinary seaman, flesh wound in left fore-arm, slight; William Brown, landsman, splinter-wounds in thigh and shoulder, slight; Charles Miner, landsman, contusion of shoulder, slight; Lewis Hareck, ordinary seaman, contusion of right arm and chest, slight; Alexander Degges, landsman, abrasion, slight; Frank Bennett, first-class boy, contusion, slight; Bernard Brown, ordinary seaman, scalp-wound, slight; William Robinson, Captain Foretop, contusion, slight; John Thompson, ordinary seaman, contusion, slight; William H. Brown, landsman, contusion and abrasion, slight; Barclay Redington, coal-heaver, scalp-wound, slight; John K. Housel, coal-heaver, contusion and abrasion, slight; William Frick, ordinary seaman, abrasion of side and thigh, slight; John Maxwell, coal-heaver, scalp-wounds, slight; James Sterling, coal-heaver, contusion of side, slight; John McKennon, ordinary seaman, contusion, slight; Benjamin K. Taylor, landsman, contusion, slight; Isaac B. Larett, seaman, contusion, slight; and James Shea, Quarter-Gunner, contusion, slight. All these wounds were slight.

Patrick McGowan, coal-heaver, wound of left elbow, severe; Joseph Machon, first-class boy,

splinter-wound and contusion, severe; William McCarren, landsman, contusion of left eye, severe.

Killed, eleven; wounded, forty-three. Total, fifty-four.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE MAULSBY,
Surgeon.

Captain J. ALDEN,
Commanding U. S. Steamer Brooklyn.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. LACKAWANNA.

UNITED STATES STEAM-SLOOP LACKAWANNA, }
MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report the following list of casualties which have occurred in the action of this day, while passing the forts, and occupying Mobile Bay:

Killed—James Williams, Master-at-Arms; John Troy, Captain Forecastle; Charles Anderson, ordinary seaman; Richard Ashley, colored boy.

Wounded—Lieutenant Stephen A. McCarty, splinter-wound of ankle, slight; Ensign Clarence Rathbone, splinter-wound of knee, slight; Charles Hayden, yeoman, fracture of right leg, serious; John Burns, seaman, splinter-wound of arm and back, severe; James Ward, Quarter-Gunner, splinter-wound of back, slight; Frederick Stewart, officers' cook, shell-wound of head, severe; Edward Harris, seaman, splinter-wound of head, slight; John Bengsten, seaman, splinter-wound of wrist, slight; Anten Lewis, seaman, splinter-wound of knee, slight; Adam McCulloch, seaman, splinter-wound of leg, slight; S. H. Eldridge, Quartermaster, splinter-wound of face; John Edwards, seaman, splinter-wound of face and arm, severe; John Lear, ordinary seaman, splinter-wound of shoulder and hand; Francis Burns, ordinary seaman, splinter-wound of back; R. O. Seaver, ordinary seaman, splinter-wound of both legs, slight; Dennis Muellen, landsman, splinter-wound of back, slight; James D. Atkinson, landsman, splinter-wound of arm, slight; John Maline, landsman, fracture of clavicle; John Acker, landsman, splinter-wound of back, slight; Jesse Sweet, landsman, splinter-wound of thigh, severe; John Gallagher, landsman, splinter-wound of leg, slight; Louis Copat, landsman, splinter-wound of face and limbs, severe; Theo. Fletcher, landsman, shell-wound of face, with concussion, severe; Alexander Fivay, landsman, shell-wound of head, back, and leg, serious; James McCauley, landsman, left thigh torn off, mortally; Silas M. Stevens, landsman, splinter-wound of head, severe; Richard McCay, boy, splinter-wound of arm, slight; George Taylor, armorer, shell-wound of forehead, slight; Patrick Morrissey, first-class fireman, splinter-wound in ankle, slight; Isaac Hewsom, coal-heaver, (colored,) splinter-wound of leg, slight; Jacob Maggett, coal-heaver, (colored,) splinter-wound of leg, slight; Andrew Achum, second-class fireman, shell-wound of face, slight; James Keefe, marine, splinter-wound of thigh, severe; Frederick Hines, marine, shell-wound of head, serious; D. F. Pratt, private sig-

nal corps United States army, fracture of left fore-arm.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. W. LEACH,

Surgeon U. S. Navy.

Captain J. B. MARCHAND,

Commanding United States Ship Lackawanna.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. ONEIDA.

UNITED STATES STEAMER ONEIDA,
MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864. }

SIR: I have to report the following casualties, which occurred to-day on board this vessel while passing Fort Morgan, and during an engagement with the fleet of the enemy.

Killed—Frank Levay, ordinary seaman; Thomas Gibson, marine; Albert Phillips, Captain Forecastle; John C. Jensen, seaman; James Agern, first-class fireman, scalded; Emanuel Boyakin, cabin steward; Robert Lenox, landsman; Patrick Dorris, landsman, missing, killed or drowned.

Wounded severely—J. R. M. Mullany, commander, left arm amputated; R. H. Fitch, First Assistant-Engineer, scalded; Oliver Crommelia, Surgeon's Steward, scalded; John Peacock, first-class fireman, scalded; William Mitchell, landsman, scalded; John Nelson, landsman, scalded; William Ager, coal-heaver, scalded; William Burtis, first-class fireman, scalded; Samuel Vanasery, coal-heaver, scalded; William Newland, ordinary seaman, flesh-wound; John Preston, landsman, eyes; Charles Matthews, landsman.

Wounded slightly—William H. Hunt, Chief-Engineer, scalded; George A. Ebbets, Captain's Clerk, contusion; William P. Treadwell, Paymaster's Clerk, scalded; Peter McKeloye, second-class fireman, scalded; Stephen Dolan, first-class fireman, scalded; John Boyle, coal-heaver, scalded; Moses Jones, coal-heaver, scalded; John Ralton, landsman, scalded; Edward Thomas, ordinary seaman, scalded; James Sheridan, Quartermaster, contusion; John E. Jones, Quartermaster, contusion; Henry Binney, Quartermaster, contusion; Francis Brown, Quarter-Gunner, contusion; Christian Christeinick, landsman; Roger Sharman, landsman; John Johnson, ordinary seaman; David Johnston, Corporal Marines; John Kilroy, private marine. Killed, eight; wounded severely, twelve; wounded slightly, eighteen.

Very respectfully, JOHN Y. TAYLOR,
Surgeon.

Lieutenant C. L. HUNTINGTON, U. S. N.,
Commanding U. S. S. Oneida.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. MONONGAHELA.

UNITED STATES STEAMER MONONGAHELA,
MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864. }

SIR: The following are the casualties on board this ship, resulting from the action to-day with Forts Morgan and Gaines and the rebel rams:

Roderick Prentiss, Lieutenant, both legs badly injured by splinters, left one amputated; Michael Smith, boy, severe lacerated wound of scalp by splinters; William Feeney, Paymaster, contusion of back and left arm, slight; Holbert Lane,

Surgeon's Steward, wound of scalp, splinter, slight; James Johnston, landsman, wound of head, splinter, not dangerous; Richard Condon, landsman, wound of back, splinter, slight.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAVID KONDLEBERGER,

Surgeon United States Navy.

Commander JAMES H. STRONG, U. S. N.,

Commanding United States Steamer Monongahela.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. METACOMET.

U. S. S. METACOMET,
WEST GULF BLOCKADING SQUADRON,
MOBILE BAY, August 5, 1864. }

SIR: I have to report that on the morning of the fifth instant, during the engagement while passing the forts, and engaging the gunboats, the following casualties occurred:

John Stewart, landsman, killed, Julian J. Butler, ordinary seaman, shell-wound; Oliver D. Wolfe, fireman, slightly wounded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. PAYNE,

Assistant Surgeon.

Lieut. Com. JAS. E. JOUETT, Commanding.

REPORT OF THE CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. OSSISPEE.

UNITED STATES STEAM SLOOP OSSISPEE,
MOBILE BAY, Aug. 5, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report the following casualties on board this ship during the engagement of this day with the enemy's batteries on shore and afloat:

Lewis Lord, landsman, nape of neck, dangerous; Owen Maines, seaman, fore-arm broken, shoulder-joint, head, and hip contused, since died of wounds, killed; John Harris, Quarter-Gunner, gunshot wound in lower jaw, serious; Thomas Rogers, landsman, contusion of right leg, slight; Henry Johnson, ordinary seaman, splinter-wound, slight; James Sweeney, seaman, splinter-wound, slight; George Rowe, second-class fireman, splinter-wound, slight; Sam Hazard, landsman, splinter-wound, slight.

Total, one killed, seven wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. GIBBS,

Surgeon.

Commander W. E. LE ROY,

Commanding U. S. Steam Sloop Ossipee, Mobile Bay.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. GALENA.

UNITED STATES STEAMER GALENA, Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I would most respectfully report the following casualty on board this vessel while passing Fort Morgan:

Wounded—James McCafferty, coal-heaver, scalp-wound, with concussion of the brain.

Very respectfully, GEO. P. WRIGHT,

Acting Assistant-Surgeon, United States Navy.

To Lieut. Com. C. H. WELLS, U. S. Navy,

Commanding United States Steamer Galena.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. OCTOBERA.

U. S. S. OCTOBERA, MOBILE, ALA., Aug. 5, 1864.

SIR: I have to report the following as a list of casualties occurring this morning, while passing Forts Morgan and Gaines, namely:

Killed—W. H. Davis, seaman, by splinters.

Wounded—Lieutenant Commanding C. H. Green, contusion of leg; Acting Ensign Maurice McEntree, contusion of the thigh; Acting Master Henry R. Billings, contusion of face, all from splinters, slight; James McIntosh, Coxswain, incised wound of scalp, not severe; John Govard, seaman, lacerated wound of forehead, quite severe; Charles Howard, seaman, contusion of sacrum, slight; William H. Nice, Boatswain's Mate, severe contusion of right eye; Andrew Crough, Quartermaster, contusion of scalp, slight; George Smith, ship's corporal, wound of upper third left arm, quite severe; John Robinson, quartermaster, contusion of left foot, slight.

Killed, one; wounded, ten.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD R. DODGE,

Assistant Surgeon U. S. Navy.

Lieut. Com. C. H. GREEN,
Commanding U. S. Octorara.

REPORT OF CASUALTIES ON THE U. S. S. KENNEBEC.

U. S. S. KENNEBEC, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 6, 1864.

SIR: I respectfully report the following casualties in action yesterday morning, while passing Fort Morgan, namely:

Daniel Godfrey, coal-heaver, mortally wounded in abdomen, by fragment of shell from the rebel iron-clad Tennessee, and has since died; Acting Ensign H. E. Tinkham, serious gunshot wounds, and contusions of left arm, side, thigh, and leg, by fragments of shell from the rebel ram Tennessee, no fracture; Peter R. Post, landsman, gunshot wound and fracture of right cheek-bone, serious; Charles Sanders, Master-at-Arms, slight contusion of lips; J. D. Ireson, Captain of the Hold, Isaac Fisher, (colored,) first-class boy, and several others, very slight contusions, by fragments of shell from the Tennessee, and splinters caused by it; and Kimball Prince, landsman, contusion of right shoulder, slight, by splinter caused by a solid shot from the Fort.

Very respectfully,
GEORGE W. HATCH,
Acting Assistant-Surgeon, United States Navy.
Lieut. Com. W. P. McCANN, U. S. N.,
Commanding United States Steamer Kennebec.

LOSS OF THE U. S. STEAMER PHILIPPI.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, MOBILE BAY, Aug. 8, 1864.

SIR: I regret to inform the Department, that after I had passed the forts some time, I saw a steamer on fire inside the bay. I soon perceived that it was the Philippi, and I could not imagine how she came to be set on fire.

I have since received the report of her commanding officer, Acting Master J. T. Seaver, which is herewith inclosed:

The facts appear to be, that Acting Master Seaver, on the evening before the action, asked Fleet-Captain Drayton if he should not follow the squadron into the bay. Captain Drayton told him that that would be a folly, and ordered him to go and deliver the ammunition he had brought from Pensacola, on board the Tennessee, and then report to Lieutenant Commander Grafton, senior

officer for duty outside. Instead of doing this, he followed the fleet in, and was struck with a shot from the Fort, when he put his helm a-port and ran her on the bank. After having had two men killed and two wounded, he deserted the vessel, leaving his signal-book (boat code,) on the quarter-deck, where it was found by the enemy, who subsequently boarded the vessel.

The rebels set the vessel on fire, and we have thus lost one of the most efficient vessels in the squadron for all kinds of express duty, and we are sadly in want of just such vessels.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

REPORT OF ACTING MASTER JAMES T. SEAVER.

U. S. S. COWSLIP, August 6, 1864.

SIR: I beg leave to make the following report to you in regard to the loss of the U. S. steamer Philippi:

At daylight, hove up anchor, and steamed alongside the Tennessee, and discharged all the ordnance stores and provisions belonging to other vessels; not having orders to report to any one, and the verbal order I received being to discharge the stores into the Tennessee as quickly as possible, I did so. Wishing to be of assistance to the fleet in case any vessels were disabled, and knowing the power of my steamer, immediately after the freight was out, I dropped off from the Tennessee, got hawsers, lines, etc., all ready to be of assistance in towing any disabled vessel which would need my services. At forty-five minutes past seven stood up the channel for the fleet, keeping as far out of range of the Fort as I could judge was necessary to clear the shoal, the Quartermaster at the lead from the time of making the bar. At about fifteen minutes past nine, while going ahead slow, the Quartermaster gave the cast, a quarter less three, and the steamer immediately struck. I rang three bells and tried to back her off, but she did not stir. I kept backing for ten minutes; had about thirty-five pounds of steam on. The Fort then opened fire on us, and, getting our range, every other shell did execution—the second shell or shot, (as it did not explode, I could not tell which,) struck the rail about the star-board bow-port, and immediately killed Frank Wilson, landsman. One shot passed through the boiler, entirely disabling us, and another burst in the engine-room. At this time Fort Morgan kept up a constant fire at us, every shell doing more or less execution. The men, while I was forward, many of them, rushed aft, and commenced cutting the boats' falls. Hearing this, I came aft and ordered them to stop, which they did, and the boats were lowered with safety, but the men crowded in, and two of the boats were immediately filled. I put the wounded in one of the boats, and sent the dying in charge of Acting Ensign L. R. Vance, to the Cowslip, for assistance.

The deck being full of steam and smoke, and indications of the ship being on fire, and two of my men being wounded and one scalded, and almost every shell, either direct or ricochet, striking the steamer, and the boilers being disabled, and my men, several of them being almost paralyzed with fear; also, the sight of the rebel steamer coming out, and the utter impossibility to save the steamer or resist the enemy, I judged it best to abandon her.

I pulled alongside the Cowslip and Buckthorn, the two vessels being close to each other, and put the wounded on board; both vessels then stood toward the Genesee. I went on board, and reported to Captain Grafton; was ordered to put the wounded on board the Tennessee and report to Captain Grafton again, but as the Genesee steamed toward Pelican Channel, I was forced to remain on the Tennessee. The Quartermaster, William H. French, who was wounded in the stomach, died at twenty minutes past seven.

List of Casualties—Frank Wilson, landsman, killed; William H. French, Quartermaster, mortally wounded; John Collins, coal-heaver, scalded; and Joseph Boyd, slightly wounded.

The officers were perfectly cool throughout the time while under fire, and in leaving the ship.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES T. SEAVER,

Acting Master.

To Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

LOSS OF THE MONITOR TECUMSEH.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, W. G. B. SQUADRON, MOBILE BAY, }
August 27, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith (marked No. 1) a copy of a report made to me by Acting Masters C. F. Langley and Gardner Cottrell, two of the survivors of the iron-clad Tecumseh, and in which are given the names of six men who were saved in the same boat, namely: S. S. Shinn, Gunner's Mate; Jno. Gould, Quarter-Gunner; Frank Commens, seaman; Richard Collins, seaman; and Peter Parks, seaman.

These officers are certainly in error in their statement that a row of buoys stretched from the shore a distance of one to two hundred yards. We now know, that the channel adjacent to the shore was entirely clear of torpedoes, and that the latter were placed between the two large buoys, to which I have referred in my reports.

In addition to the persons named in this report as saved, the boat from the Metacomet, under Acting Ensign Nields, rescued Acting Ensign John P. Zetlich, Chauncey V. Dean, Quartermaster; Wm. Roberts, Quartermaster; James McDonald, seaman; Geo. Major, seaman; James Thorn, seaman; Chas. Packard, ordinary seaman; Wm. Fadden, landsman; and Wm. O. West, coal-heaver—with the pilot of the Tecumseh, John Collins.

Four others also swam to the beach, and were taken prisoners at Fort Morgan and immediately sent away.

This information was received when communicating by flag of truce with the Fort. none of them, we were told, were officers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Rear-Admiral Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

JOINT REPORT OF ACTING MASTERS C. F. LANGLEY AND G. COTTRELL.

U. S. SHIP POTOMAC, PENNSACOLA, August 6, 1864.

SIR: Believing that we are the only surviving officers of the U. S. Monitor Tecumseh, we feel it our duty to report the circumstances attending her loss, and of the safety of a boat's crew.

When nearly abreast of Fort Morgan, and about one hundred and fifty yards from the beach, a row of buoys was discovered stretching from the shore, a distance from one to two hundred yards. It being reported to Captain Craven, he immediately gave the vessel full speed, and attempted to pass between two of them. When in their range, a torpedo was exploded directly under the turret, blowing a large hole through the bottom of the vessel, through which the water rushed in with great rapidity.

Finding that the vessel was sinking, the order was given to leave our quarters, and from that moment every one used the utmost exertions to clear himself from the wreck.

After being carried down by the vessel several times, we were picked up in a drowning condition by one of our boats, manned by the following men: S. S. Shinn, Gunner's Mate; John Gould, Quarter-Gunner; Frank Commens, seaman; Richard Collins, seaman; and Peter Parkes, landsman, all of whom are now on board this ship.

Captain Craven was seen in the turret by Mr. Cottrell, just before the vessel sunk, and as he had a life-preserving vest on, we have hopes that he reached the shore.

Not recovering from our exhausted condition until the boat was abreast of the Hartford, and knowing that an attempt to board one of the attacking fleet would cause the loss of her position, we pulled for the Buckthorn, from which vessel we were sent to the Tennessee, and afterward, by Captain Grafton's order, sent to this ship. There was no opportunity of making a report to Captain Grafton, otherwise it would have been done in person.

Hoping that the course pursued by us will meet your approval, we are, very respectfully, etc.,

C. F. LANGLEY,

Acting Master.

GARDNER COTTRELL,

Acting Master.

Rear-Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT,
Commanding W. G. B. Squadron.

Doc. 4.

ENLISTMENT OF COLORED TROOPS.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 329.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., October 18, 1863. }

WHEREAS, the exigencies of the war require that colored troops be enlisted in the States of Maryland, Missouri, and Tennessee, it is

ORDERED BY THE PRESIDENT, That the Chief of the Bureau for the Organization of Colored Troops shall establish recruiting stations at convenient places within said States, and give public notice thereof, and be governed by the following regulations:

First. None but able-bodied persons shall be enlisted.

Second. The State and county in which the enlistments are made shall be credited with the recruits enlisted.

Third. All persons enlisted into the military service shall for ever thereafter be FREE.

Fourth. Free persons, and slaves with the written consent of their owners, and slaves belonging to those who have been engaged in or given aid or comfort to the rebellion, may now be enlisted—the owners who have not been engaged in or given aid to the rebellion being entitled to compensation as hereinafter provided.

Fifth. If within thirty days from the date of opening enlistments, notice thereof and of the recruiting stations being published, a sufficient number of the description of persons aforesaid to meet the exigencies of the service should not be enlisted, then enlistments may be made of slaves without requiring consent of their owners, but they may receive compensation as herein provided for owners offering their slaves for enlistment.

Sixth. Any citizen of said States, who shall offer his or her slave for enlistment into the military service, shall, if such slave be accepted, receive from the recruiting officer a certificate thereof, and become entitled to compensation for the service of said slave, not exceeding the sum of three hundred dollars, upon filing a valid deed of manumission and of release, and making satisfactory proof of title. And the recruiting officer shall furnish to any claimant of descriptive list of any person enlisted and claimed under oath to be his or her slave, and allow any one claiming under oath that his or her slave has been enlisted without his or her consent, the privilege of inspecting the enlisted man for the purpose of identification.

Seventh. A board of three persons shall be appointed by the President, to whom the rolls and recruiting lists shall be furnished for public information, and, on demand exhibited to any person, claiming that his or her slave has been enlisted against his or her will.

Eighth. If a person shall, within ten days after the filing of said rolls, make a claim for the service of any person so enlisted, the board shall proceed to examine the proof of title, and, if valid, shall award just compensation, not exceeding three hundred dollars for each slave enlisted

belonging to the claimant, and upon the claimant filing a valid deed of manumission and release of service, the board shall give the claimant a certificate of the sum awarded, which, on presentation, shall be paid by the chief of the Bureau.

Ninth. All enlistments of colored troops in the State of Maryland, otherwise than in accordance with these regulations, are forbidden.

Tenth. No person who is or has been engaged in the rebellion against the Government of the United States, or who in any way has or shall give aid or comfort to the enemies of the Government, shall be permitted to present any claim or receive any compensation for the labor or service of any slave, and all claimants shall file with their claims an oath of allegiance to the United States. By order of the President.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

This order was extended, on October twenty-sixth, to Delaware, at the personal request of Governor Cannon.

Doc. 5.

FIGHT NEAR WAYNESVILLE, MO.

ROLLA, MO., November 3, 1863.

Editors Missouri Democrat:

SIR: There have been many accounts of unequal fights published during this war, but if there is any that will beat the following, I should like to hear of it:

Lieutenant C. C. Troyford, of company H, Fifth Missouri militia cavalry, while on a scout with seven men of his company, was attacked in a house about eighteen miles south of Waynesville by two hundred and fifty rebels, under Colonel Love; the boys fought *three hours* against this overwhelming force, when their ammunition was exhausted. The rebels crept up and set fire to the house; the boys then came out, and threw down their revolvers and surrendered. The rebels lost five killed, seven wounded, and some that could not be counted by the Lieutenant. Also, seven horses were killed. Among the mortally wounded is Colonel Tucker, *alias* Bent Woods, the notorious guerrilla and stage-robber. Not one of our boys was wounded in any way, but they were stripped of every thing. Lieutenant Troyford had three hundred dollars in greenbacks, which he managed to hide and keep. The boys were paroled, and returned, and are now safely in camp.

It appears that the forces of Colonel Love and Colonel Freeman contemplated an attack on Waynesville on Sunday last, but hesitated, and put it off till the next morning; then, hearing of the return of Major Fischer from pursuing Joe Shelby, beat a hasty retreat and came upon the little squad of company H, gobbled them, but found a bitter pill. The boys say, that if it had been a decent house, the rebs would never have got them out of it.

I remain, very respectfully, yours,

R. B. KELLEY,
Sergeant.

Doc. 6.

THE TEXAN EXPEDITION.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

FLAG-SHIP McCLELLAN,
OFF BRAZOS DE SANTIAGO, TEXAS, NOV. 2, 1863. }

AGAIN an army of American soldiers is on Texas soil, and once more in the neighborhood of the almost sacred battle-fields of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma.

The following account of the expedition from the time it left South-West Pass to the successful landing of troops on the Texan coast, at Brazos de Santiago, nine miles from the mouth of the Rio Grande del Norte, will be read with interest by all.

An expedition was fitted out at New-Orleans under the command of Major-General Dana. General Banks and staff also accompanied it.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, all went well, the vessels keeping in line at their proper distances; weather fine, sea a little rough.

On Friday morning, October thirtieth, at half-past four o'clock, there was a sudden and great change. The weather, up to this time, (night and day,) had been uncomfortably hot, but at the hour mentioned a "heavy norther" struck us; the fleet could no longer be kept together, many vessels being compelled to separate and run before the wind, which soon blew a gale. The weather all day was bitter cold.

For nearly twelve hours the storm raged, and long after the wind had ceased to blow, the waves ran "mountains high." We had, perhaps, the best fleet of sea-going vessels, of any expedition which has left port during this war, and fears were entertained for the safety of only three or four light-draught steamers, which we were under the necessity of taking along—the Zephyr, Bagley, Union, etc. There was also great danger of the sinking of the schooners in tow, and it was not until this morning that we learned the full extent of the loss which the fleet had sustained. The Union and two schooners went down. The Zephyr had her machinery broken, and was taken in tow by the gunboat Owasco. The Bagley was compelled to run before the wind, and up to this morning it was feared that she had sunk, with all on board; but at an early hour we spoke the United States brig Bahia, off Aransas Pass. She reported having spoke the Bagley last evening, and her captain requested the blockader to report to the flag-ship: "All's well; we shall remain at the rendezvous for instruction." This was glorious news, for, though three vessels have sunk, not a life has been lost nor a man injured. I may here state that it was arranged that, if a storm occurred, or if any of the steamers should by any means become separated from the fleet, they should assemble at a place appointed on the Texas coast, and there wait for orders.

The steamer Union, Captain Mayhood, sunk between seven and eight o'clock on Saturday morning. In addition to the crew, there were forty-six negroes of the Corps d'Afrique and one

lieutenant on board. In towing the steamship Empire City, she proved so heavy that she strained the upper works of the Union to such an extent as to cause her to leak badly. About eleven o'clock on Friday night, Captain Baxter was hailed by Captain Mayhood, who reported that the Union was sinking. The former immediately ordered a boat to be lowered and manned, Mr. Ward, the second mate of the Empire City, taking charge of her. This, with the life-boat from the Union, rescued the crew and negroes, and all were saved before the steamer sank, though many of the latter were so overcome by fear that they were unable to spring into the boats as they approached the side of the vessel, and to save them from going down with her it was found necessary to throw them overboard, and trust to those in the boats to pick them up. Five trips were made to the sinking steamer, by Mr. Ward and the boats' crews of the Empire City. Captain Baxter and his gallant fellows deserve great praise for their coolness, bravery, and perseverance in this trying hour. The Union was a light-draught steamer, of about one hundred and fifty tons burden, between eight and nine years old, and was worth probably about seven thousand dollars.

Nothing of further interest occurred up to four o'clock P.M. At that hour we again spoke the Empire City, she having been absent from the fleet several hours. She answered to our inquiry if all were well on board: "All well, sir." The captain then informed us that a few hours previous, he had picked up, forty miles off Pass Cavallo, a small boat with two deserters from the enemy, they having been at sea forty hours. The poor fellows were ordered to be sent on board the McClellan in a boat, but they were so weak and stiff from exposure, hunger, and the want of sleep as to be perfectly helpless, each requiring the assistance of two men. They stated that they belonged to company B, Eighth Texas infantry, but on the twenty-sixth of August, they, with eight others, were detailed to serve on board the John F. Carr, (rebel gunboat.) On Thursday night last, about nine o'clock, they saw a small boat lying between the gunboat and Fort Esperanze, and thinking this a good opportunity to desert, they entered it, rowed out to sea, and started for the mouth of Brazos River, where they learned were some of our blockaders; but a norther coming up, they were unable to manage the boat, and let her drift before the wind. All day Friday, through that terrible storm, all night, and up to ten o'clock on Saturday morning, they were driven in every direction in their frail boat, which could only be kept afloat by constant baling. They were thus exposed for about forty hours, and, as I before observed, without rest or a mouthful to eat. They were received by all on board the Empire City and McClellan with a hearty welcome, and several of the staff-officers offered the poor, ragged, and barefooted deserters their beds, and furnished them with food and drink, both of which they were sadly in need of.

When these men were able to converse, it was

discovered that they knew much that was of great importance to the generals commanding. They said that revolvers and powder in large quantities were manufactured at New-Brownsville, and that the former sold at two hundred and fifty dollars each, rebel money. General Magruder, they say, is now at Houston. He has only two thousand troops (cavalry) there, the remainder of his army being scattered about at various places, the most being at Galveston and Sabine Pass. At the former city there is also a regiment of heavy artillery. There is a formidable fort near Brownsville, on the Rio Grande, called Fort Brown. Brigadier-General Bee is in command. Since receiving this news, I learn from another party that General Bee has been superseded, and Brigadier-General Slaughter appointed to the command. About the time we picked up these men, we could see along the Texas coast the sand-hills of Isla del Padre. The distance, however, was very great, and even with the aid of a glass they looked dark, and resembled trees in appearance. As the sun was setting, we approached nearer land, and though no human habitation was seen, we were observed from the shore, as a column of dense smoke was seen to rise from the sand-hills immediately in our front, instantly followed by a second and a third, and though each of the latter rose far to our right, they were plainly visible from the steamer's deck. About seven o'clock, when the sun had disappeared, and hills and sea were enveloped in darkness, far as the eye could reach, a bright light was seen, and a moment later the heavens were illuminated by the answering signal-fires along the coast, reminding one of "Bonnie Scotland" in feudal times, when the beacon-lights burst forth in a blaze from every hill-top, calling to arms the clans of the numerous chiefs, or warning them of threatened danger. I have no hesitation whatever in saying that in less than one hour the whole South was startled with the news of our arrival off the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Sunday was a bright and beautiful day, though the heavy swell was not very agreeable to those who had not yet recovered from sea-sickness, and many of the officers in consequence were in danger of throwing up their commissions. The flag-ship cruised around for several hours in search of the steamers which had lost the fleet in the night, and we approached within four miles of the mouth of the Rio Grande del Norte. To the left, in Mexican waters, I counted thirty-seven sail of blockade-runners; but could not see a single steamer, though toward evening an officer from one of the gunboats reported that later in the day a French man-of-war and another steamer were with the fleet of blockade-runners. The Leviathan had assisted the McClellan in searching for the missing vessels of the fleet, and at three o'clock in the afternoon the whole, with the exception of the Monongahela, Owasco, (the latter having the Zephyr in tow,) the Pocahontas, and the Bagley, were together and lying opposite Brazos Santiago. The McClellan approached close in shore, in three

and a half fathoms, and a close examination was made of the mouths of the Brazos and Boca Chica Passes. We then steamed slowly along the shore, running in about five fathoms, when, once more joining the fleet, we headed for Brazos Santiago bar, and anchored for the night about a mile distant—sea running high, weather sultry.

At an early hour this morning the bar was examined, and casks laid down as buoys. Nine feet of water was found upon the bar, and once over, navigation was easy. We accordingly commenced preparing to enter the harbor, and the light-draught steamer General Banks, with the Nineteenth Iowa on board, got under way, and was soon rising and falling amid the foam of the huge breakers; but as she steamed gallantly on and crossed the bar in safety, the soldiers on board gave three hearty cheers, which were heard on the flag-ship and answered by the waving of hats and handkerchiefs. She crossed the bar at precisely twelve o'clock noon, and from that moment Texas was ours. The General's despatch-boat—the little steamer Drew—followed, and she went capering along like a frisky young coquette of sixteen, bounding over the bar like a cork. The Clinton, with the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Maine regiments on board, was the third to cross, and it was her good fortune to be the first to disembark her troops, the soldiers of the Fifteenth Maine first touching Texas soil. The next moment, the flag of this regiment, followed by that of the Nineteenth Iowa, was raised. Thus the men from the extreme northern point of the Union were the first to raise the flag of America over the soil of the extreme southern point, and finish the work so gloriously begun, of planting the banner of freedom in the last State in rebellion, over which the Stars and Stripes have not waved for some time.

On landing on Brazos Island, the Fifteenth Maine, Colonel Dwyer, accompanied by Major Von Hermann, of General Banks's staff, started for Boca Chica, took possession of the Pass, and encamped there, throwing out pickets. No resistance whatever was offered, and no human beings have yet been seen on the island or elsewhere, if I except the repulse of two companies of cavalry by the guns of the T. A. Scott, Captain O'Brien, which anchored off the mouth of Boca Chica this morning, and opened upon the rebels who had attempted to cross. The same transport the night previous anchored off the mouth of the Rio Grande, and amused herself by keeping up an almost constant fire upon the Mexican vessels crossing and recrossing the river. The old salt was a few miles wrong in his reckoning; for he afterward stated that he "thought he was peppering away at the damned rebels in Boca Chica instead of the harmless Mexicans on the Rio Grande," so that we shall probably have to make an apology for the slight mistake of firing upon their vessels while engaged in a contraband trade with the rebels on the Texan shore.

Those of your readers who have ever visited Ship Island can have a good idea of this barren,

inhospitable shore. Brazos, as well as all the islands along the Texan coast, is a sandy desert. One house (deserted) stands to our right, and a mile or so farther toward the interior are two lighthouses, one on each side. Charred ruins show that three dwellings were destroyed by fire some time ago. Nothing but the chimneys remain standing. The foundations of the buildings used by General Taylor for stores can yet be seen; but no other vestige remains. Sand and sand-hills meet the eye in every direction, and for miles there is no covering from the rays of the burning sun by day, nor the heavy, chilly dews by night. Four wells were discovered by our soldiers, but the water is brackish and unpalatable. Around these were collected from thirty to forty head of poor cattle. They were suffering terribly from thirst, and drank with avidity the miserable water that our men gave to them from the wells. The few inhabitants who lived on this desert probably fled as soon as our fleet anchored off the shore; for, as I have before stated, not a human being was to be seen.

This morning, the *Exact*, one of the transports of the fleet, was discovered by the gunboat *Virginia* while cruising, about twenty miles from the mouth of the Rio Grande. Thinking her to be a blockade-runner, she gave chase, the *Exact* running from her as if attempting to escape. The *Virginia*, however, approached her rapidly, and fired a gun across her bow. This brought the supposed prize to; but on the *Virginia* hailing, "What steamer's that?" was rather disappointed when the answer was given, "The *Exact*, of the transport fleet;" for by this time she had discovered that she was being chased by one of our own war-vessels. Each took the other for an enemy. A similar mistake to this occurred on the evening of the storm. About seven o'clock the *McClellan* hailed a dark-painted, suspicious-looking three-masted schooner, ten miles from Cavello. She proved to be the gunboat *Kittatinny*. We took her for a prize, and she took us for the Alabama.

It has been said that the French occupy Metamoras. This is not true. There are no French troops in the city.

Tuesday, November 8.—This morning the remainder of the fleet joined us. They are the transports *Bagley*, *Pocahontas*, and *Zephyr*, and the war-vessels *Monongahela* and *Owasco*. The whole had been waiting nearly three days at the rendezvous. Several rebels have been discovered at work erecting a fort at Point Isabel. They have already two guns mounted, bearing in the direction of the fleet. Their case will be attended to. On Thursday last the *Monongahela* and the *McClellan* chased a schooner for several hours, but were unable to come up with her. She was believed to have been a blockade-runner. One of the transports which arrived here this morning reports having spoken the schooner. She proved to have been a prize to the *Granite City* at the time that we were pursuing her. She had nearly five hundred bales of cotton on board.

About one o'clock p.m., the gunboats *Mononga-*

hela and *Owasco*, with the transport *Scott*—the latter with troops on board—started for the mouth of the Rio Grande on a reconnaissance, for the purpose of landing soldiers on the Texas shore. Captain J. S. Crosby, of General Banks's staff, Captain Griffin, (fleet-captain,) and Captain Strong, of the *Monongahela*, entered a small boat and reconnoitred the Texas coast. Finding all clear, with no enemy in sight, the order for disembarking the troops was given. The boats of the three steamers were at once lowered, making nine in all. One hundred and forty soldiers then entered them, each man being armed. After the sailors (sixty) had taken charge of the boats, they started for the shore, but in crossing the bar four were capsized, and seven soldiers and two of the crew of the *Owasco* were drowned. One of the boats, after returning from landing her men, succeeded in picking up a large number of those in the water, and the Mexican shore being much nearer than the other, the bow of the boat was turned toward it; but the Mexicans would not allow it to land, and the boat was compelled to cross the river to the Texas side, where all were placed safely on shore. The landing of the troops in the other boats was effected without difficulty, and during the whole time not an armed rebel was seen. None of the boats of the *Monongahela* were capsized.

One of the schooners belonging to the fleet drifted from the channel and struck on the bar off *Brazos Santiago*. A boat's crew was immediately sent to her assistance from the *McClellan*. The executive officer, Mr. Comstock, was in charge, Captain Phillips, coast pilot, Mr. McHood, Master of Transportation, and Mr. Harvey, Quartermaster of the *McClellan*, were also in the boat, together with five sailors. Besides rescuing the schooner, it was intended that range lights should be placed on the bar, so that vessels could cross in the night. While running a hawser from the General Banks to the schooner, the boat capsized in the surf, and as she floated, bottom up, among the breakers, every man succeeded in clinging to it. This occurred about five o'clock. The General Banks could not assist them, as she had no boat on board, but, steaming to the *McClellan*, the facts were communicated to Captain Gray, when a boat was lowered in an instant, and as she left the side of the vessel, Captain Gray said, "Give way, men, give way; do your duty;" to which the boatswain, Mr. Lewis, replied: "Ay, ay, sir; we'll not come back without them." Well, the gallant fellow kept his word, for every man was saved, though they had been in the water over two hours, and it was dark before the boat reached them. While relating this, I must not forget to do justice to the *Virginia*'s boat's crew, who have been stationed constantly on board the *McClellan*. Master's Mate Rogers immediately manned his boat, and also started to their assistance. On the arrival of the fleet off *Brazos Santiago*, Mr. Comstock and Captain Phillips volunteered their services for the purpose of sounding the bar.

The work of disembarking the troops is nearly

complete, but two or three regiments yet remaining upon steamers drawing too much water to go over the bar. They are being transferred on board schooners and light-draught boats as rapidly as possible, and before to-morrow night every man will be ashore. We have had great trouble with the horses, and a large number yet remain upon the steamers. Those which were upon the light-draught vessels were disembarked on Brazos Island without difficulty; but how to get those safely ashore on the others is a mystery, the work of transferring them from one boat to another outside the bar being considered impossible on account of the swell. The Peabody yesterday morning approached as near the shore as possible, when eight or ten were lowered into the water in the hope that they would swim ashore, but as soon as they arrived at the breakers they became frightened, and more than half were drowned. If the sea subsides, the horses will be placed in slings and transferred in a few hours.

Wednesday, November 4.—The troops are all safely disembarked. The men are in excellent health and spirits, and, though ready to meet the enemy when called upon, I must say that they are not "dying" for a fight; nor have I during this war ever met with a single soldier in such a lamentable situation.

The horses are being slowly transferred from one steamer to another, the motion of the sea outside the bar rendering it both difficult and dangerous. We have had fine weather the last three or four days. This is necessary, as, if a storm of long duration had occurred, nearly all the horses on the steamers drawing more than nine feet must have perished.

Five o'clock P.M.—We have just received official news of the greatest importance.

The government buildings at Fort Brown were burned to the ground yesterday by the rebel garrison, preparatory to their evacuating the Fort.

From the same source we learned that about this time (three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon) a squad of sixty rebel cavalry, which had witnessed the landing of the soldiers under the guns of the Monongahela, at the mouth of the Rio Grande, dashed into Brownsville and commenced setting fire to the buildings, with the intention of destroying the town. The property-holders and Union men resisted them, when the secessionists joined the cavalry, and a bloody street-fight took place, which lasted all the afternoon, the buildings burning in every direction around them. The fight was still going on when the messenger left for the purpose of communicating the news to the General Commanding.

The Fifteenth Maine, which was in the advance at the time, at once received orders to march without delay, and by daylight to-morrow morning, this regiment, with others in supporting distance, will be in Brownsville.

Doc. 7.

BATTLE OF GRAND COTEAU, LA.*

MAJOR-GENERAL ORD'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
NEW-ORLEANS, LA., January 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General L. Thomas, Adjutant-General U. S. A., Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose sub-reports, just received, of the affair at Bayou Bourbeaux, of November third, 1863.

Disparaging remarks having appeared in a large part of the public newspapers, upon the management of this affair, by Major-General Washburn, I beg to call attention to the report of that officer, to that of General Burbridge, Colonel Guppy, Twenty-third Wisconsin volunteers, and the order of march of Major-General Franklin, by which it will be seen that General Washburne was at his proscribed post, with his command, on the morning of the attack, and that it was owing to his zeal and diligence that the rear-guard, when attacked, were reinforced promptly, and the enemy driven away discomfited.

Lieutenant-Colonel Buhler, whom General Washburne reports guilty of conduct attributable to cowardice or incompetence, will be brought before a commission for examination for competency, as soon as he joins the corps. He is at present (I am unofficially informed) at a camp of paroled or exchanged prisoners, somewhere in this Department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. O. C. ORD,

Major-General Vols., Commanding Thirteenth Army Corps.
Official Copy.

C. A. NICHOLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL WASHBURN'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
VERMILION BRIDGE, November 7, 1863.

Major William Hoffman, Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I inclose herewith report of Brigadier-General Burbridge, in regard to the battle of "Grand Coteau," on the third instant. Also of Lieutenant-Colonel Robinson, commanding Second Louisiana cavalry, and statements of Captain Simms, Sixty-seventh Indiana, and Lieutenant Gorman, Second Louisiana cavalry, who were wounded and taken prisoners, but who were supposed to be privates, and were delivered over, under a flag of truce, with other wounded. On the twenty-seventh instant, the First division of this corps, under Brigadier-General Lawler, moved from Opelousas back to New-Iberia, with a view of being where they could be moved rapidly to Brashear City, should circumstances require it. That left at Opelousas the Third division, under General McKinnis, and one brigade of the Fourth division, under General Burbridge, at Barras Landing, eight miles east of Opelousas, and east of the Bayou Teche, near its juncture

* Also known as the battle of Bayou Bourbeaux.

with the Bayou Couteau. On the morning of the first instant, by order of Major-General Franklin, the troops of the Third division were ordered to march and encamp at Carrion Crow Bayou, while General Burbridge, with the troops under his command, was ordered to march down the Teche and cross it, and move by way of "Grand Coteau," where the road from Vermillion to Opelousas crosses Muddy Bayou, about three miles from Carrion Crow Bayou, in the direction of Opelousas, and go into camp there on the north side of the bayou. Colonel Fonda, with about five hundred mounted infantry, was also ordered to encamp near him. The troops all moved and went into camp as ordered. The Nineteenth corps on the same day moved back to Carrion Crow Bayou, and on the following day to Vermillionville, leaving the Third and First brigades of the Fourth division of the Thirteenth corps, to hold the positions before named. The position of the troops, on the morning of the third instant, was then as follows: Brigadier-General Burbridge, with one brigade of the Fourth division, about one thousand two hundred strong, with one six-gun battery of ten-pounder Parrotts, and Colonel Fonda, with about five hundred mounted infantry and a section of Nimms's battery, on the north side of Muddy Bayou; and the Third division, General McGinnis commanding, three thousand strong, with one battery, at Carrion Crow Bayou, three miles in the rear of General Burbridge. The two bayous before named run, in an easterly direction, nearly parallel with each other, and along the stream there is a belt of timber about a hundred and fifty yards in width, while between the two is smooth level prairie. To the right of General Burbridge's position was an extensive and dense tract of woods, while on his front and left the country was high open prairie. About nine o'clock in the morning of the third, I received a note from General Burbridge, saying that the enemy had shown himself in some force. I immediately ordered out the Third division, and just as I got them into line, I received another note from General Burbridge, saying that the enemy had entirely disappeared. Ordering the division to remain under arms, I rode rapidly to the front, and learning from General Burbridge and Colonel Fonda that all was quiet, and that such troops of the enemy as had shown themselves had all fallen back, I started to return to my headquarters, near the Third division. When I had arrived at about midway between the two camps, I heard a rapid cannonade. Sending two members of my staff to the rear, to bring up the Third division, I rode back to the front, and crossing the bayou, and passing through the timber to the open ground, I soon discovered that we were assailed with terrible energy, by an overwhelming force, in front and on both flanks. Many of the troops had broken and were scattered over the field, and the utter destruction or capture of the whole force seemed imminent.

The attack on the right through the woods was made by infantry, and though our troops fought most gallantly on that wing, they were

compelled to give way before overwhelming numbers. Here it was that we lost most of our men in killed and wounded. The Twenty-third Wisconsin, Colonel Guppy commanding, Ninety-sixth Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Brown commanding, and Sixtieth Indiana, commanded by Captain Gatzler, and Seventeenth Ohio battery, Captain Rice commanding, fought with the greatest desperation, holding the enemy in check for a considerable length of time, but for which our entire train, with our artillery, would have been captured. As it was, General Burbridge was enabled to bring off every wagon, and all Government property, with the exception of one ten-pounder Parrott gun, which was captured just as it was crossing the bayou, the horses having been shot. The bringing off of the section of Nimms's battery, commanded by Lieutenant Marland, after the regiment sent to its support had surrendered, extorted the admiration of every beholder. While the fight was proceeding, the Third division came up on a double-quick, but by the time they had reached the middle of the prairie, and one and a half miles from the scene of action, General Burbridge's command had been driven entirely out of the woods, while the rebel cavalry, in great force, charged through the narrow belt of timber on the left, and were coming down on his rear. By this time, the Third division had come within range, formed in line, and commenced shelling them, which immediately checked their further advance, while General Burbridge, who had again got his guns into position, opened a raking cross-fire upon them, when the whole force of the enemy retreated to the cover of the woods. Our whole force was deployed in line of battle, and moved as rapidly as possible through the woods, driving the enemy out of it, who retreated rapidly. I moved the troops up on their line of retreat about one and one half miles, while the cavalry pursued about three miles; my men having been brought up at a double-quick, were very much exhausted, and it was not possible to pursue farther. Our losses are twenty-six killed, one hundred and twenty-four wounded, and five hundred and sixty-six missing. The loss of the enemy in killed was about sixty; number of wounded not known, as they carried all but twelve off the ground; but wounded officers, who were taken prisoners, represent the number of wounded as being very large. We took sixty-five prisoners.

Brigadier-General McGinnis, being very ill, was not able to be on the field. The troops of the division behaved admirably under the command of Brigadier-General Cameron, of the First, and Colonel Slack, of the Second brigade. The action of General Burbridge was gallant and judicious, from the time I first saw him until the close of the engagement. The conduct of the Sixty-seventh regiment Indiana infantry was inexplicable, and their surrender can only be attributed to the incompetency or cowardice of the commanding officer. They had not a single man killed. Our mounted force, under Colonels Fonda and Robinson, though very small, be-

haved very handsomely. I left at Carrion Crow Bayou, to hold that position, three regiments of the Third division, namely, the Eleventh Indiana, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin, and Twenty-fourth Iowa, with one section of artillery. It was fortunate that I did so, for, while the fight was proceeding with General Burbridge's command, Colonel Bayler, of the First Texas mounted rifles, swept round on our left, and attacked the camp at Carrion Crow Bayou, but they were driven off with a loss of three killed; we lost none. I refer particularly to the report of General Burbridge for the names of those deserving honorable mention. On the fourth instant the enemy sent in a flag of truce, proposing to give up such of our wounded as they had, not having the means to take care of them. I sent for and received forty-seven. They refused to give up our wounded officers, among them Colonel Guppy, of the Twenty-third Wisconsin, a most gallant and meritorious officer; though wounded, I am pleased to learn that his wound is not severe, and that all our prisoners are being well treated. As to the force of the enemy engaged, opinions are conflicting; but, from the best data I have, I judge them to have been from six to seven thousand, the whole under the command of Brigadier-General Green. Respectfully yours,

C. C. WASHBURN,
Major-General Commanding.

Official Copy.

W. H. MORGAN,
Major and Assistant-Adjutant-General.

Official Copy.

C. A. NICHOLS,
Assistant-Adjutant-General.

WISCONSIN "STATE JOURNAL" ACCOUNT.

NEW-ORLEANS, LA., Nov. 9, 1868.

I returned yesterday from Opelousas, and hasten to give you the details of a contest at Bayou Bourbeaux, about nine miles this side of that village, which took place on the third of November, involving, as you will see, very important results to the Twenty-third Wisconsin. My description, being largely that of my own personal hazards and experience, must be taken for what it is worth in a purely military sense, as I do not pretend to give an accurate account of movements on the field, or the reasons for them.

We reached Opelousas after dark, on the night of the thirty-first of October, stopping with Major-General Washburn, who received us with great kindness, and on the first of November, fell back with the whole army—the Thirteenth and Nineteenth corps—to Carrion Crow Bayou, about twelve miles. The brigade of Colonel Owen, (General Burbridge's old brigade,) in which were the troops I was assigned to pay, was at Bear's Landing, eleven miles in advance of Opelousas, and came in on another road, camping at Bayou Bourbeaux, three miles nearer Opelousas than the balance of the corps. Impatient to see the "boys" of the Twenty-third, I went out the same night to their camp, and was most kindly and hospitably received by officers and men.

Indeed, what is the use of talking about rank or dignity when one gets among old friends and neighbors, so far from home? It was late at night before we could get through the warm greetings and answer the innumerable questions about the loved ones at home, from highest to lowest in the regiment.

On the second, was waked at four o'clock. The long-roll was beat, and the men fell into their places in line of battle. An hour after, it proved to be a picket skirmish, and the men proceeded to get their breakfasts.

The camp was on the margin of a most beautiful prairie, the right wing resting upon the woods, the left projecting about twenty rods into the prairie, with woods in the rear, and the whole fronting the north-west, or Opelousas. The prairie rose with a very gentle swell in front about three quarters of a mile, where the descent was from us. The forests here are thin lines of trees, following the windings of the bayous through the prairies, and are rarely above eighty rods through, maintaining the line with singular regularity. The trees are mainly live-oak—an evergreen, draped in the everlasting Spanish moss—and it is rare that there is any undergrowth. The prairies thus cut up or detached by the lines of trees are from three to six miles in length, and from two to four in width. They are as green and fresh as our prairies at home in mid-summer. This particular spot was called Buzzard Prairie.

About ten o'clock the long-roll again beat, and the men of the Twenty-third fell in and marched to the right of the line about a mile, and took position near a slight ravine, where they remained drawn up for some hours. I went out at twelve M. and found one of the First Louisiana cavalry had been killed and four wounded. The skirmish was over, and the forces returned to camp. As an election was to be held in the Twenty-third next day, I gave out tickets I had procured printed in New-Orleans; and Colonel Guppy had requested of General Burbridge lighter duty next day for his men, if possible, so as to allow of their voting and receiving their pay.

On the third, at two o'clock A.M., an order came to Captain Bull, chief of the pickets and outposts, to go at once to the picket-line and change the countersign, as one or two deserters had gone over to the enemy. He got back to camp about four o'clock. The long-roll again beat, and the troops fell in and stood in line until about six, when they got their breakfast. About nine o'clock the Seventeenth Ohio battery went out on the prairie and shelled the woods on the left for half an hour, about fifty rebel cavalry having shown themselves on that side. The line of battle was re-formed, and so remained until the action took place at a later hour. During all this time, and until the final clinch, we all supposed it to be a mere guerrilla annoyance, that no serious attack was contemplated—and felt quite as safe as if in the streets of Madison. The voting went on, and was nearly completed in

most of the companies, and four of them were sent in from the line and paid.

About half-past eleven, Colonel Guppy ordered dinner prepared for his men, with a good cup of coffee for each, saying jocosely he could not ask his regiment to fight first-class on an empty stomach. He had his own dinner also prepared, and while we were partaking of it was in particularly good spirits. When nearly through, we heard sharp picket-firing far on the right, and in a few moments the roar of the battery, pitching shells into the woods. He left the table hurriedly, saying there might be something serious up, and went over to his men, who had just swallowed their coffee.

As I stepped out of the tent, an orderly galloped up to the Colonel, and the regiment immediately moved off to the right. The roar of musketry and the cannon rapidly increased in volume, and the smoke drifted down upon us from the battery, about one hundred rods distant. At this time, General Washburn and staff galloped by near where I was standing, and went into the line of fire. The battery suddenly changed from shells to canister, and the musketry broke out in great volumes of sound, completely overpowering the noise of the cannon. I kept an anxious look upon the line of the Twenty-third as it pushed rapidly forward along the margin of the prairie, finally breaking into a double-quick—formed suddenly—a terrible shout came back—a burst of smoke, and the regiment disappeared from the scene.

I turned about and instantly ordered my safe and army-chest loaded into an army-wagon, with whatever else could be tumbled in, and to leave the field, and my ambulance to be ready for instant departure. My associate, Major Brigdon, paying the second regiment to the right, I knew must be lost unless I could get him and his clerk into the ambulance, and I ran up the line, and fortunately was enabled to attract his attention in time. As I turned to make for the ambulance, I saw a vast line of cavalry sweeping down upon the camp, which had not an armed man in it—I saw them gobble up the pickets, and come on with the velocity of the wind. Our mule-team was put to its highest speed, and fortunately made the woods, here about eighty rods across, before they could come up; but they sent their compliments in the shape of a shower of bullets.

As we emerged on the south side, the prairie was a moving spectacle of teams and stragglers, going at the highest speed. On our left hand, about a hundred rods distant, stood a huddle of soldiery in apparent disorganization—the *débris* of the brigade—all, indeed, that remained of it—about three hundred in number. The road we had taken led round an old field having a sod fence, near a mile out in the prairie, around which it turned at a sharp angle toward the south, compelling us to travel about a mile and a half to make half that distance in a straight line; and the rebel cavalry pressing behind, struck across this line to head off the train, instead of following us directly in rear. When we saw

that cloud break out of the woods into the field, it certainly looked as if the chances for going to Dixie were of the first class. It was the most exciting, not to say exhilarating, race I ever got caught in. Looking over into the field from the ambulance to see if there was a chance, we saw a battery gallop furiously up, and without waiting to unlimber even, twice poured a storm of shells into the advancing columns, and we had the satisfaction of seeing men and horses tumble in heaps. It was certain that without infantry support the cavalry would ride over the battery, and we were lost; but as the column of cavalry dashed madly forward and came in range, the guns vomited among them a storm of canister, and a regiment of infantry, which had been lying flat upon the ground invisible to us, jumped up and greeted them with a shower of bullets. They turned tail-to in a moment, what were left, and we had the consolation of seeing the tallest kind of a race, in which we were not partners. This check saved the train. The guns we are so much indebted to were Nimms's Massachusetts battery. It did wonders that day.

It was with a sense of terrible oppression about the heart that I looked over at the little group of the brigade, standing where they were when we emerged from the woods, only organized and in line—and thought of so many friends and acquaintances in the Twenty-third that I had twenty minutes before seen disappear in a cloud of smoke on the other side of the line of forest. That some had fallen was certain—while the brigade had dwindled down a handful. Who were lost? I felt little consoled at the regiments of reserves hastening to their relief. It was too late. The battle was over; the firing had ceased, and at the distance of a mile and a quarter the rebels were plundering the camp. As they fell into line, however, they advanced into the woods, and the rebels took to their heels, not having time to destroy one half of what had been left on the ground.

We waited over an hour in the road for news to come in. I found it impossible to procure a horse, or I should have gone back at once. First came a rumor that the brigade was all gobbled, though part of it was in plain sight; then that the Twenty-third Wisconsin, Sixtieth and Sixty-seventh Indiana, and Ninety-sixth Ohio had all been killed or captured. Finally I met a Twenty-third straggler, who reported the regiment destroyed, who was soon followed by an orderly, who stated that the regiment—what was left, seventy-three in number—were in the old camp, and then came the imperturbable Dwight Tredway, Quartermaster of the Twenty-third, with that perpetual smile on his face, looking for his trains, without the slightest trace of alarm or excitement. From him we learned that about ninety of the boys were left, and subsequently the number increased to about a hundred—that Colonel Guppy was wounded and a prisoner, Captain Sorenson the same; that Captain Bull was taken prisoner; that the brave and daring soldier, Alonzo G. Jack, and some others were

killed, and so of a long list of neighbors and friends.

I started at once for the field, but meeting General Washburn, was informed that the whole force was ordered back to Carrion-Crow Bayou, and that it was useless to proceed, as they would leave before I would reach the old camp, so we fell back to headquarters to wait for them. It was long after dark before they arrived. I stood upon the bridge full two hours waiting for them. They came up joking and laughing, in no way dispirited or depressed at the terrible ordeal they had passed; and then there was such a hand-shaking with all of them as I never had before. They supposed us lost. They had stood on higher ground than the camp—had seen the cavalry rush down upon it before we were aware of it, and had fairly given us over to the chances in Dixie—and their joy was in proportion at seeing us safe, while mine was equally great at finding so many unhurt, and so comparatively few killed and wounded.

This battle opened by a sudden attack of two thousand five hundred rebel infantry upon the Sixtieth Indiana and Ninety-sixth Ohio in the woods, which soon broke and fell back, when the rebel cavalry charged upon the battery, (Seventeenth Ohio,) and captured two guns, one of which was retaken. The charge of the Twenty-third Wisconsin was to save the balance of the battery, and it saved it; but was itself speedily overwhelmed, and compelled to retreat. General Burbridge gives it this credit, and of saving what was left of the brigade. It checked the advance long enough to allow a retreat, and certainly it was not in mortal power, under such a fire, to have done more.

The brigade went into the fight with one thousand and ten men, and came out with three hundred and sixty-one. The Twenty-third went in with two hundred and six muskets and twenty officers, and came out with ninety-eight men. Being now reduced to a mere company, the authorities in Wisconsin ought, if possible, to secure its return to the State, to recruit up its wasted strength. No braver men ever went upon a battle-field, and, although one of the later regiments, it yields to none in the service it has rendered.

The rebel loss was far more severe. Green and Taylor united their forces for the dash, and, from the best sources of information attainable, they brought into the field two thousand five hundred infantry, four thousand cavalry or mounted men, and one battery. Eighty of them lay dead directly in front of our first line of battle in the woods, and how many others fell, our forces had not counted at the time of leaving. Wounded prisoners were exchanged next day, and the rebels reported their loss at about one hundred and ninety killed, from four hundred to five hundred wounded, and about one hundred prisoners. As their attacking force came up eight lines deep, the bullets must have told terribly upon them.

Of the result of the election in the Twenty-

third, nothing specific can be stated. The vote for the Union ticket was nearly unanimous; but the poll-lists of part of the companies were lost; and of those saved, there is generally a lack of officers left to make out the certificates. In one company, one inspector was killed, one taken prisoner, with both clerks—leaving but one officer of the board. I advised him to append an affidavit of the facts, but what will be done I do not know.

Both the Thirteenth and Nineteenth Corps had fallen back to Vermillion Bayou, when I left there on Saturday. It is reported that the Thirteenth has been ordered to Memphis; it belongs to Grant's army proper. It is reported also, and believed, that Brownsville, Texas, is in possession of General Banks. If so, my next assignment will take me to the Rio Grande. H. A.

Doc. 8.

FIGHT AT ROGERSVILLE, TENN.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

BULL'S GAP, TENN., Nov. 11, 1862.

MORE than a month since, the division of reinforcements, under General O. B. Willcox, entered East-Tennessee, and, with Shackleford's division, moved immediately on the rebels at Blue Spring. After a sharp engagement, the enemy was forced to retire, with severe loss, and our forces moved up the East-Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, Willcox's division stopping at Greenville, the former home of Andy Johnson, and Shackleford's occupying Jonesboro.

Every thing remained quiet until the twenty-eighth ult., when Shackleford was flanked by the enemy, and forced to fall back on Greenville. Next day, however, the rebels retreated, and Shackleford moved up to his former position. The enemy's attitude remained threatening, and on the morning of the sixth instant, heavy firing was heard in the direction of Rogersville, a small town situated on the north bank of the Holston River. A detachment of the Third Indiana cavalry was immediately sent out to learn the result, and toward evening sent in a courier with the intelligence that our forces at Rogersville, consisting of the Second Tennessee and Seventh Ohio cavalry, and Second Illinois battery, had been defeated, and that the enemy was reported moving on Bull's Gap, eighteen miles in our rear. Then there was mustering in hot haste, and both divisions were quickly on the road for the Gap. Lick Creek was to be crossed before reaching the Gap, and it was feared the rebels would attempt to destroy the bridge before we could reach it; and to guard against this, the detachment of the Third cavalry that was in the advance, was ordered to fall back to the bridge to hold it. No enemy appeared, and at midnight our column, led by the Sixteenth Indiana, came in sight. Rapidly the noble fellows moved on, and soon the Gap was reached, which secured the army from present danger of a rear movement.

At an early hour next morning our troops were in position, ready and anxious for the foe approaching; but none appeared, and our scouts soon ascertained that, immediately after the fight, the enemy retreated toward Virginia, having burned up most of the property captured. They also learned that our loss was not so severe as at first reported, and does not, I think, exceed five killed, twelve wounded, and one hundred and fifty prisoners. In addition to this, we lost four guns of the Second Illinois battery and the entire train. It appears that our forces were surprised early in the morning, and almost surrounded before they were aware that an enemy was near. Being greatly scattered, they were unable to fight with any show of success, while the rebels, confident in their overpowering numbers, pushed forward with a valor worthy of a better cause. Twice they charged the battery, and twice they were repulsed with heavy loss; but closing up their heavy ranks, they again returned to the attack. This time our little band was unable to withstand the impetuosity of their charge, and the guns that had held them at bay for more than an hour fell into their hands. Then ensued a scene of the wildest confusion. No way of escape was opened to our men but the river. Into this they plunged, and, although the rebels made every effort to effect their capture, the greater number escaped. A worse whipped set of men are seldom seen. Many had lost their hats, coats, arms, and horses, and all were indignant that they should have been humiliated by a defeat.

RICHMOND "ENQUIRER" ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, Nov. 18, 1863.

A correspondent, likely to be well informed, sends us the following detailed account of this operation, which was not only creditable in itself, but has gone far to give a new turn to confederate fortunes in East-Tennessee:

The affair at Rogersville, East-Tennessee, affords some mitigation of the general ignoring of the campaign there. A series of movements of the most unfortunate and disgraceful character, illustrated by the retreat of General Williams, glorious to him and his command, but wholly shameful to those responsible for his exposed position, the only other matter of commendation, justifies this sweeping phrase. A true relation of these will, doubtless, fill a dark page in history. Let us turn to the brighter point, and present to your readers the truth.

A few days since, information of a reliable character was received by General Ransom of the exact position, numbers, and condition of the Yankees at Big Creek, four miles east of Rogersville. The nearest supporting force being at Greenville, he conceived the idea of cutting them off by a rapid night march of cavalry upon their front and rear. Brigadier-General Jones, accordingly, was directed to put his brigade in motion, so as to bring himself, on Thursday evening, within a night's march, by the south side of Holston River, down the valley of Buck

Creek; while Colonel Giltner, commanding Brigadier-General Williams's brigade, was to move from Kingsport and its vicinity, on the north side of the river. During the afternoon of the fifth Colonel Giltner concentrated his command, and went into camp at Kingsport, and ordered his force to move at six o'clock P.M. Owing to great difficulty in passing the fords, it was nearly eleven o'clock when the column had passed the river, with a march of twenty-one miles between them and the enemy's camp. The intense darkness of the night, with rain, made the march one of great difficulty and discomfort, but it was cheerfully encountered by officers and men, who seemed to have no doubt of the success which awaited them. At Lyons's Store the head of the column encountered the brigade of General Jones, who was understood to have started for Dodson's and Smith's fords, in the Holston, below Rogersville. He, finding great obstacles in the way of his advance, had determined to cross the river at Long's ford, and take the Carter's Valley road to Rogersville, in the rear of Garrard's camp. This transferred him to the right, instead of the left of the army, and brought him by the north of the Yankee position, instead of by the south, to the rear or west of it. Colonel Giltner had received information of a home guard camp, on the Carter's Valley road, by a citizen, whom he sent at once to General Jones, and by means of his information he was enabled to surprise their camp about daylight, where he captured some thirty or forty prisoners.

At Surgeonsville the enemy's pickets were driven in. Owing to a failure on the part of the advance-guard to charge them promptly, and the delay consequent in bringing up a company to pursue them, they were enabled to escape. Captain Fulkerson, of Colonel Carter's command, being ordered forward, pursued them some three miles, to the farm of Dr. Shields, where he was ordered to halt and hold his position. Colonel Giltner halted the head of his column at Miller's, eight miles from Rogersville, and went forward to reconnoitre the enemy's position. Finding them posted, apparently in force, on the hill beyond Spears's, he waited for his column to close up, and to give time to General Jones to get into position, and rode back to observe the road and ascertain if it was covered from observation by the enemy. Finding it was so, and securing information of General Jones's progress, he ordered the column to advance as soon as the artillery should close up, and rode to the front. Here he found that the force of the enemy had disappeared. Captain Fulkerson had been sent by the right to turn this position, and soon ascertained the fact that they had left this point, and that the way was open. The advance charged down the hill, urged to a sharp trot. A mile in advance, finding thick pine woods, the advance formed as skirmishers, and advanced through the fields to the right of the road, where they soon discovered the enemy's wagons crowded in the main road, while some one of the advance called out that the Yankees were escaping by the ford—Russell's or

Chism's ford—in front of the enemy's position. Colonel Giltner at once ordered Colonel Carter's regiment to charge, which they did in the direction of the ford. Owing to the roughness of the ground, only twelve or fifteen reached the ford, but the regiment was in supporting distance, and the Yankees, seeing their retreat cut off, made no further effort in that direction. They commenced, however, shelling the corn-field in which Carter's men were. Colonel Carter ordered his men to the cover of a precipice, whence he advanced, under cover of a hill, into open ground. Throwing down the fences, he dismounted and charged the enemy's gun, near the Russell House. The enemy abandoned one gun, carrying off their horses and some wagons. Meanwhile, another small regiment dismounted and charged through the fields between the gun and the retreating enemy, who, however, turned down the river road. Another gun now opened to the left, on a high hill south-west of William Lyons's house, west of Big Creek. Colonel Carter's regiment started to the left of the Russell house, crossing the creek to attack it. Almost as soon as they could traverse the distance, they charged and took it; not, however, until one gun of Lowry's battery had been put in position and fired several shots. A small body of the enemy appearing in the fields to the right, a few shots from another gun posted in the abandoned camp of the Second Louisiana were fired, and the enemy disappeared in the woods, to the rear of the fields, west of Big Creek. Just then a heavy discharge of musketry was heard in the rear, which was at once recognized as the attack from General Jones, and a cheer went up from both columns. Colonel Giltner had, by this time, brought up his reserves, who charged down the river road, and down the lane between the Relay and McKinney farms, where the Yankees were attempting to escape by a private ford. Here they overtook two of the guns of the enemy, and took a large number of prisoners; a large number having previously laid down their arms in the woods to the right of the road, and in front of the lane last mentioned. While this was going on in front, General Jones had moved down the Carter Valley road to the left of the enemy's camp, to the intersection with the main road, a mile east of Rogersville, where he despatched a detachment of Witcher's battalion, and perhaps Dunn's, to take the town, occupied by a small force. These captured, perhaps, one hundred prisoners, and killed some five or six Yankees and renegades. The body of the command turned up the main road a short distance, to the road leading out toward the Relay and McKinney farms, and intersecting the river road. The enemy being drawn from their camp by the front attack, here encountered the command in their rear, and, after several sharp volleys, yielded themselves to their fate. The results of this victory have been detailed with sufficient accuracy, and need not be recapitulated. The change of plans on the part of General Jones is considered, by those acquainted with the country, as leaving open the avenues of escape through

which the greater part of the enemy got away. This, however, was probably for good reasons. The most unfortunate part of the affair was the return of the army that night to camp, by order of General Jones, against the earnest remonstrance of Colonel Giltner. This resulted in the escape of many prisoners, and the loss of any material results beyond the captures. Subsequent intelligence shows that four men, pursuing the retreating Yankees within a few miles of Greensville, captured a wagon which had escaped by Chism's Ford, and carried dismay into the camp of the Yankees at Rheatown and Greenville; and that while the confederate cavalry was hastening to secure its communications, the Yankees were stampeding through Greenville—horses, cattle, artillery, wagons, men and officers blockading the streets, filling the sidewalks into the very doors of the houses, a dismayed and disorganized mob. On they went even to Russellville, twenty-five miles, galloping bareheaded through the streets, and crying that ten thousand confederates were upon their heels. I need not comment upon a result so common in this war, so disgraceful to the Yankee soldiers and the confederate general.

Doc. 9.

OPERATIONS IN WEST-VIRGINIA.

GENERAL KELLEY'S DESPATCH.

CLARESBURG, November 8, 1863.

To Governor Boreman :

GENERAL AVERILL attacked General Jackson's forces at Mill Point, Pocahontas County, on the fifth instant, and drove him from his position with trifling loss. Jackson fell back to the summit of Droop Mountain, when he was reinforced by General Echols with Patten's brigade, and one regiment from Jenkins's command. The position is naturally a strong one, and was strengthened by breastworks commanding the road. General Averill turned the enemy's left with his infantry, and attacked him in front with cavalry dismounted.

The victory was decisive, and the enemy's retreat became a total rout, his forces throwing away their arms and scattering in every direction.

The cavalry pursued till dark, capturing many prisoners and a large quantity of arms, ammunition, etc.

The enemy's wounded have all fallen into our hands. Our loss in killed and wounded is about one hundred.

B. F. KELLEY,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL AVERILL'S DESPATCH.

NEAR FALLING SPRINGS,
WEST-VIRGINIA, November 7, 1863. }

Brigadier-General Kelley, Commanding Department :

On the fifth instant I attacked Jenkins in front of Mill Point, and drove him from his position, with trifling loss on either side.

Yesterday morning he was reinforced by General Echols, from Lewisburgh, with Patten's brigade and a regiment of Jenkins's command, and assumed a strong position upon the summit of Droop Mountain, a position similar to that upon South Mountain, in Maryland, but stronger, from natural difficulties and breastworks.

I stormed the enemy's left with infantry, and when he became disturbed made an attack direct with four regiments of dismounted cavalry. The victory was decisive, and the enemy's retreat became a total rout. His forces, throwing away their arms, became scattered in every direction. I pursued those that he kept together until after dark. His wounded and many prisoners and arms have fallen into our hands. My loss is about one hundred officers and men. The troops are in excellent spirits, with plenty of ammunition.

WM. W. AVERILL,
Brigadier-General.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

NEW-CREEK, WEST-VIRGINIA, November 20.

The brigade of General Averill left their camp at Beverly, at noon, on Saturday, November first. The day was clear and warm. We marched to Huttonville, where we camped for the night. At seven o'clock Monday morning we resumed the march. The day was fine—a delightful Indian summer morning—and a march of two miles brought us to the foot of Cheat Mountain. Here are the remains of the rebel works made at the beginning of the war; and here are the marks of the battle that took place at this point. On our way up the mountain we met a family of refugees from the White Sulphur Springs, who were escaping from the terrible persecutions of the rebels, and seeking a land of peace and plenty.

The brigade presented an animated and picturesque appearance as it wound its way up the mountain. We reached the summit at noon, where we halted to rest and close up the column before beginning the descent. From the summit of Cheat is a magnificent view of valley and mountain, and, looking eastward, of the Alleghanies, towering in grandeur and covered with a dark forest of fir, and the valley of the Green Brier stretching to the south-east, while our works on Cheat, and Lee's works on the Alleghany, frown defiance at each other. The distance from the bottom of Cheat to the top on the western side, by the windings of the road, is six miles, and only one mile to the valley of Cheat River on the eastern side. After descending the mountain and crossing the valley, we crossed another low mountain, which is the "divide" between the two rivers—the Cheat and Green Brier. On the road at the foot of this mountain, on the eastern side, is the Gum Farm, a noted place for bushwhackers, and where a large party of guerrillas recently blockaded the road behind a little scouting party of the Eighth Virginia and attempted to capture them, but the corporal, with his party of nine men, gallantly cut his way through, with the loss of one man wounded and one horse

killed. Our camp for the night was at a place marked on the map "Travellers' Repose," formerly a hotel hid away in this valley.

Opposite our camp was a little grove of evergreens, from which the cowardly "bushwhackers" had frequently fired on our men, and on one occasion killed and wounded a number belonging to an Indiana regiment, that were on the march, and from which a volley had been fired into the Eighth Virginia when on an expedition last winter. This valley is now in utter desolation. Human habitations and fences all gone, and left a mournful solitude.

Next morning resumed the march, and immediately after crossing the river, came to the rebel works made by Lee during the summer of 1861, and called "Camp Alleghany." At this place we met two more families of refugees, also from White Sulphur, leaving the doomed land of "Dixie," who had been driven off by the rebels. From here a scouting party was sent to Fort Baldwin, on top of the Alleghany. At this point the Beverly and Staunton pike crosses the mountain. This party, when they reached the summit, built a large number of fires, engaged all the hay in the country, and required accommodations for some half-dozen "generals," and then made a circuit to the village of Green Bank, where they scattered a company of rebel cavalry, and made two prisoners. The brigade marched down the valley by the way of Green Bank. We were now in a fine country, that, in appearance, had escaped "war's desolation." In this beautiful valley were a number of fine mansions, and, like almost all the fine houses in the South, had the appendages of negro huts—barbarism and civilization side by side. We passed through a magnificent forest of white-pine timber, such as would make the fortune of a company of enterprising Yankees, and encamped for the night at Matthews's Mills, where we found abundance of corn and hay for our horses. It was a cold, frosty night, but with our feet to big blazing fires, we slept soundly and awoke refreshed.

Next morning we started for Huntersville, and during the morning burnt a rebel camp, and near the town another, and reached town at eleven o'clock. The Fourteenth Pennsylvania, Third Virginia, and a section of artillery were immediately sent on to Mill Point, to cut off the retreat of Jackson, who was at Marling Bottom; and, to prevent his being alarmed too soon, the balance of the brigade halted in this forsaken, desolate place—the saddest picture of the punishment that has overtaken the poor, deluded rebels that we have met with. In the afternoon, the Second Virginia, the Eighth, and one piece of artillery were sent to Mill Bottom, where they arrived at dark; but Jackson had got the news of our coming, and retreated down the river, blockading the road at the narrows. We sent the pioneers to remove the obstructions, and went into camp for the night.

Early next morning, after setting fire to the comfortable winter-quarters that the rebels had erected, we began the pursuit, congratulating

ourselves on the certainty of capturing "Mud-wall Jackson" and his fleet-footed ragged chivalry; but after a hard ride of nine miles, we found that the force sent out to intercept him were just too late, and only came up with his rear-guard. When we arrived, the fighting had already begun, and an artillery duel was in progress. We dismounted, and immediately formed into line of battle and went into the fight. The part of the brigade engaged drove him six miles, and he finally took position on the top of Droop Mountain. Mill Point was the depot for his supplies and stores, and these we captured and destroyed.

It was not part of the General's plan to drive him any farther, or bring on an engagement that day; for General Averill expected to form a junction with the forces of General Duffie, from the Kanawha valley, at Lewisburgh, on the seventh, two days hence. We, therefore, went into camp in the morning on the farm of McNeil, who had a son a captain in the rebel army, and uncle to the McNeil who infests the country about Moorfield, in Hardy County.

Here we found plenty of corn, oats, and hay for our horses, and they, together with the men, had a good rest.

At this place the boys made a purchase of butter. The price was five dollars in confederate money, but they purchased it for fifteen cents in postal currency. At night it threatened rain, but the sun rose clear next morning, with a high wind blowing; and after breakfast we mounted, and started for the scene of conflict.

Droop Mountain was a high, elevated position, overlooking the whole valley, the eastern face cleared, and the turnpike ascending that slope, and the rebel battery commanding every turn of the road and the whole country in the front, while the extreme point of the mountain was covered with woods. And this the rebels had fortified with a breastwork of logs, brush, rails, and rocks. Immediately under the point it was cleared, and very steep. In this steep hill-side was a spring, with swampy soil overgrown with tussocks of grass, briers, weeds, and burs. The western side of the mountain was covered with thick woods and heavy undergrowth, and to the westward another mountain, covered with timber, while the country in front was broken by low hills, partly open and partly wooded, and from the elevated position that the rebels occupied they could see almost all our movements below, and besides, it was exceedingly difficult to find a position for our artillery. Nature could not have made a stronger position, and this they had fortified; and when the rebel Colonel Patten arrived, he stated that "he could with his regiment, the Twenty-second, hold it against the whole of Averill's brigade;" but, poor fellow, he was woefully mistaken.

When the brigade arrived at Hillsborough, a village three miles from the top of the mountain, Keeper's battery was sent to the left, supported by the Fourteenth Pennsylvania; while the Tenth Virginia, Colonel Harris, and the Twenty-

eight Ohio, Colonel Moore, (German regiment,) were sent to the right, to endeavor to turn the rebel position. Next to the Twenty-eighth was the Third Virginia, Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson; then the Second Virginia, Lieutenant-Colonel Scott; and the Eighth Virginia, Colonel Oley. These were all old veterans, that had been trained in the valley and Eastern Virginia, under Milroy, Cluseret, and Bohlen. The skirmishers moved off in splendid style, with the supporting line close behind them, and in a very short time the firing became brisk and animated, and right gallantly did the regiments on the right perform their part, as they swept around the westward of the two mountains, while the regiments in the front moved more slowly; but it was a steady, onward movement, over a hill, across a field, through the woods, and across ravines, the rebels retiring, as if to husband their strength for their strong position.

The Second and Eighth moved up until they got within point-blank range of the rebel sharpshooters, the Eighth exposed to a galling fire from the rebel breastworks, and right under the rebel battery that opened on us with shell, but we were protected with woods, and by lying on the ground the shot and shell passed over us. The skirmishers kept a constant fire, while the heavy roll of musketry on the right, as it curved around the mountain, was as steady as the fire fanned by the wind advances through the leaves on the mountain-side. The keen crack of the Enfields of the Tenth, and the deeper bass of the big bores of the Germans, could be readily distinguished, while overhead a strong wind made a deep, steady roar in the naked branches of the forest, and to heighten the grand battle picture, the woods were on fire, the branches of the trees crossing to the ground, under the effects of the shot and shell, accompanied by the heavy roar of the artillery, and music, and bursting of shell, and the constant roll of the musketry.

When the critical moment arrived, the Third and Second advanced, and just as the Eighth emerged from the woods the rebels began to waver, and with a cheer we charged up the steep mountain-side, and over the breastworks, officers and men mingled in confusion, covered with perspiration, dirt, and their clothes covered with burs. Just at this time Ewing's battery found a position, and opened fire on the rebels.

The rebel battery swept the point with grape and canister, but our men fought from behind stumps, trees, and logs; the gallant Tenth and glorious old Twenty-eighth closed in, and the rebels became terror-stricken and began to retreat, and then the retreat became a rout, while from our boys went up one prolonged cheer that was kept up, and the pursuit began immediately. It was a hard day's work, but officers and men worked with a will, and did their whole duty — no flinching, no shirking.

The rebel dead and wounded lay on top of the mountain, and almost the first one we saw was a dead negro, with gun in hand and cartridge-box buckled on; while prisoners were being taken

every moment, the men in their eagerness were following on, but the Tenth and Twenty-eighth were resting from sheer exhaustion.

Immediately in rear of the battle-field was the rebel commissary building, and they had tumbled out barrels of flour and provisions, with arms, ammunition, accoutrements, clothing, etc., thrown away in their flight. In a short time the horses were brought up, we mounted, and the pursuit began, and Major Gibson, with his battalion, took the lead. In a few moments we came to two broken ambulances, with their contents lying by the roadside; here lay Major Bailey, of the Twenty-second; here, some wounded; there, some dead; a little further on, a large party of prisoners; a little further on, another group; in the middle of the road, a broken wagon, and a large bay horse shot in the head; and a little further on, a burning caisson, with the terrified rebels flying and scattering through the woods, where cavalry could not pursue them, while the road was strewn with the *débris* of a terror-stricken, routed army. It was late in the day, and we kept up the pursuit for ten miles, until after dark, when we went into camp in a field, around a "sink-hole" that afforded water for our horses, after achieving one of the most complete as well as brilliant victories of the war.

The rebels were commanded by General Echols, and the forces engaged were the Twenty-second Virginia, Colonel Patten's regiment, who commanded a brigade, Fourteenth Virginia, Eighteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Edgar's battalion, Derrick's battalion, four companies partisan rangers, one section Jackson's battery, Chapman's battery, Colonel Jackson's battery of four guns, and the militia from part of Pocahontas and Green Brier were present. Rebel killed and wounded three hundred, and over one hundred prisoners, seven hundred stand of small arms, three pieces of artillery, and one stand of colors. Our loss was two officers killed and four wounded, twenty-nine men killed, ninety wounded, and one missing.

In this battle, as at Rocky Gap, the rebels overshot us. The battle was fought on Friday, November sixth, and on the seventh we expected to unite with General Duffie, and now that the battle was over, we were in hopes that the Kanawha forces would intercept the fugitives at Lewisburgh.

Saturday morning was warm and spring-like, and we took up the line of march for Lewisburgh. After our descent from the mountains, we entered the fertile valley of the Green Brier, which expands to a breadth similar to the Shenandoah, and the same kind of geological formation—Saurian limestone. In coming down the mountain, we came across the brass twelve-pound howitzer that the rebels had cast away in their flight, and all along the road was the same rubbish as near the battle-field. Our march was slow, for we wished to save our horses. We passed through the town of Frankfort, and a short distance from Lewisburgh we came to the camp of the Twenty-second, screened from view in a grove in a "sink-hole."

These sink-holes are one of the peculiar features of this valley, and the town of Lewisburgh is built in one.

We arrived at the town at four o'clock, where the Kanawha force had already arrived. Here we learned that the rebels had kept on their flight in the direction of Sweet Springs, in Monroe, and after passing the Green Brier had burned the bridge.

After a night's rest, took up the march for the White Sulphur, the Ninety-first Ohio going with us as far as the ford of the river. On our march, we found two camps that were burning, and were designed for winter-quarters. One was on a hill beyond the town, and the other hid away in the ravine alongside of the turnpike. At the river we discovered that the rebels had destroyed five hundred barrels of flour that were in the mills, and the empty barrels were floating in the water.

Here the Ninety-first took the road to Union, in Monroe, (wonder that the rebels have not changed the name,) and we took the road to the White Sulphur. When within four miles of the latter place, two of the poor wounded men belonging to Ewing's battery came to us. One of the poor fellows had lost a leg, and came on crutches. They were overjoyed to meet us. We arrived at the Springs at ten o'clock, and released the balance of the wounded, who had been wounded in the Rocky Gap battle. The White Sulphur is a beautiful spot, but now appeared lonely and desolate, with its hotels, halls, and buildings closed; and I felt sad and indignant both, that this lovely spot had been desecrated by the foul breath of treason, its beauty marred by the loathsome presence of the wicked conspirators, who resorted here to concoct their plans of treachery. From here we went to our Rocky Gap battle-field of August, where we made a halt, and took a survey of the ground; and after visiting the graves of the brave and good men who repose here, we resumed the march, and halted for the night at Calhagan's.

Next morning, as the column started, a party of bushwhackers fired into the Second. One of the rascals was captured. We took the road to Warm Springs, and a detachment of the Eighth, under Major Slack, was sent to make a reconnaissance in the direction of Covington. During the march this morning, we were startled by an explosion, as if a steam-boiler or mine had burst, and a large volume of smoke arose. One of the caissons of Ewing's battery, in crossing a gully, had exploded, providentially injuring but three men, but scattering the contents all around, and blowing the caisson all to atoms. The accident was occasioned by a percussion-shell being carelessly packed. We arrived at the Jackson River road at one o'clock, and made a halt for the detachment under Major Slack to overtake us. We marched up the valley of Jackson River, and after night burned a rebel camp and potash factory. We encamped for the night at Gatewood's, and here was plenty of corn and wheat for our horses; it had been snowing during the day, and a cold, wintry night, but there was

plenty of rails for fuel, and we slept by blazing fires.

Next morning resumed the march up the Back Creek valley. This morning a dog ran a fine buck into the water at the picket-post, which they secured. We burned an extensive saltpetre works, and another winter encampment of the rebels. Our train was fired into by a bushwhacker, but he was secured after receiving a broken leg. Our march led us through the settlement where we had been bushwhacked on our former expedition, and as we had a little account to settle, we "camped" there. Here we captured a rebel lieutenant, and the boys found quite a number of deposits of apples hid away in the ground. Here was abundant forage for the horses and mountain-mutton for supper, and with a soft bed of hay after supper, before our "big" fires, we had a luxurious night's rest.

Next morning, at seven o'clock, we resumed the march, and when we arrived at the place where the road diverges to Monterey, we destroyed another winter encampment of the rebels, and the Fourteenth Pennsylvania was sent around by that route to meet us at the point where the Crab Bottom road strikes the South Branch, while the rest of the brigade continued up the valley to Hightown; we arrived here at noon and halted. This is the point where the Beverly and Staunton road descends the Alleghanies on the eastern side, and this gap between the double mountain is the source of the two branches of the James and Potomac.

Here is another of the splendid views to be met with in the mountains, and as each season has its own peculiar beauties and charms, yet for grandeur, the winter scenery of the mountains cannot be surpassed, when earth's huge billows are capped with snow, and a wilderness of mountains is spread out as far as the eye can reach.

While we were at rest, word was brought that there was a force of rebels in camp down Crab Bottom, so we started expecting to surprise them, but when we arrived, we found the Ringgold cavalry and a force of infantry under Colonel Thoburn of the First Virginia, and they, like us, had suspected that there was a rebel force in the Gap, and if we had been rebels we would have had a warm time if we had attacked them, for they were wide awake and drawn up in line ready to receive us. We went into camp on the south side of Franklin road.

November twelfth, resumed the march, and our advance broke up a party of guerrillas who were getting ready to bushwhack Thoburn at Crab Bottom. We destroyed four hundred gallons of apple brandy at one distillery, and a barrel at another. We came to the saltpetre works that we had destroyed in August, and that the rebels had begun to repair; this we again destroyed, and a contraband told us of another up a ravine; this was also destroyed, and a guerrilla party put to flight. This was a fine warm day, and in the clear water of the stream we noticed fine large trout basking in the sunshine. We passed through Franklin, and camped on a

large bottom on the river, and again found an abundant supply of corn and hay for the horses, and the boys, believing that all such forage belongs to "Uncle Sam," especially if claimed by rebels, have no compunctions of conscience about using it.

Next morning a detachment of the Eighth was sent down the North Fork, while the balance of the brigade started for Petersburg. The march to-day called up the recollections of the march the first time under Fremont, and through this beautiful valley almost every spot was remembered: the road, the camps, the church at the "Tract," the burned bridge—all would call forth some remark; for then every thing was fresh and novel, and we had not become hardened.

We came through the Milk Creek Valley—a good, loyal neighborhood, and the homes of Captain Ault's "Swamp Rangers." We now felt that we were among friends; and from here to New-Creek there is a large proportion of Union men.

We arrived at Petersburg, and enjoyed a two days' rest.

This morning McNeil and White, with three hundred guerrillas, attacked a train of ninety wagons, which were on the way from New-Creek to Petersburg. They killed two of the guards, wounded five, pillaged seven wagons and burned five, and captured two hundred horses. It was a bold, daring act; but the train was some two miles in length, and a guard of only seventy-five men to protect it. As soon as the General got the news, he sent the Third Virginia in pursuit, if possible to overtake them; but the rebels had six hours' start, and with their knowledge of the country, but a slight prospect of overtaking them. This evening we camped on the farm of Mrs. Williams, who has a son with McNeil, and she, with her daughters, are bitter "secesh." But we found corn and hay in abundance, and that was what our horses needed, so we used it.

The morning of the seventeenth we started for New-Creek, where we arrived in the afternoon, and where our ears were gladdened by the music of the steam-whistles on the locomotives of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

It is refreshing to hear the sounds, to see sights, and witness the customs of civilization, in contrast to the semi-barbarism of Dixie that we have been conversant with during our campaigns.

The results of the expedition are that we have inflicted a blow upon the rebellion in West-Virginia, such as it has not received before since the war begun. We have made glad the hearts of the Union men, who are suffering under a despotism worse than that inflicted in the slave-pens of Africa. We have liberated a number of refugees who will find their way inside of our lines. We have thoroughly scouted the mountains and valleys, scattered and frightened the small bands of guerrillas, destroyed all the winter-quarters that the rebels had expected to occupy the coming winter; know the roads, and the places that they have made their haunts;

have become acquainted with valuable facts, of which we were before ignorant.

And in addition to the terrible punishment that was inflicted on the rebels at Droop Mountain, we captured two hundred horses, three hundred cattle, five hundred sheep, brought out to freedom a number of contrabands, some of them waiters at the Springs; we have created a wholesome dread of "Averill and his Yankees," and caused the country to rejoice over our brilliant success.

General Averill has proved himself to be an earnest, energetic, and skilful general.

Although we were in the saddle seventeen days, travelled three hundred miles, and suffered from the exposure of the cold winds of the mountains, yet I have not heard a word of complaint, nor was there a single case of sickness that occurred during the march that I heard of, and our horses, on the average, are in better condition than when we left Beverly. IRWIN.

RICHMOND WHIG ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, November 14, 1863.

A correspondent, to whom we hope to be similarly indebted again, has furnished us with the clearest and most satisfactory particulars of the fight in Green Brier we have yet seen:

The line defended by the Army of Western Virginia extended from Pocahontas County to the Tennessee line. Colonel William L. Jackson, with a small force of cavalry and a section of artillery, occupied the extreme right at or beyond Mill Point, in Pocahontas County—a point about forty miles from Lewisburgh, where was stationed the First brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Echols, and Chapman's battery, with two regiments of Jackson's cavalry brigade and two pieces of Jackson's battery.

On the night of the fourth instant, General Echols received a despatch from Colonel Johnson, stating that the enemy was advancing in force. It was determined to reinforce him at once, and the First brigade, with Chapman's battery, with one regiment of cavalry, (the Fourteenth Virginia,) and the two pieces of Jackson's battery, started at once for that purpose. The Sixteenth Virginia cavalry was left to scout and guard the roads leading from the Kanawha Valley. The command reached a point about fourteen miles from Lewisburgh, on the fifth instant. There it was learned that Colonel Jackson had retired before the superior force of the enemy, and held a position on the top of Droop Mountain, twenty-eight miles from Lewisburgh.

Early on the morning of the sixth the march was resumed, and Colonel Jackson's position reached about ten a.m. The enemy were making preparations for the attack. The country was so densely covered with forests that it was impossible to ascertain the force of the enemy.

Our position in many respects was a very strong one, but, as the enemy could easily get in our rear by taking a road on our right flank, it was necessary to detach the Twenty-sixth battalion to blockade it.

The battle was joined about eleven o'clock by our artillery firing at the enemy's battery as it came into position. This was soon ended, as he was driven away by our well-directed shots. The enemy now massed his whole force on our left and centre, consisting of about four thousand cavalry under Averill, and three thousand infantry under Kelley. To oppose this force, we had eleven hundred, of which eight hundred were cavalry. For four hours we contended against these overwhelming odds. The enemy, moving his forces beyond our left, wheeled his men, and thus obtained an enfilading fire.

Just at this time, our centre, which had been much weakened to reinforce the left, was attacked by a largely superior force and pressed back. General Echols, seeing it was useless to contend longer, gave orders to retreat. The enemy, badly cut up, made only a feeble pursuit. Our loss was necessarily very heavy, especially in killed and wounded. Major R. A. Bailey, of the Twenty-second Virginia regiment, was wounded (reported mortally) and captured. Of ten officers in three companies of this same regiment that fought on our left, but two escaped unhurt.

The Twenty-third battalion suffered severely, but as reports have not been handed in, no accurate information can yet be obtained.

The retreat had continued but a short time, when General Echols received information that the Yankees, several thousand strong, were marching on Lewisburgh, by the Kanawha road, to cut him off. It was now all-important to get our teams and artillery by Lewisburgh and across the Green Brier River, before the new force could come up. This was done, and the enemy baffled, with the loss of one wagon and one piece of artillery, which was abandoned because the carriage broke down. General Echols crossed the river early on the morning of the seventh instant, and after resting a few hours continued the march toward Union, Monroe County.

The Yankees, no doubt, supposed we would be easily caught, but after marching fourteen miles, and fighting four times his own number for several hours, he retreated, bringing off his trains and artillery.

Men and horses are, of course, very much exhausted, but in a few days all will be again ready to meet the enemy.

No troops ever displayed more endurance and courage. The long list of killed and wounded will attest how desperately they fought, and the failure of the enemy to follow them closely, how terribly he suffered.

Doc. 10.

FIGHTS ON THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

IN THE FIELD, November 9.

AFTER the fight at Bristoe we followed on Lee's retreating army pretty briskly, but soon found they had too rapidly fallen back, and had

thrown too many obstacles in our way for us to overtake them. The troops were then encamped in a kind of semi-circle, extending from Warrenton *via* Auburn, to the line of railway near Catlett's Station. On the evening of the ninth instant, a General Order indicating the line of forts was issued to the corps commanders, and early on the morning of the seventh—Saturday—the troops fell back into column in the following order: the Sixth corps moved from Warrenton to Rappahannock Station; the Second, Third, and Fifth corps marched by Warrenton Junction along the line of railroad by way of Bealton, where the First corps brought up our extreme left. I should have stated that our cavalry was out some days on a reconnoissance, and had ascertained that the enemy occupied the forts at Rappahannock Station, and were also in force to the south of Kelly's Ford. From Bealton the Fifth corps continued in direct line of march to form a junction with the Sixth, while the Second and Third deployed for Kelly's Ford.

THE FIGHT AT KELLY'S FORD.

The Third corps was in the advance, and as they neared the ford, they threw out strong lines of skirmishers and sharp-shooters. General Birney, who was in command of the corps, advanced two batteries and placed Randolph on the right, near Mount Holly Church, and the Tenth Massachusetts battery on the left. Though the enemy shelled us all the time while our batteries were getting into position, still we suffered very little. Our position now was a strong one. A range of high hills rises abruptly along the north side of the river, their wooded crest, and the little brick church peeping out of the foliage giving them a picturesque appearance. At their base runs the Rappahannock, while a little way up on the south side of the river are the mill and extensive concerns of Mr. Kelly, whose son is now enjoying free quarters in the Old Capitol.

Our battery now occupied a sweeping range of the extensive plateau on the south side. Under shelter of the guns, which were vomiting forth shot and shell on them and forcing them back from the river, the working parties advanced to lay the pontoons. The First division, commanded by General Ward, was now massed, and the Third brigade ordered to lead the attack. They were commanded by Colonel de Trobriand, native of Brittany, France, who has displayed the chivalrous daring of his race. The pontoons were now laid, the enemy's guns were silenced, and the attacking party rapidly advanced across the bridge. The First United States Sharp-shooters, known as Berdan's Sharp-shooters, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Trappe, were in front. Having gained the opposite bank, the Sharp-shooters, armed with Sharpe's rifles, deployed and charged the enemy's rifle-pits, and after a brisk fire of musketry, the enemy, finding themselves surrounded on all sides, threw down their arms and surrendered.

Our regiments engaged were the First United States Sharp-shooters, the Fortieth New-York,

the First and Twentieth Indiana, the Third and Fifth Michigan, and the One Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania, but the brunt of the fight fell on the Sharp-shooters. We captured Colonel Cleason, of the Twelfth Virginia, who was in command; one surgeon, one major, two captains, several lieutenants, and nearly five hundred privates. They mostly belonged to the Twelfth Virginia, Thirteenth North-Carolina, and Ninth Alabama, and were skirmishers selected from Ewell's corps. We lost in killed and wounded about thirty-five; the enemy I should think the same. As Captain Maynard, Commissary of Subsistence, was giving a drink to a wounded rebel, he was hit by a stray ball, and died next morning.

This and the fight at Rappahannock Station must have a disheartening and demoralizing effect on the enemy. One thing is certain: they did not fight with their accustomed desperate bravery, and numbers of them openly expressed their joy at being captured. Some of the officers even stated that the "rascals did not fight, and only wanted the opportunity of deserting us." This tells enough for the war feeling of the South. It was also certain that Lee was outmaneuvered this time, for they were taken by surprise, both at Kelleyville and at Rappahannock Station.

Just before we attacked the forts on the north side of the river, General Lee was over with Colonel Godwin, who was in command, and gave him his instructions. He had the pleasure of seeing from the other side his troops captured, without the possibility of assisting them.

THE FIGHT AT RAPPAHANNOCK STATION.

The Rappahannock Station is protected by several strong forts. On the north side is a strong fort, two redoubts, and several rifle-pits. These were protected by a force of nearly two thousand men, and a battery of guns, in command of Colonel Godwin, of the Fifty-fourth North-Carolina. They were part of Ewell's corps, Early's division. It was about three o'clock when the head of the column neared the station. A heavy line of skirmishers and sharp-shooters was thrown out to cover the advance of our batteries. There is a commanding position to the rear of the forts, and here Martin's and the First reserve artillery of heavy guns got into position and opened on the foe. Just before dark the storming parties—Russell's and Upton's brigades, led by General Russell in person—were formed. The Fifth corps were now advancing on the centre, and threw out the Fifth division in support of the Sixth corps, and in order to take up a position lower down the river, so as to cover the advance and cut off the enemy's retreat that way.

The batteries now opened fiercely and desperately on one another. Shot and shell flew like hail across the river, sweeping through the forts on both sides. The storming party, comprising the Sixth Maine, the Fifth Wisconsin, and the Fourteenth New-York, now rushed on the forts, while a strong party took possession of the pontoon, thus cutting off the enemy's retreat and their

chance of succor. Our troops dashed into the pits and forts on every side, and one of the fiercest hand-to-hand conflicts of the war commenced. The troops poured one fierce volley along the forts. The assailants actually grasped the bayonets of the defenders. As friend and foe were promiscuously mingled together, the batteries on both sides ceased, and the ringing cheers and shouts and death-groans rung above the sound of musketry. Men grappled one another in their death-struggles—some fighting with their clubbed muskets, others with their fists.

This fierce and savage conflict continued for about twenty minutes, but our supports were pouring in from every side, and the enemy, finding longer resistance useless, surrendered. One wild cheer, one wild huzza, informed General Lee that we were successful, and in a few minutes the Stripes and Stars floated above the trampled palmetto. Our victory was decisive, and no fewer than four colonels—two of them commanding brigades—one hundred and thirty-two officers, and fifteen hundred men fell into our hands, besides four guns, four caissons, and eight battle-flags. Lee availed himself of the darkness of the night to effect his escape.

REPORT OF COLONEL EDWARDS.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH MAINE REGIMENT }
November 9, 1863. }

GENERAL: I have the honor respectfully to give the following account of the late movement of this regiment:

On the morning of the seventh instant, I received orders to move my regiment from its former encampment near Warrenton, in company with the corps; accordingly we took up our line of march toward the Rappahannock Station, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. After marching nearly fifteen miles, we discovered the enemy occupying a strong position near the Station, intrenched within redoubts and rifle-pits. At three o'clock P.M., the Twenty-First New-York volunteers and my regiment were ordered forward to the front, in line of battle. Being upon an open plain, with scarcely any protection, the advance was slow and cautious. During this advance the enemy made but little demonstration upon us, except an occasional shell or shot. Approaching within about five hundred yards of the enemy's rifle-pits, we were ordered to lie down at a point where the crest or small elevation of ground afforded us a little protection, which position we held until nearly seven o'clock P.M., when I received orders to move my regiment forward. The line of battle was Fifth Maine volunteers on the right, and Twenty-First New-York volunteers on the left, the line consisting of about five hundred and fifty muskets. Under cover of the night, we approached to within twenty-five yards of the enemy in his pits, when I gave the order to "charge." At this moment we received a terrific volley from the enemy's infantry, and the next, our boys had sprung into the rifle-pits, sweeping every thing before them. These intrenchments were occupied by more

than double the men that my own front presented, but so sudden and unexpected was our movement upon them, that the enemy seemed paralyzed. After disarming them, by a rapid movement to the right, we succeeded in capturing nearly the whole force in the pits, who were then ignorant of the fate of those on the left. During the entire charge, my regiment did not fire a gun, carrying all at the point of the bayonet, and the following are the captures made by this regiment alone:

One thousand two hundred prisoners, one thousand two hundred small arms, one caisson, and four stands of colors. Of the prisoners, there were over one hundred commissioned officers, including five colonels, one lieutenant-colonel, and one major.

The enemy's force consisted of the First Louisiana brigade, and a North-Carolina brigade, comprising the Sixth, Seventh, and Fifty-fourth regiments. The First Louisiana brigade (most of which fell into the hands of my regiment) was the first command ever assigned to the late General "Stonewall" Jackson. We occupied the fortifications during the night, advancing to near Brandy Station yesterday. The affair was a complete and glorious victory.

It affords me the greatest pleasure to report the unwavering bravery of every officer and man in my command, each vying with the other in the execution of various deeds—none flinching, but pressing forward with a determined will to win. Where all so nobly did their whole duty, it is difficult to discriminate between them.

The colors captured by this regiment were from the following regiments, and taken by the officers and men whose names I take great satisfaction in reporting:

Eighth Louisiana, captured by Lieutenant A. S. Lyon, commanding company K.

Sixth North-Carolina, captured by James Littlefield, company I.

Seventh North-Carolina, captured by Corporal T. P. Blondell, company D.

Fifty-fourth North-Carolina, captured by Corporal T. Shackford, company A.

The loss in my regiment in this engagement was seven killed and twenty-eight wounded.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. S. EDWARDS,

Colonel Commanding Fifth Maine Volunteers.
Brigadier-General J. L. HODSDON,
Adjutant-General State of Maine.

BOSTON JOURNAL ACCOUNT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, }
SIXTH CORPS, November —, 1863. }

You may welcome a detailed account of the recent action at Rappahanock Ford, in which several New-England regiments took a most prominent and glorious part.

This brigade is composed of the Fifth Wisconsin, commanded by Colonel T. S. Allen; the Sixth Maine, Lieutenant-Colonel B. F. Harris; the Forty-ninth Pennsylvania, Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Hulings, and the One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania, Colonel P. C. Ellmaker—all volunteer

regiments. The brigade commander is Brigadier-General David A. Russell, of the regular army, formerly well known to Massachusetts as the able colonel of one of her best regiments, the Seventh.

The late operations on the seventh instant were conducted on the left, at Kelley's Ford, by the First, Second, and Third corps, under command of Major-General French, and on the right, at Rappahanock Ford, by the Fifth and Sixth corps, under command of Major-General Sedgwick. In this corps, Brigadier-General Wright had command of the corps in Sedgwick's place, while General Russell assumed the command of the First division, vacated by General Wright.

At daybreak, on the morning of the seventh instant, this corps left its pleasant camps in and around Warrenton, and moved rapidly on toward Rappahanock Station, this division leading the corps, while this brigade had the advance in the division. After marching about six miles, we arrived at Fayetteville, where all the companies but one, of the Forty-ninth Pennsylvania volunteers, were thrown out as flankers and skirmishers. Thus we advanced, unmolested by the enemy, and arrived about noon at Rappahanock Station. Here we halted in the edge of a piece of timber, distant about a mile and a half from the river. We at once formed a line of battle, the left resting on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and the right of our division line connecting with the left of the Second division of this corps, commanded by Brigadier-General Howe. To our left, on the other side of the railroad, extended the lines of the Fifth corps. The Forty-ninth Pennsylvania, Fifth Wisconsin, and One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania formed our brigade front. The Sixth Maine were posted about a hundred paces in advance of our centre, and shortly after we had halted, the skirmishers of the Forty-ninth were relieved by five companies of the Sixth Maine, who were rapidly thrown forward to the crest of a hill half a mile to our front. About three o'clock p.m., the skirmish-line was advanced to the foot of a hill rising from the river. This hill is in reality a part of the river-bank, which here rises up so as to command the front for a mile or more, and was further strengthened by an elaborate redoubt, containing two twelve-pound Parrott guns, taken originally from Milroy at the capitulation of Winchester. On the rebel right, and near the railway, was another smaller redoubt, (also containing two three-inch ordnance guns taken from us, the one at Antietam, the other at Chancellorsville,) which crowned a hill but little lower than the one just described, from which it was distant some six hundred feet. To the enemy's left of the larger fortification, extended a long line of formidable, carefully constructed rifle-pits. These redoubts and rifle-pits were lined with troops—in short, Stonewall Jackson's old brigade was there. The famous Louisiana Tigers were here too. There was one entire brigade (five regiments) and three regiments of another brigade, all under command of General Hayes.

The regiments were well dressed, finely equipped, and splendidly armed.

Now for our position. Between us and these works lay a hill, which shut them off from our view. Descending this, and passing over several hundred yards of broken country, you come to another hill, from whose crest were visible the enemy's intrenchments and the opposite side of the river. Between this second hill and the enemy lay a distance of half a mile, flat, to be sure, but trying ground for a charge. For, in the first place, right across the path extended a ditch twelve or fourteen feet wide, with steep banks, some six feet deep, and filled with mud and water to an average depth of three feet. Crossing this, the field was broken for some distance with stumps and underbrush, then came a smooth, clear stretch, then a road, then a dry moat, some twelve feet wide and five deep, and above you rose the strong, defying fortifications. It was indeed a position of immense strength, and well justified the rebel belief that they could hold it against our entire army. But they reckoned without General Russell and his gallant brigade—a brigade which has been his care and pride, and which he waited but this opportunity to test the metal of. Just before sunset, our skirmish-line, under command of Major Fuller, of the Sixth Maine, lay on the other side of the dry moat above described, connecting on its left with a sister regiment, the Twentieth Maine, belonging to the Fifth corps. The railway at this point deflected slightly to the left, and some of the skirmishers of the Twentieth, commanded by Captain Morrill, found themselves on our side of the railway. At this time General Russell sent word to General Wright that the works in his front could be carried by storm, and that he desired to try it. Permission was given, and General Russell at once moved forward his brigade in two lines of battle, the front line consisting of the remaining five companies of the Sixth Maine on the left and the Fifth Wisconsin on the right, and the rear line of the Forty-ninth Pennsylvania on the left, and the One Hundred and Nineteenth on the right. As senior colonel, Colonel P. C. Ellmaker, of the One Hundred and Nineteenth, was in command of the brigade this day, and well and gallantly did he sustain himself in his new and trying position.

The rear line was halted at the foot of the second hill, and the front line moved to its top. On nearing the top, the other five companies of the Sixth Maine were deployed as skirmishers, rapidly spread out, and covered their fellows in the advance, while the Fifth Wisconsin, directing themselves in solid line of battle upon the stronger and larger fort, followed closely up. As the skirmish-line was advancing, Major Fuller, who had recognized the Twentieth Maine men, said to Captain Morrill, who had formerly been a non-commissioned officer in his own regiment, and who was in command of a skirmish detail of seventy-five men, that the Sixth Maine was on his right, and asked him if he would not charge the fort in front with them. Captain Morrill at once

ran along the line of his skirmishers. "Boys," said he, "the Sixth Maine is on our right; let's go in with them." About fifty men of the Twentieth Maine at once responded to this call, and like true soldiers rushed into the danger with the Sixth. Pressing forward with the skirmish-line went their general; the rear skirmishers scramble through the moat, they are up with the advance, General Russell orders the "charge," and forward, with fixed bayonets, without stopping to fire a shot, dash the gallant fellows. Several shells have been thrown to stay their course, and now from four cannon belches forth a torrent of spherical case, and the air is resonant with the hum of thousands of rifle-bullets. The skirmishers leap the parapet, the right wing passes through the stronger redoubt, and wheels down to aid its left in the fort nearest the railway, leaving the Fifth Wisconsin to complete the work so well begun in the larger fort. Hand to hand they fight with triple their number. Walker, the senior captain of the Fifth Wisconsin, the scarred hero of a score of battles, has fallen, mortally wounded in the head, between the larger redoubt and the rifle-pit on its left. Gallant Captain Ordway, next on the list, of the same regiment, as he leaps upon the parapet and waves his sword, to stimulate his men, falls dead inside the fort, shot through the heart. Close by Walker lies the stalwart form of the hitherto unhurt Furlong, captain in the Sixth Maine—poor, brave, warm-hearted Furlong! Within the fort, pierced through the body, and with his brains blown out, lies Lieutenant McKinley, of the same regiment. At the foot of the hill, in the road, lies Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, with a shattered hip—Harris, than whom no better or braver officer lives. Half-way up the ascent lies Major Wheeler, of the Fifth Wisconsin, but just recovered from a previous wound, to be again struck down. At the edge of the parapet, urging on the men, Lieutenant Russell, aid-de-camp and near relative to the General, is smitten from his horse with a dangerous wound—a courageous, high-toned soldier. Close by him falls Clark, Adjutant of the Sixth Maine—rebel-hating, rebel-defying, even as he was borne from the field.

The General had already sent back for the rest of his brigade; yet during the ten minutes that perhaps passed before they could come up at the "double-quick," sixteen out of twenty-one officers, and a hundred and twenty-three out of three hundred and fifty enlisted men, of the Sixth Maine, had fallen, and of the Fifth Wisconsin, seven officers and fifty-six men were killed and wounded. The moment is a trying one. Captains Packard and Tyler, and Lieutenant Russell, the entire staff of the General commanding the division, have all in succession been sent back to hurry up the remainder of the brigade. But how can men, encumbered with knapsack, gun, equipments, and eight days' rations—a weight of sixty pounds or more—get over the ground any faster than are the Forty-ninth and One Hundred and Nineteenth coming on? The moment is a trying one, for from the rifle-pit to

the left of their larger redoubt the rebels are pouring in a murderous, enflaming fire upon our men in that work, and are striving vainly to regain their lost vantage-ground; while their fellows, driven from the smaller work, and unable to cross the river, reinforce them in numbers. But the heavy tramp of swiftly coming feet is heard above the din of musketry, the General himself rides down the hill, across the moat and road, to meet his advancing column—the "double-quick" becomes a run, from the fort the Fifth Wisconsin shout for assistance, and with a wild burst Pennsylvania goes into the fight. And now all resistance at the forts is at an end. The sullen prisoners are sent to the rear. Now seven rebel battle-flags are brought up to the edge of the rifle-pit for the disheartened foe to rally around. The sight stimulates the officers of the two Pennsylvania regiments to madness, and they beg permission of General Russell to take down the flaunting rags. That officer, however, cool and self-possessed, even when danger is at its height, refuses, for the men are needed to hold the captured works, and he has already sent back message after message to the Second brigade (commanded by Colonel Emory Upton) to hurry forward two regiments to charge those rifle-pits, and he will not expose his men to an attack from foe and friend alike. Surely and swiftly, needing no reminder when he knows he is needed at the front, comes forward Upton—courageous and ambitious—with his solid columns, leading as they advance at the double-quick. They unslung their knapsacks at the foot of the hill, and with the deep Anglo-Saxon "hurrah," the gallant One Hundred and Twenty-first New-York and Fifth Maine dash at the rifle-pits. The Fifth is on the right and the One Hundred and Twenty-first on the left of their advancing line. Dusk has now fairly shut in. "Steady, men, don't fire a shot," rings out Upton's voice above the roar of battle, and at a charge in they go. One volley only is fired at them, and the deadly pit is theirs. Through the pit and down the hill they go to the rebel pontoon-bridge, now and for some time too hot for a safe passage. The rebels are huddled in flocks, like frightened sheep, and are captured by hundreds. The firing ceases, and the day is ours.

Thus ended one of the most daring and successful exploits of this war—an exploit which was the sole offspring of one man's brain. The hour and occasion were propitious, the troops were reliable, and General Russell seized his opportunity.

What are the results? Four guns, four caissons, filled with ammunition, five limbers, one color, five hundred prisoners, several horses, and many hundred stand of small arms, were captured by Russell's brigade alone. Two strong redoubts, the key to the rebel position at this point, were carried by a mere skirmish line. Colonel Upton's brigade, the movements of which were directed by General Russell, took some one thousand one hundred prisoners, the rebel pontoon-bridge, seven colors, and a strong

rifle-pit. The whole constitutes a more glorious and magnificent result than has attended the victories of entire armies in this war. And this result was obtained by a brigade whose numerical strength was but one thousand five hundred and forty-nine, officers and men, assisted by two regiments only of another brigade, and opposed to a force of more than double their number.

The success of this operation is entirely attributable to the personal bravery, labor, and supervision of the commanding General, David A. Russell. No more modest, unassuming man serves in this army, and for himself he claims and asks no credit. Only for his regiments here, as in camp, is he solicitous; and for those regiments, the Fifth Wisconsin and Sixth Maine, composing the party that stormed the redoubt, and the Forty-ninth and One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania, who so promptly and bravely supported the storming column, is he jealous. Yet his post, as a division commander, was well to the rear of his troops. In place of that position, he accompanied the skirmish line, was with them in the assault, rode over every inch of the battle-field, did the business of a dozen aids, rode fearless and triumphant amid the storm of bullets, provided for every contingency, and when, finally, the day was ours, was perhaps the least exultant man upon that hill.

Too much praise cannot be given to any regiments engaged in this fight; but the meed of honor is more especially due to the men and officers of the Fifth Wisconsin and Sixth Maine. The help rendered by our artillery must not be forgotten. A battery of the Fifth corps, planted in a piece of woods to the left of the railway, (I am informed the battery was formerly Griffin's and afterward Hazlett's,) made some splendid shooting. On a hill running to the right of the storming party, from which hill the enemy's skirmishers were driven by Howe's skirmishers of the Second division, were planted Martin's and Waterman's batteries, and four twenty-pound Parrott guns from the reserve artillery. The rebels say that the shells from all these guns were dropped directly over their works, and were thrown with more precision than they ever before witnessed.

TANDEM.

A REBEL NARRATIVE—CAPTURE OF HOKE'S BRIGADE.

AT OUR OLD CAMPS ON THE RAPIDAN, }
November 10, 1863. }

To the Editor of the Examiner:

A history of the misfortune which befel our brigade on the afternoon of Saturday, the seventh instant, is due to the friends of the unfortunate officers and soldiers at home. I therefore beg leave to offer, for the information of such, only such information as I have been able to gather from the officers who escaped. On Friday the Louisiana brigade, under Brigadier-General Hayes, was sent across the Rappahannock to act as a picket-guard at the point where the railroad from Culpeper Court-House to Manassas crosses the Rappahannock. Whilst the enemy

held this road, during the latter part of the summer, he had thrown up a line of breastworks from a point a short distance below the end of the railroad bridge, on the other side, which works faced from the river and extended some distance up, and diverging from the river. The Louisianians occupied the lower part of these works; the pontoon-bridge, the only place of crossing for infantry, being upon their left, and about one hundred yards above where the railroad bridge had been burned. At half-past two o'clock P.M., the long-roll was beat in our encampment, and every man fit for duty called upon to fall in—we knew not why, as we had no artillery, the day being quite windy, and our camp being about six miles from the river. The whole of Early's division was marched rapidly to the river. Brigadier-General Hoke's brigade of three regiments, the Sixth, Fifty-fourth, and Fifty-seventh, now commanded by Colonel A. C. Godwin, formerly first provost-marshal of Richmond, was ordered over the river to occupy the extreme left of the breastworks. This brigade crossed the river under a heavy fire of artillery, (for the Louisianians were already sustaining a furious fire from several batteries.) This fire from the artillery and sharp-shooters was kept up until after sunset. The other two brigades of General Early's division, commanded by Brigadier-Generals Gordon and Pegram, were held in position on this side the river. By sunset the enemy had extended his lines, in the form of a half-moon, so as to envelop our forces entirely, his right and left resting on the river above and below. At the same time he had formed three lines of attack, one behind the other, to assault the works held by General Hayes and the right of Hoke's brigade. The sun had gone down when this terrible onset was made. Although the odds were greatly against us, and we had only four pieces of artillery on that side of the river, our men received the shock as brave men only do. The Louisianians fought with a desperation. The enemy's front line was torn to pieces, and scattered in confusion. Being reinforced by the second and third lines, the enemy again advanced upon the works, and, by overpowering numbers, leaped the works into the ditch, and came to a hand-to-hand fight.

Our brave men, being thus so greatly outnumbered, were compelled to yield. Some surrendered, others rushed to the pontoon and escaped, some others, being cut off from that, plunged into the river below and swam across, a few being drowned; General Hayes escaped after he had surrendered; Colonels Monaghan and Peck swam the river. More than half this brigade are missing. The extreme right of General Hoke's brigade fought with equal valor, and shared a similar fate. The possession of the works held by the Louisianians gave the enemy possession of the pontoon-bridge, and thus cut off General Hoke's brigade from any escape, except by swimming. Our extreme right being thrown back, the brave Colonel Godwin, although surrounded on all sides, except on the river-side,

still fought on, and when compelled to yield ground to overwhelming odds, fell back with a force of about seventy-five men, still returning the enemy's fire, and refused to surrender until fighting was useless.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tate and Major York, Captains McPherson and Ray, and Lieutenant Mebane, of the Sixth, with Captain Adams, of the staff, broke away, and escaped over the bridge in the darkness. Lieutenants Williams, Smith, and Fitzgerald, of the Fifty-fourth; Brown, of the Sixth, with a few others, plunged into the river and swam safely over; but, unfortunately, some others were drowned. Lieutenant-Colonel H. Jones, Jr., of the Fifty-seventh, and Captain White, of the Sixth, plunged in to swim, but the coldness of the water compelled them to put back.

The casualties of our brigade are small in killed and wounded. Adjutant Mebane, of the Sixth, wounded in arm and side; William Johnston, Captain White's company, wounded in thigh severely, though not mortally; Sergeant Crisman, Captain Hooper's company, killed. The brigade is almost annihilated. The Fifty-fourth regiment has only one captain (Paschall) left, with five lieutenants, and about fifteen men remaining. The fragments of the brigade are now collected under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Tate, of the Sixth, and attached to the Louisiana brigade. These fragments now number about two hundred and seventy-five men. This is a serious disaster, so far as our feelings are concerned, but it does not shake our hopes as to success. This sad affair took place in the presence of General Lee and Major-General Early, who had arrived on this side the river.

The loss of the enemy has been serious, as the ground in front of our works was literally covered with his dead. At midnight on Saturday night, General Lee began to fall back. On Sunday morning, he formed the line of battle beyond Culpeper; but although the enemy had forced the guard at Kelly's Ford, and compelled General Rhodes to fall back with a loss of two hundred men killed, wounded, and missing, yet no attack was made on us by the infantry. In the afternoon, the enemy's cavalry attacked General Wilcox's brigade, and were badly cut up. During Sunday night General Lee fell back to his old position south of the Rapidan.

P. S.—Lieutenants Morrison, Lefler, and Maynard, of the Fifty-seventh, are all safe.

JOHN PARIS,
Chaplain Fifty-fourth Regiment N. C. T.

GENERAL MEADE'S CONGRATULATORY ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, }
November 9.

GENERAL ORDER No. 101.

The Commanding General congratulates the army upon the recent successful passage of the Rappahannock in the face of the enemy, compelling him to withdraw to his intrenchments behind the Rapidan. To Major-General Sedgwick and the officers and men of the Fifth and Sixth corps participating in the attack, particu-

larly to the storming party under Brigadier-General Russell, his thanks are due. The gallantry displayed in the assault on the enemy's intrenched position of Rappahannock Station, resulting in the capture of four guns, two thousand small arms, eight battle-flags, one bridge train, and one thousand six hundred prisoners. To Major-General French and the officers and men of the Third corps engaged, particularly to the leading column, commanded by Colonel De Trobriand, his thanks are due for the gallantry displayed in the crossing at Kelly's Ford, and the seizure of the enemy's intrenchments, and the capture of over four hundred prisoners. The Commanding General takes great pleasure in announcing to the army that the President has expressed his satisfaction with its recent operations.

By command of Major-General MEADE.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL RUSSELL'S CONGRATULATORY ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, }
MONDAY, NOV. 9, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 51.

OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS: Your gallant deeds of the seventh of November will live in the annals of your country, and will be not the least glorious of the exploits of the Army of the Potomac.

But your General cannot but express to you himself his congratulations upon your success, and his appreciation of your daring and gallantry. To have carried by storm, with a mere skirmish line and a feeble support in numbers, powerful earthworks, a strong natural position, manned by the flower of the rebel army, and strengthened by artillery, would be an achievement that a division of our forces might well feel pride in; but it was not too much for the gallant sons of Maine and Wisconsin.

The hearty, generous, and glorious support of Pennsylvania in the strife should serve to bind yet closer together the East, the Middle States, and the West, and to her troops belongs no small share of our victory.*

Your General felt confident that soldiers, who in camp observe all the strict rules of military life with fidelity, would prove equally reliable in the field; and in this, the first essay of your prowess, you exceeded his most sanguine expectations.

With the actual results of your engagement you are all too familiar to render any recapitulation necessary; but there is the further reflection to offset the saddening influence of the loss of your well-tried and courageous brothers-in-arms, that any subsequent attack upon your opponents, better prepared and strengthened as they would have been, must have been attended with a yet sadder and, it may be, a less successful result.

And it is just and fitting here to acknowledge the soldierly conduct and valuable assistance of

* This brigade consisted of the Sixth Maine, Fifth Wisconsin, Forty-ninth and One Hundred and Nineteenth Pennsylvania.

Colonel Upton and his gallant regiments, the Fifth Maine and the One Hundred and Twenty-first New-York. Prompt in their support, they deserve our heartiest thanks, as by their bravery they won a large share of the honors of the day.

The banners of this brigade shall bear the name, "Rappahannock," to perpetuate, so long as those banners shall endure, dropping and shredding away though they may be for generations, the proud triumph won by you on the seventh of November, 1863.

By command of Brigadier-General D. A. Russell.
C. A. HURD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 11.

REBEL PRIVATEERS.

LETTER OF NEW-YORK MERCHANTS.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C. :

SIR: The continued depredations of the rebel cruisers on the mercantile marine of the country have not only destroyed a large amount of the active capital of the merchants, but seriously threaten the very existence of that valuable part of our commerce.

Apart from the loss of so much individual wealth and the destruction of so valuable a source of material power and enterprise, it is humiliating to our pride as citizens of the first naval power on the earth that a couple of indifferently equipped rebel cruisers should for so long a period threaten our commerce with annihilation. It is a painful source of mortification to every American, at home and abroad, that the great highways of our commerce have hitherto been left so unprotected by the almost total absence of national armed vessels as to induce rebel insolence to attack our flag almost at the entrance of our harbors, and to actually blockade our merchantmen at the Cape of Good Hope recently—an account of which you have here inclosed, being a copy of a letter recently received from a captain of one of the blockaded ships, having a valuable cargo. We are conscious that it is no easy matter to capture a couple of cruisers on the boundless waters of the ocean, aided and abetted as they too often have been at ports where international comity, if not international law, has been set at defiance, and we have witnessed with satisfaction the patriotic zeal and energy of your Department and the glorious successes of our navy in subduing the rebellion which threatens our national Union. Still we think that the loyal merchants and ship-owners of the country, whose zeal and patriotic co-operation have generously furnished the funds to sustain the Government, are entitled to have a more energetic protection of their interests than has been hitherto extended to them. Your very arduous official duties have, no doubt, prevented you from investigating the serious inroads which the unprotected state of our carrying trade has

produced on our tonnage; and, without troubling you with the great loss which our ship-owners sustain in the almost total loss of foreign commerce, it is only necessary to call your attention to the inclosed table, prepared and published by one of the best informed commercial journals of this city, showing the loss of the carrying trade on the imports and exports of this city alone, by which you will perceive, that while during the quarter ending June thirtieth, 1860, we imported and exported over sixty-two million dollars in American vessels, and but thirty million dollars in foreign vessels; we have in the corresponding quarter of this year only twenty-three million dollars by our own ships, while we have sixty-five million dollars by foreign vessels. The intermediate periods show a most painful decadence of our shipping interest and tonnage by transfer and sale to foreign flags, which, at this time of considerable commercial activity, does not so much indicate a want of enterprise in this field of occupation as a want of confidence in the national protection of our flag on the ocean. The national pride of many of our patriotic ship-owners has subjected them to heavy sacrifices in difference of insurance against capture, of two per cent to ten per cent, while the underwriters of the country have been compelled to make great concessions in favor of American shipping, yet without materially affecting the result, and many of them encountering heavy losses by capture, in quarters where they had every reason to believe our commerce would be protected by national vessels of efficiency and power. Indeed, the almost total absence of efficient naval force in many of the great highways of commerce has had a damaging influence on our prospects, by producing a great degree of temerity on the part of the rebel cruisers, and corresponding misgivings on the part of underwriters and others in interest as to whether Government protection would be afforded to our ships laden with valuable cargoes. The want of adequate armed vessels on prominent naval stations for protection of our ships has become so notorious, that underwriters have no longer speculated on the chance of the capture of these rebel cruisers by any of our national ships, but calculate only the chance of escape of our merchantmen, or the possible destruction of the piratical craft from reported unseaworthiness or mutiny. These statements are made with all candor and in no spirit of captiousness, but with a desire to concede that the embarrassment of the Department, which it may not be prudent or practicable to explain to the public, may fully justify the unfortunate position which the want of naval protection has placed our commerce in. Yet, it is respectfully urged that you will give the subject the benefit of the same energy and ability which have so creditably marked the administration of your Department in all other channels of your official duties. No one can better comprehend than one in your position the value of successful commerce at this time of great national expenditure, and a paralysis of so important an interest cannot be contem-

plated without horror at this period of our national struggle. We beg leave, also, to inclose an extract from the *Commercial Advertiser*, of the twenty-sixth instant, and to request your attention to the paragraph marked.

We are, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

RICHARD LATHERS, President Great Western Insurance Company.

J. P. TAPPAN, President Neptune Insurance Company.

F. S. LATHEOP, President Union Mutual Insurance Company.

M. H. GRINNELL, President Sun Mutual Insurance Company.

ROBT. L. TAYLOR, Merchant Ship-Owner.

C. H. MARSHALL, Merchant Ship-Owner.

A. A. LOW & BRO., Merchant Ship-Owners.

GRINNELL, MINTURN & Co., Merchant Ship-Owners.

WILSON G. HUNT, Merchant.

CHAR. NEWCOMB, Vice-President Merchants' Mutual Insurance Company.

BROWN BROS. & Co., Bankers.

W. T. FROST, Merchant Ship-Owner.

BOOKER & KNEELAND, Merchants.

DUNCAN, SHERMAN & Co., Bankers.

BUCKLIN & CRANE, Merchant Ship-Owners.

E. E. MORGAN, Merchant Ship-Owner.

WM. WHITLOCK, Jr., Merchant Ship-Owner.

GEO. OPDYKE, Mayor of New-York City.

AUGUST BELMONT & Co., Bankers.

JAS. G. KING'S SONS, Bankers.

ARCHIBALD GRACIE, Merchant.

HOWLAND & PROTHINGHAM, Merchant Ship-Owners.

WILLIAMS & GUION, Merchant Ship-Owners.

JOHN H. EARLE, President New-York Mutual Insurance Company.

ISAAC SHERMAN, Merchant Ship-Owner.

W. A. SALE & Co., Merchant Ship-Owners.

THOMAS DUNHAM, Merchant Ship-Owner.

SPOFFORD, TILSTON & Co., Merchant Ship-Owners.

BABCOCK BROS. & Co., Bankers.

J. P. MORGAN & Co., Bankers.

E. D. MORGAN, United States Senator.

New-York, October 23, 1863.

SECRETARY WELLES'S REPLY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, November 14, 1863.

GENTLEMEN: The Department duly received your communication of the twenty-eighth ultimo, in reference to the depredations committed upon American commerce by the Alabama and other rebel cruisers. The pursuit and capture of these vessels is a matter that the Department has constantly in view, and swift steamers have been constantly in search of them, and at times very close on to them. They are under orders to follow them wherever they may go. The only vessel that had the impudence to attack our flag at the entrance of our harbors—the Tacony—was promptly pursued and her career was soon terminated. The Department had about thirty vessels after her.

I thank you for your expression that energy and ability have creditably marked the administration of the Department in all other channels of official duties. A rigid blockade of the coast has been demanded, and its accomplishment has required all the available force that the Department could bring to bear. To do this, it could not well despatch a larger force than it has in search of piratical rovers. It will continue to give this subject its attention, and hopes, as the avenues to the insurrectionary region are becoming closed and the navy is enlarging, to be able to have a larger force to pursue the pirates and secure the safety of our commerce abroad.

Very respectfully, GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy.

To RICHARD LATHERS, Esq., and others.

Doc. 12.

GENERAL HALLECK'S REPORT

OF OPERATIONS IN 1863.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., November 15, 1863. }

SIR: In compliance with your orders, I submit the following summary of military operations since my last annual report:

DEPARTMENT OF WEST-VIRGINIA AND ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

When General Burnside relieved General McClellan from his command on the seventh of November of last year, the army of the Potomac was on the south side of the Potomac, under instructions to pursue Lee by a flank march on the interior line to Richmond, hugging closely to the Blue Ridge, so as to observe its passes and to give battle to the enemy whenever an opportunity occurred.

On reaching Warrenton, however, General Burnside proposed to give up this pursuit of Lee's army toward Richmond, and to move down the north side of the Rappahannock to Falmouth, and establish a new base of supplies at Acquia Creek or Belle Plain. This proposed change of base was not approved by me, and in a personal interview at Warrenton I strongly urged him to retain his present base, and to continue his march toward Richmond in a manner pointed out in the President's letter of October thirteenth, 1862, to General McClellan.

General Burnside did not fully concur in the President's view, but finally consented to so modify his plan as to cross his army by the fords of the upper Rappahannock, and then move down and seize the heights south of Fredericksburgh, while a small force was to be sent north of the river to enable General Haupt to reopen the railroad and to rebuild the bridges, the materials for which were nearly ready in Alexandria. I, however, refused to give any official approval of this deviation from the President's instructions until his assent was obtained. On my return to Washington, on the thirteenth, I submitted to him this proposed change in the plan of campaign, and, on its receiving his assent rather than approval, I telegraphed, on the fourteenth, authority to General Burnside to adopt it. I here refer not to General Burnside's written plan to go to Falmouth, but to that of crossing the Rappahannock above its junction with the Rapidan.

It has been inferred, from the testimony of General Burnside before the Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War, that his plan of marching his whole army on the north of the Rappahannock from Warrenton to Falmouth, had been approved by the authorities in Washington, and that he expected, on his arrival there, to find supplies and pontoons, with gunboats to cover his crossing. In the first place, that plan was never approved, nor was he ever authorized to adopt it. In the second place, he could not possibly have expected supplies and pontoons to be landed at points then occupied in force by the

enemy. Again, he was repeatedly informed that gunboats could not at that time ascend the Rappahannock to Fredericksburgh.

General Burnside did not commence his movement from Warrenton till the fifteenth, and then, instead of crossing the Rappahannock by the fords, as he was expected to do, he marched his whole army down on the north bank of the river, his advance reaching Falmouth on the twentieth. Lee's army, in the mean time, moved down the south side of the river, but had not occupied Fredericksburgh on the twenty-first. The river was at this time fordable a few miles above the town, and General Sumner asked permission to cross and occupy the heights, but it was refused, and no attempt was made to effect the passage till the eleventh of December, by which time Lee's army had been concentrated and strongly entrenched. This passage, however, was effected without serious opposition, with the right wing and centre, under Sumner and Hooker, at Fredericksburgh, and the left wing, under Franklin, on the bridges established some miles below. It was intended that Franklin's grand division, consisting of the corps of Reynolds and Smith, should attack the enemy's right, and turn his position on the heights in the rear of Fredericksburgh, while Sumner and Hooker attacked him in front. But by some alleged misunderstanding of orders, Franklin's operations were limited to a mere reconnaissance, and the direct attacks of Sumner and Hooker were unsupported. The contest on the right wing, during the thirteenth, was continued till half-past five P.M., when our men were forced to fall back, after suffering terrible losses.

Both armies remained in position till the night of the sixteenth of October, when General Burnside withdrew his forces to the north side of the Rappahannock. General Burnside has been frequently requested to make an official report of these operations, but has furnished no information beyond that contained in his brief telegrams, sent from the battle-field, in one of which he uses the following language: "The fact that I decided to move from Warrenton to this line, rather against the opinion of the President, the Secretary of War, and yourself, and that you have left the whole movement in my hands, without giving me orders, makes me the more responsible."

The loss of the rebels in this battle is not known. As they were sheltered by their fortifications, it was probably less than ours, which, as officially reported, was one thousand one hundred and thirty-eight killed, nine hundred and fifteen wounded, and two thousand six hundred and seventy-eight missing. Most of the missing and many of the slightly wounded soon rejoined the regiments and reported for duty.

It was alleged at the time that the loss of this battle resulted from the neglect to order forward the pontoon train from Washington. This order was transmitted from Warrenton to Brigadier-General Woodbury, then in Washington, on the twelfth of November, and was promptly acted on

by him. General Burnside had supposed that the pontoon train was then in Washington or Alexandria, while it was still on the Potomac, at Berlin and Harper's Ferry, General Burnside's order to send it to Washington not having been received by the officer left in charge there. General Burnside had only allowed time for transporting pontoons from Alexandria, when they had to be first transported to that place from Berlin. Delay was therefore entirely unavoidable, and, on investigation of the matter by General Burnside, General Woodbury was exonerated from all blame.

General Hooker relieved General Burnside from his command on the twenty-fifth of January, but no advance movement was attempted till near the end of April, when a large cavalry force, under General Stoneman, was sent across the upper Rappahannock, toward Richmond, to destroy the enemy's communications, while General Hooker, with his main army, crossed the Rappahannock and the Rapidan above their junction, and took position at Chancellorsville, at the same time General Sedgwick crossed near Fredericksburgh, and stormed and carried the heights.

A severe battle took place on the second and third of May, and on the fifth our army was again withdrawn to the north side of the river. For want of official data, I am unable to give any detailed accounts of these operations or of our losses.

It is also proper to remark in this place, that from the time he was placed in the command of the army of the Potomac till he reached Fairfax Station, on the sixteenth of June, a few days before he was relieved from the command, General Hooker reported directly to the President, and received instructions directly from him.

I received no official information of his plans or of their execution.

In the early part of June, Lee's army moved up the south bank of the Rappahannock, occupied the gaps of the Blue Ridge, and threatened the valley of the Shenandoah. General Hooker followed on at interior lines, by Warrenton Junction, Thoroughfare Gap, and Leesburgh. But the operations of both armies were so masked by the intervening mountains, that neither could obtain positive information of the force and movements of the other. Winchester and Martinsburgh were at this time occupied by us simply as outposts. Neither place was susceptible of a good defence. Directions were therefore given, on the eleventh June, to withdraw their garrisons to Harper's Ferry, but these orders were not obeyed, and on the thirteenth Winchester was attacked, and its armament and a part of the garrison captured. Lee now crossed the Potomac near Williamsport, and directed his march upon Harrisburgh. General Hooker followed on his right flank, covering Washington and Baltimore. On reaching Frederick, Md., on the twenty-eighth June, he was, at his own request, relieved from the command, and Major-General Meade appointed in his place. During these movements, cavalry skirmishes took place at

Beverly Ford, Brandy Station, Berryville, and Aldie, some of which were quite severe, but, in the absence of detailed reports, I am unable to give the losses on either side.

When General Meade, under orders of the President, took command of the army of the Potomac, on the twenty-eighth of June, it was mainly concentrated at Frederick, Maryland. Lee's army was supposed to be advancing against Harrisburgh, which was garrisoned by raw militia, upon which little or no reliance could be placed. Ewell's corps was on the west side of the Susquehanna, between that place and Columbia. Longstreet's corps was near Chambersburgh, and Hill's corps between that place and Cashtown.

Stuart's cavalry was making a raid between Washington and Frederick, cutting Meade's line of supplies and capturing his trains.

Our force at Harper's Ferry at this time was supposed to be about eleven thousand. It was incorrectly represented to General Meade to be destitute of provisions, and that he must immediately supply it, or order the abandonment of the place. Accordingly, a few hours after he assumed the command, he assented to an order drawn up by an officer of General Hooker's staff, directing General French to send seven thousand men of the garrison to Frederick, and with the remainder (estimated at four thousand) to remove and escort the public property to Washington. This order, based on erroneous representations, was not known in Washington till too late to be countermanded. It, however, was not entirely executed when General Meade very judiciously directed the reoccupation of that important point.

On the twenty-ninth, General Meade's army was put in motion, and at night was in position, its left at Emmittsburgh, and right at New-Windsor. The advance of Buford's cavalry was at Gettysburgh, and Kilpatrick's division at Hanover, where it encountered Stuart's cavalry, which had passed around the rear and right of our army without meeting any serious opposition.

On the thirtieth, the First, Third, and Eleventh corps were concentrated at Emmittsburgh, under General Reynolds, while the right wing moved up to Manchester. Buford reported the enemy in force on the Cashtown road near Gettysburgh, and Reynolds moved up to that place on the first of July. He found our cavalry warmly engaged with the enemy, and holding them in check on the Cashtown road. Reynolds immediately deployed the advance division of the First corps, and ordered the Eleventh corps to advance promptly to its support. Wadsworth's division had driven back the enemy some distance, and captured a large number of prisoners, when General Reynolds fell mortally wounded. The arrival of Ewell's corps, about this time, by the York and Harrisburgh roads, compelled General Howard, upon whom the command devolved, to withdraw his force, the First and Eleventh corps, to the Cemetery ridge, on the south side of Gettysburgh. About seven P.M., Generals Sickles and Slocum

arrived on the field with the Third and Twelfth corps, which took position, one on the left and the other on the right of the new line. The battle for the day, however, was over.

General Meade arrived on the field during the night with the reserves, and posted his troops in line of battle, the First corps on the right, the Eleventh corps next, then the Twelfth corps, which crossed the Baltimore pike; the Second and Third corps on the Cemetery ridge. On the left of the Eleventh corps the Fifth corps, pending the arrival of the Sixth, formed the reserve. On the arrival of the latter, about two o'clock P.M., it took the place of the Fifth, which was ordered to take position on the extreme left. The enemy massed his troops on an exterior ridge, about a mile and a half in front of that occupied by us. General Sickles, misinterpreting his orders, instead of placing the Third corps on the prolongation of the Second, had moved it nearly three fourths of a mile in advance, an error which nearly proved fatal in the battle. The enemy attacked this corps on the second with great fury, and it was likely to be utterly annihilated, when the Fifth corps moved up on the left, and enabled it to re-form behind the line it was originally ordered to hold. The Sixth corps, and part of the First, were also opportunely thrown into this gap, and succeeded in checking the enemy's advance about sunset. The rebels retired in confusion and disorder.

About eight P.M., an assault was made from the left of the town, which was gallantly repelled by the First, Second, and Eleventh corps. On the morning of the first, we regained, after a spirited contest, a part of our line on the right, which had been yielded to sustain other points. On the second, about one P.M., the enemy opened an artillery fire of one hundred and twenty-five guns on our centre and left. This was followed by an assault of a heavy infantry column on our left and left centre. This was successfully repulsed with terrible loss to the enemy. This terminated the battle, and the rebels retired defeated from the field. The opposing forces in this sanguinary contest were nearly equal in numbers, and both fought with the most desperate courage. The commanders were also brave, skilful, and experienced, and both handled their troops on the field with distinguished ability; but to General Meade belongs the honor of a well-earned victory, in one of the greatest and best-fought battles of the war.

On the morning of the fourth, the enemy apparently occupied a new line in front of our left, but in reality, his army had commenced to retreat, carrying off a part of his wounded. His lines, however, were not entirely evacuated till the morning of the fifth, when the cavalry and Sixth corps were sent in pursuit. The days of the fifth and sixth were employed by General Meade in succoring the wounded and burying the dead left on the battle-field. He then started in pursuit of Lee by a flank movement upon Middletown.

In the mean time General French had reoccu-

pied Harper's Ferry, destroyed the enemy's pontoon train at Williamsport and Falling Waters, and captured its guards. Halting a day at Middletown, General Meade crossed the South-Mountain, and on the twelfth found the enemy occupying a strong position on the heights of Marsh Run, in front of Williamsport. Instead of attacking Lee in this position, with the swollen waters of the Potomac in his rear, without any means of crossing his artillery, and where a defeat must have caused the surrender of his entire army, he was allowed to construct a pontoon bridge with lumber collected from canal-boats and the ruins of wooden houses, and on the morning of the fourteenth his army had crossed to the south side of the river. His rear-guard, however, was attacked by our cavalry and suffered considerable loss. Thus ended the rebel campaign north of the Potomac, from which important political and military results had been expected. Our own loss in this short campaign had been very severe, namely, two thousand eight hundred and thirty-four killed, thirteen thousand seven hundred and two wounded, and six thousand six hundred and forty-three missing—in all, twenty-three thousand one hundred and eighty-six. We captured three guns, forty-one standards, thirteen thousand six hundred and twenty-one prisoners, and twenty-eight thousand one hundred and seventy-nine small arms. The entire loss of the enemy is not known, but judging from the numbers of his dead and wounded left on the field, it must have been much greater than ours.

After crossing the Potomac, Lee continued his retreat up the valley of the Shenandoah, and through the gaps of the Blue Ridge, till he reached the south bank of the Rapidan, near Orange Court-House, where he took up a defensive position to dispute the crossing of the river. General Meade continued his flank pursuit by Harper's Ferry, Berlin, and Warrenton, till he reached Culpeper Court-House, where he halted his army, not deeming it prudent to cross the river and attack the enemy, who was now intrenched on the south bank, which completely commanded the approaches on the north side. During this advance, several cavalry skirmishes took place, but without serious loss on either side.

A considerable part of Lee's army was now withdrawn, to reinforce Bragg in the West; but with his diminished numbers he assumed a threatening attitude against General Meade, manoeuvred to turn his flank, and forced him to fall back to the line of Bull Run. Having destroyed the Orange and Alexandria Railroad from the Rapidan to Manassas, the rebels again fell back to their former position near Orange Court-House. During these operations there were several severe engagements between detached forces—but no general battle: October tenth and eleventh, at Robertson's River; twelfth, at Brandy Station; fourteenth, at Bristoe Station; nineteenth, at Buckland Mills; twenty-fourth, at Bealton and the Rappahannock Bridge; and on the seventh of November, on the south bank of that river. Our

loss at Bristoe Station was fifty-one killed and three hundred and twenty-nine wounded. We captured five cannon, two colors, and four hundred and fifty prisoners. In the several skirmishes between the ninth and twenty-third of October, the casualties in our cavalry corps were seventy-four killed, three hundred and sixteen wounded, and eight hundred and eighty-five missing. The enemy's loss is not known, but must have been heavy, as we captured many prisoners. Troops sent out from Harper's Ferry, forced him to immediately retreat.

On the seventh of November, Generals Sedgwick and French attacked the enemy at Rappahannock Station and Kelly's Ford, capturing several redoubts, four guns, and eight battle-flags, and about two thousand prisoners. Our loss in killed and wounded was three hundred and seventy. The enemy now retreated to his old position, south of the Rapidan.

The operations of our troops in West-Virginia are referred to here as being intimately connected with those of the army of the Potomac; the force being too small to attempt any important campaign by itself, has acted mostly upon the defensive, in repelling raids and in breaking up guerrilla bands. When Lee's army retreated across the Potomac, in July last, Brigadier-General Kelly concentrated all his available force on the enemy's flank, near Clear Springs, ready to cooperate in the proposed attack by General Meade; they also rendered valuable services in the pursuit after Lee had effected his passage of the river. On the twenty-fourth of July, Colonel Toland attacked the enemy at Wytheville, on the Eastern and Virginia Railroad, capturing two pieces of artillery, seven hundred muskets, and one hundred and twenty-five prisoners. Our loss was seventeen killed and sixty-one wounded; the enemy's killed and wounded reported to be seventy-five.

In August, General Averill attacked a rebel force under General Sam Jones, at Rocky Gap, in Green Brier County, capturing one gun, one hundred and fifty prisoners, and killing and wounding some two hundred. Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing, was one hundred and thirty. On the eleventh of September, Imboden attacked a small force of our troops at Morefield, wounding fifteen and capturing about one hundred and fifty. On the fifth of November, General Averill attacked and defeated the enemy near Lewisburgh, capturing three pieces, over one hundred prisoners, and a large number of small arms, wagons, and camp equipage. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded estimated at three hundred.

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH-CAROLINA.

Our force in North-Carolina, during the past year, has been too small for any important operations against the enemy, and, consequently, has acted mostly on the defensive, holding the important positions previously captured from the rebels. Nevertheless, General Foster has given much annoyance to the enemy, and taken every

favorable opportunity to threaten and cut his lines. In December last, he marched against Kinston, and on the fourteenth defeated the enemy and captured the place. He then moved up the south side of the Neuse River to Goldsboro, burned the railroad bridge at that place, and tore up much of the railroad between the river and Mount Olive.

He captured four hundred and ninety-six prisoners and nine pieces of artillery. His loss was ninety killed, four hundred and seventy-eight wounded, and nine missing. In March, the rebel General Pettigrew, with a large force of infantry and artillery, made a demonstration on Newbern, but was forced to abandon the attempt on that place. General Foster's loss was only two killed and four wounded. In April, General Hill laid siege to Washington, on Tar River. The place had only a small garrison, and was but slightly fortified. General Foster, however, immediately directed all his energies to strengthen the works so as to resist any assault till reinforcements arrived from Newbern, to raise the siege there. No report of the losses on either side.

An expedition sent against a rebel camp at Gum Swamp, in May, which captured one hundred and sixty-five prisoners and military stores, and another, in July, against Rocky Mount, on Tar River, which destroyed the bridge at that place and a large amount of rebel property, terminate the military operations in that State to the present time.

On being compelled to abandon his attempt upon Washington, the rebel General Hill marched toward Nansemond to reinforce Longstreet, who was investing Suffolk. Failing in his direct assaults upon this place, the enemy proceeded to establish batteries for its reduction. General Peck made every preparation for defence of which the place was capable, and started the construction of his works, till finally, the attempt was abandoned. Our loss in these operations was forty-four killed, two hundred and two wounded, and fourteen missing. We captured four hundred prisoners and five guns during the siege.

As Suffolk possessed no advantages as a military post, and was not susceptible of a good defence, the garrison was afterwards withdrawn within the new lines constructed around Norfolk. When the rebel army was moving North, upon Maryland and Pennsylvania, General Dix sent all of his available force from Norfolk and Fortress Monroe up the York River, for the purpose of cutting off Lee's communications with Richmond and of attacking that place, which was then defended by only a handful of militia. The expedition, however, failed to accomplish a single object for which it had been fitted out.

The failure resulting, as it was alleged, from the inefficiency of one of the generals commanding, General Dix, therefore, ordered its return, and sent the troops of which it was composed to reinforce the army of General Meade, north of the Potomac. On the fifth of October, Brigadier-General Wistar was sent with a small force, aided by gunboats, to Matthew County, Virginia, to break

up a rebel party known as the Confederate Volunteer Coast-Guard, who were engaged in smuggling goods across the Chesapeake from Maryland and the Eastern Shore. Most of these coast-guards were absent at the time, but the expedition resulted in capturing one hundred and fifty boats and schooners, and eighty head of beef cattle.

The navy has given efficient aid in all the operations in this department.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

The withdrawal, last year, of most of our troops in South-Carolina, to reinforce General McClellan on the Peninsula, compelled the Commanding General of that department to confine himself mainly to the defence of the points which he then occupied. An attack upon Fort Sumter and Charleston had long been in contemplation by the Navy Department, and in March last it was represented that the operations of the iron-clads and monitors would be greatly facilitated by a land force prepared to assist the attack, and to occupy any work reduced by the navy. Accordingly General Foster, with a considerable force and a large siege equipage, which had been prepared for another purpose, was sent to assist in this naval attack.

It was thought that his talents and experience as an engineer officer, and his personal knowledge of the localities and defensive works of Charleston harbor, rendered him peculiarly suited for this duty; but not proving acceptable to the Commanding General of the department, he was permitted to return to his command in the Carolina, leaving his troops and siege preparations in the Department of the South. The naval attack on Fort Sumter took place on the seventh of April; but being unsuccessful, nothing, apparently, remained to be done by the land forces. A siege of Charleston and its defences by land had never been attempted, and, therefore, was no part of the plan.

It was now represented by the Navy Department that a second attack upon Fort Sumter and Charleston was preparing, and that its success required the military occupation of Morris Island, and the establishment of land batteries on that island, to assist in the reduction of Fort Sumter.

The establishment of these batteries and the reduction of the enemy's works, Fort Wagner and Battery Gregg, being a matter of engineering skill, Brigadier-General (now Major-General) Q. A. Gillmore was selected to command the land forces engaged in these operations. In addition to being an educated and skilful military engineer, he had considerable experience in the special duties required in these operations. General Gillmore, despite the enemy's defensive works, landed his force on Morris Island on the tenth of July, and immediately commenced the slow and difficult operations of conducting the siege of Fort Wagner, and establishing batteries against Fort Sumpter.

Without, however, waiting for the reduction

of the former, he opened, on the seventeenth of August, his fire on the latter, and, on the twenty-third, after seven days' bombardment, Fort Sumter was reported a shapeless and harmless mass of ruins. Being under the fire of other forts of the enemy, and inaccessible by land, our troops could not occupy it, and a few guns have since been temporarily remounted, but they have been as often silenced. General Gillmore now vigorously pushed forward his sappers against Fort Wagner, and on the morning of the seventh of September, took possession of that place, and also of Battery Gregg, most of the garrison having made their escape in boats during the night.

He captured in all thirty-six pieces of artillery and a large amount of ammunition. General Gillmore's operations have been characterized by great professional skill and boldness. He has overcome difficulties almost unknown in modern sieges. Indeed, his operations on Morris Island constitute almost a new era in the science of engineering and gunnery. Since the capture of Forts Wagner and Gregg, he has enlarged the works, and established powerful batteries, which effectually command Fort Sumter, and can render efficient aid to any naval attack upon Charleston. They also control the entrance to the harbor.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Major-General Banks took command of the Department of the Gulf on the seventeenth of December. Almost immediately on assuming command, he ordered a detachment of troops to Galveston, Texas, to occupy that place under the protection of our gunboats. Colonel Burrill, with three companies of the Forty-second Massachusetts volunteers, the advance of the expedition, arrived at that place on the evening of the twenty-fourth December. On consultation with the commander of the blockading force, he landed his men upon the wharf, and took possession of the city on the first of January.

Before the arrival of the remainder of our forces, the rebels made an attack by land, with artillery and infantry, and by water with three powerful rams. Colonel Burrill's command of two hundred and sixty men were nearly all killed and taken prisoners. The Harriet Lane was captured, and the flag-ship Westfield was blown up by her commander to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy. The rebels also captured the coal-transport and a schooner. The commanders of the Harriet Lane and Westfield, and a number of other naval officers and men, were killed.

The remainder of the expedition did not leave New-Orleans till December thirty-first, and arrived off Galveston on the second of January, the day after our forces there had been captured or destroyed by the enemy. Fortunately they did not attempt to land, and returned to New-Orleans in safety. It is proper to remark that this expedition was not contemplated or provided for in General Banks's instructions.

On the eleventh of January, General Weitzel,

with a force of infantry and artillery, aided by the gunboats under Lieutenant Commanding Buchanan, crossed Berwick Bay, and attacked the rebel gunboat Cotton, in the Bayou Teche. This gunboat, being disabled by the fire of our naval and land forces, was burned by the rebels.

The loss of General Weitzel's command in this expedition was six killed and twenty-seven wounded. A number were killed and wounded on our gunboats, and among the former, Lieutenant Commanding Buchanan.

On learning of the capture of the Queen of the West by the rebels, above Port Hudson, and their movements in Red River and the Teche, Admiral Farragut determined to run past the enemy's batteries, while the land forces at Baton Rouge made a demonstration on the land side of Port Hudson. The demonstration was made, and, on March fourteenth, Admiral Farragut succeeded in passing the batteries with the Hartford and Albatross. The Monongahela and Richmond fell back, and the Mississippi grounded, and was blown up by her commander.

Had our land forces invested Port Hudson at this time, it could have been easily reduced, for its garrison was weak. This would have opened communication, by the Mississippi River, with General Grant at Vicksburgh. But the strength of the place was not then known, and General Banks resumed his operations by the Teche and Atchafalaya. In the latter part of March, Colonel Clarke was sent with a small force up the Pontchatoula, and destroyed the railroad bridge at that place. He captured a rebel officer and four privates, and three schooners loaded with cotton. His loss was six wounded.

At the same time General Dickerson was sent to the Amite River to destroy the Jackson Railroad. He proceeded as far as Camp Moore, captured forty-three prisoners, a considerable amount of cotton, and destroyed valuable rebel manufacturing. In his operations up the Teche and Atchafalaya, General Banks encountered the enemy, under Sibley, Taylor, and Mouton, at several points, and defeated them in every engagement. Butte La Rose was captured, with a garrison and two heavy guns. By the gunboats, under Lieutenant Commanding T. Cooke, of the navy, General Banks reached Alexandria on the eighth of May, the enemy retreating toward Shreveport and into Texas.

In this expedition General Banks reports the capture of two thousand prisoners, twenty-two pieces of artillery, two transports, and a large amount of public property. We destroyed three gunboats and eight transports. Our own loss, in the different engagements with the enemy, was very slight—numbers not given.

General Banks now returned to the Mississippi River, and crossed his army to Bayou Sara, where he formed a junction, on the twenty-third of May, with General Augur's forces from Baton Rouge. The latter had an engagement with the enemy at Port Hudson Plains on the twenty-

third, in which he lost nineteen killed and eighty wounded.

Port Hudson was immediately invested. While awaiting the slow operations of a siege, General Banks made two unsuccessful assaults upon the place; finally, on the eighth of July, the place unconditionally surrendered. We captured six thousand two hundred and thirty-three prisoners, fifty-one pieces of artillery, two steamers, four thousand four hundred pounds of cannon powder, five thousand small-arms, one hundred and fifty thousand rounds of ammunition, etc.

In order to facilitate General Grant's operations, by destroying the enemy's line of communication, and to prevent the early concentration of any reinforcements, Colonel (now Brigadier-General) Grierson was sent with a cavalry force from La Grange on the seventeenth of April, to traverse the interior of the State of Mississippi. This expedition was most successfully conducted. It destroyed many of the enemy's railroad bridges, dépôts, and much of the rolling-stock, and reached Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in safety on the second of May.

On returning to Vicksburgh, General Grant found his forces insufficient to entirely invest the enemy's works. There was, therefore, danger that the two bodies of the enemy, under the command of Generals Pemberton and Johnston, might yet effect a junction, as it was known that the latter was being largely reinforced from Bragg's army in Middle and East-Tennessee. Under these circumstances, General Grant determined to attempt to carry the place by assault. Two unsuccessful attacks were made on the nineteenth and twenty-second of May; but as reinforcements reached him a few days after, sufficiently large to enable him to completely invest the rebel defences, he resorted to the slower but more effective way of a regular siege. By the third of July his sappers were so far advanced as to render his success certain, and on that day General Pemberton proposed an armistice and capitulation, which were finally accepted, and Vicksburgh surrendered on the fourth of July.

In the language of General Grant's official report, the results of this short campaign were: The defeat of the enemy in five battles outside of Vicksburgh; the occupation of Jackson, the capital of the State of Mississippi, and the capture of Vicksburgh and its garrison, and munitions of war; a loss to the enemy of thirty-seven thousand prisoners, among whom were fifteen general officers, at least ten thousand killed and wounded, and among the killed Generals Tracy, Tilghman, and Green, and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of stragglers, who can never be collected and organized; arms and munitions of war for an army of sixty thousand men have fallen into our hands, beside a large amount of other public property, consisting of railroads, locomotives, cars, steamboats, cotton, etc., and much was destroyed to prevent our capturing it.

Our losses in the series of battles may be summed up as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Port Gibson.....	180	718	5
Fourteen Mile Creek skirmish..	4	24	..
Raymond.....	60	841	83
Jackson.....	40	240	6
Champion's Hill.....	426	1543	159
Big Black Railroad Bridge....	29	243	3
Vicksburgh.....	545	3683	308

Of the wounded, many were but slightly wounded, and continued on duty; many more required but a few days or weeks for their recovery, and not more than one half of the wounded were permanently disabled.

When we consider the character of the country in which this army operated, the formidable obstacles to be overcome, the number of the enemy's force, and the strength of his works, we cannot but admire the courage and endurance of the troops, and the skill and daring of the commander. No more brilliant exploit can be found in military history. It has been alleged, and the allegation has been widely circulated by the press, that General Grant, in the conduct of his campaign, positively disobeyed the instructions of his superiors. It is hardly necessary to remark that General Grant never disobeyed an order or instruction, but always carried out, to the best of his ability, every wish or suggestion made to him by the Government.

Moreover, he has never complained that the Government did not furnish him all the means and assistance in its power to facilitate the execution of any plan which he saw fit to adopt. While the main army of Tennessee was operating against Vicksburgh, the enemy's forces on the west side of the river made successful attacks on Milliken's Bend and Lake Providence, on the sixth and tenth of June. Our loss in the former was one hundred and one killed, two hundred and eighty-five wounded, and two hundred and sixty-six missing. Loss in the latter not reported. It is represented that the colored troops in these engagements fought with great bravery, and that the rebels treated this class of prisoners of war as well as their officers with great barbarity.

It has not been possible, however, to ascertain the correctness of the representations in regard to the treatment of these prisoners. After the capture of Vicksburgh, General Grant reported that his troops were so much fatigued and worn out, with forced marches and the labors of the siege, as absolutely to require several weeks of repose before undertaking another campaign. Nevertheless, as the exigencies of the service seemed to require it, he sent out those who were least fatigued on several important expeditions, while the others remained at Vicksburgh, to put that place in a better defensible condition for a small garrison.

As soon as Vicksburgh was captured, General Sherman was sent in pursuit of Johnston's forces. The latter retreated to Jackson, Mississippi, which place was taken by us on the sixteenth of July. Our loss was about one thousand in killed, wounded, and missing. General Sherman captured seven hundred and sixty-four prisoners,

two rifled guns, a large amount of ammunition, and destroyed the railroad, rolling stock, etc. The enemy retreated toward the Alabama line, and General Sherman returned to Vicksburgh to recuperate his forces.

Our loss from the twenty-third to the thirtieth of May, including the assault of the twenty-seventh, as reported, was about one thousand. Being reinforced from General Grant's army on the termination of the Mississippi campaign, General Banks sent an expedition, under General Franklin, to occupy the mouth of the Sabine River, in Texas. It reached the entrance to the harbor on the eighth of September, and the gunboats engaged the enemy's batteries, but two of them, the Clifton and Sachem, being disabled, were forced to surrender, the others retreated, and the whole expedition returned to Brashear City.

The officers and crews of the gunboats, and about ninety sharpshooters, who were on board, were captured, and our loss in killed and wounded was about thirty. After a long delay at Brashear City, the army moved forward by Franklin and Vermillionville, and at last accounts occupied Opelousas.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE.

At the date of my last annual report General Grant occupied West-Tennessee and the northern boundary of Mississippi. The object of the campaign of this army was the opening of the Mississippi River, in conjunction with the army of General Banks.

General Grant was instructed to drive the enemy in the interior as far south as possible, and destroy their railroad communication; then fall back to Memphis, and embark his available forces on transports, and, with the assistance of the fleet of Admiral Porter, reduce Vicksburgh. The first part of this plan was most successfully executed; but the right wing of the army, sent against Vicksburgh, under General Sherman, found that place much stronger than was expected. Two attacks were made, on the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth of December, but failing in their object, our troops were withdrawn, and, while waiting reinforcements from General Grant, moved up the Arkansas River to Arkansas Post, which place was, with the assistance of the gunboats, captured on the eleventh of January.

Our loss at Vicksburgh was one hundred and ninety-one killed, nine hundred and eighty-two wounded, and seven hundred and fifty-six missing; at Arkansas Post, one hundred and twenty-nine killed, five hundred and thirty-one wounded, and seventeen missing. We captured at the latter place five thousand prisoners, seventeen pieces of cannon, three thousand small arms, forty-six thousand rounds of ammunition, and five hundred and sixty-three animals.

General Grant now assumed the immediate command of the army on the Mississippi, which was largely reinforced. Being satisfied by the result of General Sherman's operations that the north line of works was too strong to be carried without heavy loss, he directed his attention to

opening the canal, which had been commenced the year before by General Williams, across the peninsula, on the west bank of the river.

This canal had been improperly located, its upper terminus being in an eddy, and the lower terminus being exposed to the enemy's guns. Nevertheless, it was thought that it could be completed sooner than a new one could be constructed. While working parties under Captain Prime, Chief Engineer of that army, were diligently employed on this canal, General Grant directed his attention to several other projects for turning the enemy's position.

These are fully described in his official report. The canal proving impracticable, his other plans being unsuccessful, he determined to move this army by land down the west bank, some seventy miles, while transports for crossing should run past the enemy's batteries at Vicksburgh, the danger of running the batteries being very great and the roads on the west side in horrible condition. This was a difficult and hazardous expedient, but it seemed to be the only possible solution of the problem.

The execution of the plan, however, was greatly facilitated by Admiral Farragut, who had run two of his vessels past the enemy's batteries at Port Hudson and Grand Gulf, and cleared the river of the enemy's boats below Vicksburgh; and, finally, through the indomitable energy of the Commanding General, and the admirable dispositions of Admiral Porter for running the enemy's batteries, the operations were completely successful. The army crossed the river at Bruinsburgh. April thirtieth, turned Grand Gulf, and engaged the enemy near Port Gibson on the first, and at Fourteen Mile Creek on the third of May. The enemy was defeated in both engagements, with heavy loss.

General Grant now moved his forces, by rapid marches, to the north, in order to separate the garrison of Vicksburgh from the covering arm of Johnston. This movement was followed by the battles of Raymond, May twelfth; of Jackson, May fourteenth; of Champion Hills, May sixteenth; and Big Black River Bridge, May twenty-seventh; in all of which our troops were victorious. General Grant now proceeded to invest Vicksburgh.

A military and naval force was sent to Yazoo City on the thirteenth. It took three hundred prisoners, captured one steamer, burned five, took six cannon, two hundred and fifty small arms, and eight hundred horses and mules. No loss on our side reported. Small expeditions were also sent against Canton, Pontotoc, Grenada, and Natchez, Mississippi. At Grenada a large amount of rolling stock was destroyed. Near Natchez, General Ransom captured five thousand head of Texas cattle, a number of prisoners and teams, and a large amount of ammunition. The other expeditions were also successful, meeting with very little opposition. As soon as his army was supplied and rested, General Grant sent a force under General Steele to Helena to cooperate with General Schofield's

troops against Little Rock, and another under Generals Ord and Herron to New-Orleans, to reinforce General Banks for such ulterior operations as he might deem proper to undertake. Some expeditions were also sent to the Red River, and to Harrisonburgh and Monroe, on the Washita, to break up and destroy guerrilla bands. After General Grant left Vicksburgh to assume the general command east of the Mississippi, General McPherson moved with a part of his force to Canton, Mississippi, scattering the enemy's cavalry, and destroying his materials and roads in the centre of that State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI

The withdrawal to Missouri of a large part of our forces in Arkansas, as was stated in my last annual report, left the frontier of the former exposed to raids, of which the rebels were prompt to take advantage. Marmaduke, with the advance of Hindman's rebel army, moved forward with the purpose of entering the south-west of Missouri. Before the enemy could concentrate his forces for battle, Brigadier-General Blunt, by forced marches, encountered him at Cave Hill.

In the Boston Mountains a running fight took place on the eighteenth of November, 1862, in which the enemy was defeated with a heavy loss. Our loss was four killed and thirty-six wounded. Four days after the combat of Cave Hill, from reliable information it was ascertained that Hindman's army had crossed the Arkansas River and formed a junction with Marmaduke at Lee's Creek, fifteen miles north of Van Buren, to which point the latter had retreated after the action of the twenty-eighth of November. The united rebel force was believed to be very much greater than our own, two divisions of which were more than one hundred miles in the rear. Immediately upon learning General Blunt's danger from an overwhelming attack of the enemy, General Herron, by forced marches of one hundred and ten miles in three days, arrived at Fayetteville, Arkansas, early on the morning of the seventh December, and soon after encountered the enemy in force at Prairie Grove, while attempting a flank movement to get between Blunt and the approaching succor, to crush them both in succession. This skillfully devised project was fortunately frustrated by the valor and endurance of Herron's division, which stoutly held their ground till about two o'clock in the afternoon.

When Blunt's forces arrived upon the field, the engagement became general along the entire line, and continued to be fiercely contested until dark. During the night the enemy retreated across the Boston Mountains. Although the enemy suffered much more severely than ourselves, we purchased victory with the loss of one hundred and sixty-seven killed, seven hundred and thirty-eight wounded, and one hundred and eighty-three missing, making a total loss of one thousand one hundred and forty-eight, of which nine hundred and fifty-three were of Herron's division. Early in January, 1863, a rebel force, estimated at from four thousand to six

thousand, under Marmaduke, moved upon Lawrence Mills, and proceeded by way of Ozark to the attack of Springfield, Missouri, to which place our small force, consisting chiefly of militia, convalescents, and citizens, was compelled to fall back. This miscellaneous garrison, a motley mass of only about one thousand men, obstinately defended the place most of the day of the eighth of January, with the loss of fourteen killed, one hundred and forty-five wounded, and five missing—in all one hundred and sixty-four.

Under cover of the night the enemy withdrew, and our force was too feeble to make a vigorous pursuit. Another skirmish took place at Harts-ville, on the eleventh, in which our loss was seven killed and sixty-four wounded. We captured twenty-seven prisoners. The season was now so far advanced, and the roads so impassable, that further operations could not be carried on by either party. On the fifteenth of July, Major-General Blunt crossed Arkansas River, near Honey Springs, Indian Territory, and on the sixteenth attacked a superior force of rebels, under General Cooper, which he completely routed, the enemy leaving their killed and wounded on the field. Our loss was seventeen killed and sixty wounded, while that of the enemy was a hundred and fifty killed, (buried by our men,) four hundred wounded, and seventy-seven prisoners taken, besides one piece of artillery, two hundred stand of arms, and fifteen wagons. After several skirmishes with the enemy, General Blunt descended Arkansas River, and on the first of September occupied Fort Smith, Arkansas. The main body of our troops in the Department of the Missouri had, in the early part of the season, been sent to reinforce General Grant before Vicksburgh.

Taking advantage of this reduction of force, the enemy moved against Helena and attacked that place on the fourth of July. After a severe engagement he was defeated by Major-General Prentiss, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, and one thousand one hundred prisoners. Our loss, in killed, wounded, and missing, was only about two hundred and fifty. As soon as Vicksburgh had capitulated, Major-General Steele was sent with a force to Helena, with instructions to form a junction with Brigadier-General Davidson, who was moving south from Missouri by Crowley's Ridge, and drive the enemy south of Arkansas River. The junction being effected, General Steele established his depot and hospitals at Duvall's Bluff, and on the first of August advanced against the enemy, who fell back toward Little Rock. After several successful skirmishes, he reached Arkansas River, and threw part of his force upon the south side to threaten the enemy's communication with Arkadelphia and take his defences in reverse. The enemy, on seeing this movement, destroyed what property they could, and, after a slight resistance, fled in disorder, pursued by our cavalry, and on the tenth September our troops took possession of the capital of Arkansas.

Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing did

not exceed one hundred. We captured one thousand prisoners, and such public property as the rebels had not time to destroy. After the capture of Little Rock, and while our cavalry were driving the main force of rebels south, the enemy attempted the recapture of Pine Bluff, but was repulsed with heavy loss. On the twenty-eighth of October, our troops occupied Arkadelphia, the enemy retreating to Red River.

A large part of the military force in the Department of the Missouri has been employed during the past year in repelling raids, and in repressing the guerrilla bands of robbers and murderers who have come within our lines, or been organized in the country. Most of these bands are not authorized belligerents under the laws of war, but simply outlaws from civilized society.

It is exceedingly difficult to eradicate these bands, inasmuch as the inhabitants of the country, sometimes from disloyalty, and sometimes from fear, afford them a subsistence and concealment. They usually hide themselves in the woods, and being well mounted, move rapidly from one point to another, supplying themselves by the way with provisions and fresh horses. They rob and murder wherever they go. In a recent raid of one of these bands into Kansas, they burned the city of Lawrence, and murdered every one they could, without regard to age or sex, committing atrocities more inhuman than those of Indian savages. These are the terrible results of a border contest, incited at first for political purposes, and since increasing in animosity by the civil war in which we are engaged, till all sense of humanity seems to have been lost in the desire to avenge with blood real or fancied grievances. This extraordinary condition of affairs on that frontier seems to call for the application of a prompt and severe remedy. It has been proposed to depopulate the frontier counties of Missouri, and to lay waste the country on the border, so as to prevent its furnishing any shelter or subsistence to these bands of murderers.

Such measures are within the recognized laws of war; they were adopted by Wellington in Portugal, and by the Russian armies in the campaign of 1812, but they should be adopted only in case of overrunning necessity. The execution of General Schofield's order on this subject has been suspended, and it is hoped that it will not be necessary hereafter to renew it.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTH-WEST.

As soon as the season was sufficiently advanced for a campaign against the Indians, General Pope sent a column, under Brigadier-General Sibley, up the Mississippi River to near our northern boundary, and thence across the country to the Missouri, and another of cavalry, under Brigadier-General Sully, from Sioux City, up the latter river, to cut off the retreat of the hostile Indians whom General Sibley might drive before him from Minnesota and Eastern Dacotah. Unfortunately, these movements were not well

timed, and no junction was effected. A portion of the savages driven north took refuge within British territory, where our troops were not permitted to follow them. Some fled westward, and were overtaken by General Sibley near Missouri Coteau, where he encountered a force of Minnesota and Dacotah warriors, estimated at from two thousand two hundred to two thousand five hundred.

In the engagements which followed at Big Mound and Dead Buffalo Lake, the Indians were completely routed, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, and in the destruction of their provisions and means of transportation. Our loss was five killed and four wounded. The savages who escaped crossed to the west side of the Mississippi, and General Sibley reached that river about forty miles below Fort Clark, on the twenty-ninth July, having marched the distance, some six hundred miles, from St. Paul.

On the third September, General Sully encountered and defeated, at Whitestone Hall, about one hundred and thirty miles above the Little Cheyenne, a body of Indians, a part of which had previously been engaged against Sibley's column. The savages were defeated with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, and one hundred and fifty-six prisoners. Our loss was twenty killed and thirty-eight wounded. With these operations the present Indian campaign was terminated. Recent hostilities in Idaho may render it necessary to send a military expedition into that territory early in the spring.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC.

This department has been most signally exempt from the evils of civil war, and consequently has enjoyed unexampled prosperity. Some thefts and robberies having been committed by roving bands of Indians on the overland stage route in January last, General Connor marched with a small force to Bear River, Idaho, where, on the twenty-sixth, he overtook and completely defeated them in a severe battle, in which he killed two hundred and twenty-four of the three hundred, and captured one hundred and seventy-five of their horses. His own loss in killed and wounded was sixty-three out of two hundred. Many of his men were severely injured by the frost. Since this severe punishment, the Indians in that quarter have ceased to commit depredations on the whites.

DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO.

In December last, Brigadier-General S. P. Carter made a cavalry raid into Eastern Tennessee and destroyed the Union and Wakuka Railroad bridges, a considerable amount of arms, rolling stock, etc. He returned to Kentucky with the loss of only ten men.

On the thirtieth of March, Brigadier-General Gillmore engaged and defeated a large rebel force under General Pegram, near Somerset, Kentucky. Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing was only thirty; that of the enemy is estimated at five hundred.

In June, the rebels attempted a raid into Harrison County, Indiana, but were driven back with the loss of sixty-three prisoners.

About the same time, Colonel Sanders, with two pieces of artillery, the First Tennessee cavalry, and some detachments from General Carter's command, destroyed the railroad near Knoxville, and the bridges at Slate Creek, Strawberry Plains, and Massy Creek, captured ten pieces of artillery, one thousand stand of arms, and five hundred prisoners. Our loss was one killed and two wounded, and a few stragglers.

About the time of Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania, the rebel General John H. Morgan, with a large guerrilla band, attempted a raid into Indiana and Ohio, intending probably to recross the Ohio into West-Virginia or Pennsylvania, and join Lee's army. His force consisted of six pieces of artillery and some three thousand cavalry. This band of robbers and murderers destroyed much public property, and killed a number of the inhabitants of the country through which they passed, but were finally completely destroyed, nearly every man being killed or taken prisoner.

The detachment of the Ninth army corps, to reinforce General Grant before Vicksburgh, delayed somewhat General Burnside's preparations for an active campaign in East-Tennessee. The necessity, however, of cooperating with the movements of General Rosecrans compelled him to take the field without awaiting the return of this corps. His main column moved on three roads, making Kingston his objective point, which place was reached on the first of September. Knoxville was also occupied on the first by Colonel Foster, and General Shackleford moved forward to Loudon Bridge, which was burned by the retreating enemy. Another small column had marched from Kentucky directly on Cumberland Gap. By a rapid flank march from Knoxville upon that place General Burnside cut off the retreat of the garrison, and forced it to surrender September ninth. He captured fourteen pieces of artillery and two thousand prisoners. His infantry made this forced march of sixty miles in fifty-two hours. A column of cavalry at the same time ascended the valley to Bristol, driving the enemy across the Virginia line and destroying the railroad bridges over the Holston and Watauga Rivers, so as to prevent the enemy's retreat into Tennessee. The main body of General Burnside's army was now ordered to concentrate on the Tennessee River, from Loudon, west, so as to connect with General Rosecrans's army, which reached Chattanooga on the ninth. Point Rock Pass into North-Carolina was also occupied by a small force. The restoration of East-Tennessee to the Union was thus effected by skilful combinations, with scarcely any loss on our side. It was now hoped that there would be no further delay in effecting a junction between the two armies of Burnside and Rosecrans, as had been previously ordered. As the country between Dalton and the Little Tennessee was still open to the enemy, General

Burnside was cautioned to move down by the north bank of the river, so as to secure its fords and cover his own and General Rosecrans's communications from rebel raids. With our forces concentrated near Chattanooga, the enemy would be compelled to either attack us in position or to retreat farther south into Georgia. If he should attempt a flank movement on Cleveland, his own communications would be cut off, and his own army destroyed. But, although repeatedly urged to effect this junction with the army of the Cumberland, General Burnside retained most of his command in the Upper Valley, which was still threatened, near the Virginia line, by a small force under Sam Jones. On the twenty-first September, Colonel Foster had a skirmish with the enemy near Bristol, on the Virginia line, and on the twenty-eighth and eleventh of October, another sharp engagement took place at Blue Springs.

The enemy was defeated with heavy loss in killed and wounded, and one hundred and fifty prisoners. Our loss was about one hundred. After the battle of Chickamauga, when General Rosecrans had fallen back to Chattanooga, the enemy pushed forward a column into East-Tennessee, to threaten Burnside's position at Loudon, and to cover a cavalry raid upon Rosecrans's communications. Unfortunately, General Burnside had occupied Philadelphia and other points on the south side of the river with small garrisons. The enemy surprised some of these forces, and captured six guns, fifty wagons, and some six hundred or seven hundred prisoners. The remainder retreated to Loudon, and succeeded in holding the crossing of the river. In the mean time Jones had moved down on the north side of the Holston River, to Rogersville, with some three thousand five hundred cavalry, and surprised our garrison at that place, capturing four pieces of artillery, thirty-six wagons, and six hundred and fifty men.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND.

When General Rosecrans took command of the army in Kentucky, it was massed at Bowling Green and Glasgow.

The base of supplies was then at Louisville. A few days later it was advanced to Nashville, which was made a secondary base.

After the battle of Perryville, and our pursuit to Mount Vernon, as stated in my last report, the rebel army retreated across the Cumberland Mountains, leaving a force in Cumberland Gap; then moved down the Tennessee Valley to Chattanooga, and thence by Stevenson and Tullahoma to Murfreesboro, a distance of four hundred miles, while our army had marched to Nashville, a distance of only a little over two hundred miles.

On the twenty-sixth of December, General Rosecrans advanced against Bragg, whose forces were at that time somewhat dispersed along the road. On the thirtieth, our army, after heavy skirmishing *en route*, reached the vicinity of Murfreesboro, and took up a line of battle. The left, under Crittenden, crossed next day to the

east side of Stone River, while the centre, commanded by Thomas, and the right by McCook, were posted on the west bank of the river. By the plan of the battle agreed upon, McCook was to hold the enemy in check on the right, at least for three hours, until Crittenden crossed Stone River, crushing the enemy's right to the east of the stream, and forced his way into Murfreesboro, taking the enemy in the flank and reverse, the unsupported rebel centre being exposed at the same time to the vigorous blows of Thomas.

This well-conceived programme, unfortunately, was unsuccessful, from the failure of McCook to maintain his position on our right, brigade after brigade being forced back by the enemy's heavy columns, with regimental front. This retrograde movement of the right caused Crittenden to suspend his march and support our forces on the west bank of the river, the battle on our part changing from the offensive to the defensive.

The day closed with our right and right centre about at right angles to the first line of battle, but leaving us masters of the original ground on our left, and our new line advantageously posted, with open ground in front swept at all points by our artillery.

Though in this day's engagement the enemy had been roughly handled, our loss in men and artillery had been heavy. On the first of January we routed in position the enemy's attack, but the day closed with no offensive operations except two demonstrations producing no results.

On the morning of the second the enemy opened four heavy batteries on our centre, and made a strong demonstration of attack a little further to the right, but a well-directed artillery fire soon silenced his batteries and put an end to his efforts there.

In the afternoon a vigorous attack was made on our left by heavy columns, battalion front, forcing us, after severe fighting, to cross to the west side of the river, from which side, a well-directed artillery fire, well supported by infantry, was opened with terrific havoc on the enemy's masses, inflicting a loss upon him in forty minutes of two thousand killed and wounded.

The defeated and flying enemy were pursued by five brigades, until after dark. We captured four pieces of artillery and a stand of colors. As a heavy rain on the morning of the third rendered the roads impassable to artillery, no pursuit was ordered, and the day terminated without further hostilities than brushing from our front the enemy's numerous sharpshooters, which much annoyed us from the woods and their rifle-pits.

On the fifth we occupied Murfreesboro, and pursued the enemy six or seven miles toward Manchester, but the difficulty of bringing up supplies, and the great loss of artillery horses, was thought to render further pursuit inexpedient. Our loss in this battle was one thousand five hundred and thirty-three killed, seven thousand two hundred and forty-five wounded, and two thousand eight hundred missing, and twenty-eight pieces of artillery and a large number of

wagons captured by the enemy. Reported rebel loss in killed and wounded was fourteen thousand five hundred and sixty. We captured six pieces of their artillery. After the battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone River, the enemy took position at Shelbyville and Tullahoma, and the winter and spring were passed in raids and unimportant skirmishes.

On the third of February, Generals Wheeler, Forrest, and Wharton invested Fort Donelson and demanded its capitulation. This was promptly refused by its commander, Colonel Harding. After an obstinate attack, which lasted all day, the rebels retired, with an estimated loss of nine hundred. Our loss in the fort was thirteen killed and fifty-one wounded.

On the fourth of March, Colonel Coburn, with one thousand eight hundred and forty-five men, attempted a reconnoissance from Franklin toward Springfield, encountering on his way Van Dorn's rebel column, estimated at seven thousand five hundred.

The enemy retreated, drawing Colonel Coburn into a gorge, where he was surrounded, and nearly all his force captured. Our loss was one thousand four hundred and six. That of the enemy one hundred and fifty killed and four hundred and fifty wounded.

On the twentieth of March, Colonel Hall, while on a reconnoissance, encountered and defeated the rebel General Morgan, with a force of three or four thousand. Our loss was fifty-five. The enemy left sixty-three on the field, but carried off his wounded, estimated at three hundred.

On the twenty-fifth March, the rebel General Forrest made a cavalry raid on the Nashville and Columbia Railroad, burning the bridge and capturing Colonel Bloodgood's command at Brentwood. General Green Clay Smith, arriving opportunely with about six hundred cavalry, attacked the enemy in the rear, and recovered a large portion of the property captured at Brentwood, pursuing the rebels to the Little Harpeth, where they were reinforced. His loss in this attack was four killed, nineteen wounded, and forty missing.

On the tenth of April, a guerilla force attacked a train near Lavergne, guarded by forty men. The cars were destroyed, and nearly half of the guard killed and wounded. At the same time Van Dorn, with a large mounted force, attacked Franklin, but was repulsed by Major-General Granger, with a loss of nineteen killed, thirty-five wounded left on the field, and forty-eight prisoners. Major-General Joseph J. Reynolds made a raid upon the Manchester and McMinnville Railroad, destroying depots, rolling-stock, supplies, and other property, and capturing one hundred and eighty prisoners. Colonel Straight, with about one thousand six hundred men, including reinforcements received from General Dodge at Tusculum, started on a raid into Georgia to cut the enemy's communications. After heavy losses in skirmishes with Forrest's cavalry, and when near its destination, he was forced to surrender.

On the twenty-second of May, Major-General Stanley made a raid upon Middleton, capturing eighty prisoners, three hundred horses, six hundred stand of arms, and other property.

On the fourth of June, the rebel General Forrest made a raid on Franklin, and on the eleventh attacked Triana. His losses in these unsuccessful skirmishes were estimated at over one hundred, while ours was only seventeen killed and wounded.

While General Grant was operating before Vicksburgh, information, deemed reliable, was received from captured rebel correspondence, that large detachments were being drawn from Bragg's army to reinforce Johnston in Mississippi. Reinforcements were sent to General Grant from other armies in the West, but General Rosecrans's army was left intact, in order that he might take advantage of Bragg's diminished numbers, and drive him back into Georgia, and thus rescue loyal East-Tennessee from the hands of the rebels, an object which the Government has kept constantly in view from the beginning of the war. I therefore urged General Rosecrans to take advantage of this opportunity to carry out his long projected movement, informing him that General Burnside would cooperate with his force, moving from Kentucky to East-Tennessee. For various reasons he preferred to postpone his movements until the termination of the siege of Vicksburgh. In order to avoid any misunderstanding of the orders given to General Rosecrans on this subject, I submit the following correspondence:

MURFREESBORO, TENN., June 11, 1863.

Your despatch of to-day is received. You remember, I gave you, as a necessary condition of success, an adequate cavalry force; since that time I have not lost a moment in mounting our dismounted cavalry as fast as we could get horses—not more than three hundred remain to be mounted. The Fifth Iowa, ordered up from Donaldson, arrived to-day. The First Wisconsin will be here by Saturday. My preliminary infantry movements have nearly all been completed, and I am preparing to strike a blow that will tell. But to show you how differently things are viewed here, I called on my corps and division commanders and generals of cavalry for answers in writing to these questions: First. From your best information, do you think the enemy materially weakened in our front? Second. Do you think this army can advance, at this time, with reasonable prospect of fighting a great and successful battle? Third, do you think an advance advisable at this time? To the first, eleven answered no; six yes, to the extent of ten thousand. To the second, four yes, with doubts; thirteen no. To the third, not one yes; seventeen no.

Not one thinks an advance advisable until Vicksburgh's fate is determined. Admitting these officers to have a reasonable share of military sagacity, courage, and patriotism, you perceive that there are graver and stronger reasons than probably appear at Washington, for the atti-

tude of this army. I therefore counsel caution and patience at headquarters. Better wait a little to get all we can ready to insure the best results, if, by so doing, we perform of Providence, observe a great military maxim: "Not to risk two great and decisive battles at the same time." We might have cause to be thankful for it. At all events, you see that to expect success I must have such thorough grounds, that when I say forward, my word will inspire conviction and confidence, where both are now wanting. I should like to hear your suggestion.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

To Major-General H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

WASHINGTON, June 12.

GENERAL: Your telegram of yesterday is just received. I do not understand your application of the military maxim: "Not to fight two great battles at the same time." It will apply to a single army, but not to two armies acting independently of each other. Johnston and Bragg are acting on interior lines between you and Grant, and it is for their interest, not ours, that they should fight at different times so as to use the same force against both of them. It is for our interest to fight them, if possible, while divided. If you are not strong enough to fight Bragg with a part of his force absent, you will not be able to fight him after the affair at Vicksburgh is over and his troops return to your front.

There is another military maxim, that councils of war never fight. If you say that you are not prepared to fight Bragg, I shall not order you to do so, for the responsibility of fighting or refusing to fight at a particular time or place must rest upon the general in immediate command. It cannot be shared by a council of war, nor will the authorities here make you fight against your will. You ask me to counsel them caution and patience. I have done so very often. But after five or six months' inactivity, with your forces all the time diminishing, and no hope of any immediate increase, you must not be surprised that their patience is pretty well exhausted. If you do not deem it prudent to risk a general battle with Bragg, why can you not harass him, or make such demonstrations as to prevent his sending more reinforcements to Johnston? I do not write this in a spirit of fault-finding, but to assure you that the prolonged inactivity of so large an army in the field, is causing much complaint and dissatisfaction, not only in Washington, but throughout the country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Murfreesboro, Tenn.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
MURFREESBORO, June 21.

GENERAL: In your favor of the twelfth instant, you say you do not see how the maxim of not fighting two great battles at the same time applies to the case of this army and Grant's.

Looking at the matter practically, we and our opposing forces are so widely separated, that for Bragg to materially aid Johnston he must abandon our front substantially, and then we can move to our ultimate work with more rapidity and less waste of material on natural obstacles. If Grant is defeated, both forces will come here, and then we ought to be near our base. The same maxim that forbids, as you take it, a single army fighting two great battles at the same time—by the way a very awkward thing to do—would forbid this nation's engaging all its forces in the great West at the same time, so as to leave it without a single reserve to stem the current of possible disaster. This is, I think, sustained by high military and political considerations. We ought to fight here if we have a stronger prospect of winning a decisive battle over the opposing force, and upon this ground I shall act. I shall be careful not to risk our last reserve without strong ground to expect success.

W. S. ROSECRANS,
Major-General.

Major-General H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

When General Rosecrans finally determined to advance, he was permitted to select, without restriction, his own line of operations by which to reach Chattanooga, only being directed to connect his left, so far as practicable, with the army of General Burnside, and to report daily by telegraph his movements till he crossed the Tennessee River. General Burnside was also ordered to connect his right, as much as possible, with General Rosecrans's left, so that if the enemy should concentrate upon either army, the other could move to its assistance. General Rosecrans, on the twenty-fifth of June, commenced a forward movement upon the enemy, well intrenched at Tullahoma, covered in front by the defiles of Duck River, a deep, narrow stream, with few fords or bridges, and a rough, rocky range of hills, which divides the "barrens" from the lower level of Middle Tennessee.

Bragg's main force occupied a strong position north of Duck River, from Shelbyville, which was fortified to Wartrace, all the gaps on the roads leading thereto being held in force. General Rosecrans determined to render useless their intrenchments, by turning on their right and moving on their communications at the railroad bridge on Elk River, thus compelling a battle on our own ground, or driving them on a disadvantageous line of retreat. By admirable combined movements he deceived the enemy by a threatened advance in force on their left at Shelbyville, while the mass of his army in reality, seized Hoover's, Liberty, and the other gaps, by hand-fighting, and moved on Manchester, thus turning the right of the enemy's defences of Duck River, and directly threatening Bragg, who was compelled to fall back to Tullahoma, hotly pursued by Granger, who had brilliantly carried Shelbyville. Dispositions were immediately made to turn Tullahoma and fall upon the en-

emy's rear, but Bragg abandoned to us his intrenched camp, and rapidly fell back toward Bridgeport, Alabama, pursued as far as practicable by our forces.

In the words of General Rosecrans's official report: "Thus ended a nine days' campaign, which drove the enemy from two fortified positions, and gave us possession of Middle Tennessee. Conducted in one of the most extraordinary rains ever known in Tennessee at that period of the year, over a soil that became almost a quicksand, our operations were retarded thirty-six hours at Hoover's Gap, and sixty hours at and in front of Winchester, which alone prevented us from getting possession of his communications, and forcing the enemy to a very disastrous battle. These results were far more successful than was anticipated, and could only have been obtained by a surprise as to the direction and force of our movements.

Our losses in these operations were eighty-five killed, four hundred and sixty-two wounded, and thirteen missing, making in all five hundred and eighty.

The killed and wounded of the enemy is unknown, but we took one thousand six hundred and thirty-four prisoners, of which fifty-nine were commissioned officers. We captured, besides, six pieces of artillery, many small arms, considerable camp equipage, and large quantities of commissary and quartermaster's stores. After the expulsion of his rebel army from Middle Tennessee, Bragg retreated across the Cumberland Mountains and Tennessee River upon Chattanooga, which he fortified, and threw up defensive works at the crossings of the river as far up as Blythe's Ferry. Having put the railroad to Stevenson in condition to forward supplies, Rosecrans on the sixteenth of August commenced his advance across the Cumberland Mountains, Chattanooga and its covering ridges on the south-east being his objective point. To command and avail himself of the most important passes, the front of his movement extended from the head of Sequatchie Valley, in East-Tennessee, to Athens, Alabama, thus threatening the line of the Tennessee River from Whitesburgh to Blythe's Ferry, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles.

The Tennessee River was reached on the twentieth of August, and Chattanooga shelled from the north bank on the twenty-first. Pontoon boat, raft, and trestle bridges were rapidly prepared at Caperton's Ferry, Bridgeport, mouth of Battle Creek, and Shellmount, and the army, except cavalry, safely crossed the Tennessee in face of the enemy. By the eighth of September, Thomas had moved on Trenton, seizing Frick's and Stevens's Gaps, on the Lookout Mountain. McCook had advanced to Valley Head, and taken Winston's Gap, while Crittenden had crossed to Wauhatchie, communicating on the right with Thomas, and threatened Chattanooga by the pass over the point of Lookout Mountain. The first mountain barrier south of the Tennessee being successfully passed, General Rosecrans decided to threaten the enemy's communication

with his right, while his centre and left seized the gaps and commanding points of the mountains in front. General Crittenden's reconnaissance on the ninth developed the fact that the enemy had evacuated Chattanooga on the day and night previous. While General Crittenden's corps took peaceable possession of Chattanooga, the objective point of the campaign, General Rosecrans, with the remainder of his army, pressed forward through the difficult passes of the Look-out and Missionary Mountains, apparently directing his march upon Lafayette and Rome.

On ascertaining these facts, and that General Burnside was in possession of all East-Tennessee above Chattanooga, and hearing that Lee was being rapidly reinforced on the Rapidan, it seemed probable that the enemy had determined to concentrate his forces for the defence of Richmond, or a new invasion of the North. The slight resistance made by him in East-Tennessee, and his abandonment without defence of so important a position as Chattanooga, gave plausibility to the reports of spies and deserters from Lee's army, of reinforcements arriving there from Bragg.

Fearing that General Rosecrans's army might be drawn too far into the mountains of Georgia, where it could not be supplied, and might be attacked before reinforcements could reach him from Burnside, I sent him, on the eleventh, the following telegram :

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., September 11. }

General Burnside telegraphs from Cumberland Gap that he holds all East-Tennessee above Loudon, and also the gaps of the North-Carolina mountains. A cavalry force is moving toward Athens to connect with you. After holding the mountain passes to the west of Dalton, or some other point on the railroad, to prevent the return of Bragg's army, it will be decided whether your army shall move further south into Georgia and Alabama.

It is reported here by deserters that a part of Bragg's army is reinforcing Lee. It is important that the truth of this should be ascertained as early as possible.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

To Major-General ROSECRANS,
Chattanooga.

On the same day the following telegram was sent to General Burnside :

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., September 11, 1863. }

I congratulate you on your success. Hold the gap of the North-Carolina mountains, the line of the Holston River, or some point, if there be one, to prevent access from Virginia, and connect with General Rosecrans, at least with your cavalry.

General Rosecrans will occupy Dalton, or some point on the railroad, to close all access from Atlanta, and also the mountain passes on the west. This being done, it will be determined whether the movable force shall advance into Georgia

and Alabama, or into the valley of Virginia and North-Carolina.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Cumberland Gap.

On the twelfth, General Rosecrans telegraphed that, although he was sufficiently strong for the enemy then in his front, there were indications that the rebels intended to turn his flanks and cut his communications. He, therefore, desired that Burnside should move down his infantry toward Chattanooga, on his left, and that Grant should cover the Tennessee River, toward Whitesburg, to prevent any raid on Nashville. He was of opinion that no troops had been sent east from Bragg's army, but that Bragg was being reinforced by Loring, from Mississippi.

On the night of the thirteenth, General Foster telegraphed from Fort Monroe that "trains of cars had been heard running all the time, day and night, for the last thirty-six hours, on the Petersburg and Richmond road," evidently indicating a movement of troops in some direction; and on the morning of the fourteenth, that Longstreet's corps was reported to be going south through North-Carolina. General Meade had been directed to ascertain, by giving battle, if necessary, whether any of Lee's troops had left. It was not till the fourteenth he could give me any information on this point, and then he telegraphed : "My judgment, formed of the variety of meagre and conflicting testimony, is, that Lee's army has been reduced by Longstreet's corps, and perhaps, by some regiments from Ewell's and Hill's."

As soon as I received General Rosecrans's and General Foster's telegrams, of the twelfth and thirteenth, I sent the following telegrams to Generals Burnside, Rosecrans, Hurlbut, Grant, and Sherman :

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., September 13, 1863. }

It is important that all the available forces of your command be pushed forward into East-Tennessee; all your scattered forces should be concentrated there. So long as we hold Tennessee, Kentucky is perfectly safe. Move down your infantry as rapidly as possible toward Chattanooga, to connect with Rosecrans. Bragg may merely hold the passes of the mountains to cover Atlanta, and move his main army through Northern Alabama to reach the Tennessee River and turn Rosecrans's right, and cut off his supplies. In this case he will turn Chattanooga over to you, and move to interrupt Bragg.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Knoxville.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 13, 1863. }

There is no intention of sending General Burnside into North-Carolina. He has orders to move down and connect with you. Should the enemy attempt to turn your right flank through

Alabama, Chattanooga should be turned over to Burnside, and your army, or such part of it as may not be required there, should move to prevent Bragg from reëntering Middle Tennessee. General Hurlbut will aid you all he can, but most of Grant's available force is west of the Mississippi.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief

Major-General ROSECRANS,
Chattanooga.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 18, 1863.

I think, from all accounts, that Steele is sufficiently strong. All your available forces should be sent to Corinth and Tuscumbia to operate against Bragg, should he attempt to turn Rosecrans's right and recross the river into Tennessee. Send to General Sherman, at Vicksburgh, for reinforcements for this purpose. General Grant, it is understood, is sick in New-Orleans.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General HURLBUT,
Memphis.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 18, 1863.

It is possible that Bragg and Johnston will move through Northern Alabama to the Tennessee River, to turn General Rosecrans's right, and cut off his communication with General Grant. Available forces should be sent to Memphis, thence to Corinth and Tuscumbia, to cooperate with General Rosecrans, should the rebels attempt that movement.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-Gen. GRANT, or Major-Gen. SHERMAN,
Vicksburgh.

On the fourteenth, the following telegrams were sent to Generals Foster, Burnside, and Hurlbut:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1863.

Information received here indicates that part of Lee's forces have gone to Petersburg. There are various suppositions for this. Some think it is intended to put down Union feeling in North-Carolina; others, to make an attempt to capture Norfolk; others, again, to threaten Norfolk, so as to compel us to send reinforcements there from the army of the Potomac, and then to move rapidly against Meade. Such was the plan last spring, when Longstreet invested Suffolk. It will be well to strengthen Norfolk as much as possible, and closely watch the enemy's movements. I think he will soon strike a blow somewhere.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General FOSTER,
Fort Monroe.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1864.

There are good reasons why troops should be sent to assist General Rosecrans's right with all possible despatch. Communicate with Sherman to assist you, and hurry forward reinforcements as previously directed.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General HURLBUT,
Memphis.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1863.

There are reasons why you should reinforce General Rosecrans with all possible despatch. It is believed that the enemy will concentrate to give him battle, and you must be there to help him.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Knoxville.

In addition to General Burnside's general instructions, a number of despatches of the same purport as the above were sent to him.

Generals Schofield and Pope were directed to send forward to the Tennessee line every available man in their departments, and the commanding officers in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, were ordered to make every possible exertion to secure General Rosecrans's lines of communication. General Meade was urged to attack General Lee's army while in its present reduced condition, or at least prevent him from sending off any more detachments. It seemed useless to send any more troops into East-Tennessee and Georgia, on account of the impossibility of supplying them in a country which the enemy had nearly exhausted.

General Burnside's army was on short rations, and that of the Cumberland inadequately supplied.

General Rosecrans had complained of his inadequate cavalry force, but his stables were overcrowded with animals, and the horses of his cavalry, artillery, and trains were dying in numbers for want of forage.

As three separate armies were now to operate in the same field, it seemed necessary to have a single commander, in order to secure a more perfect cooperation than had been obtained with the separate commands of Burnside and Rosecrans.

General Grant, by his distinguished services and his superior rank to all the other generals in the West, seemed entitled to this general command. But, unfortunately, he was at this time in New-Orleans, and unable to take the field. Moreover, there was no telegraphic communication with him, and the despatches of the thirteenth, directed to him and General Sherman, did not reach them until some days after their dates, thus delaying the movements of General Grant's forces from Vicksburgh.

General Hurlbut, however, had moved the troops of his own corps, then in East-Tennessee, with commendable promptness.

These were to be replaced by reinforcements from Steele's corps, in Arkansas, which also formed a part of Grant's army.

Hearing nothing from General Grant, or from General Sherman's corps, at Vicksburgh, it was determined, on the twenty-third, to detach the Eleventh and Twelfth corps from the army of the Potomac, and send them by rail, under the command of General Hooker, to protect General Rosecrans's line of communication from Bridge-

port to Nashville. It was known that these troops could not go immediately to the front.

To send more men to Chattanooga, when those already there could not be fully supplied, would only increase the embarrassment, and probably cause the evacuation of that place.

In other words, Hooker's command was to temporarily perform the duties previously assigned to the reinforcements ordered from Grant's army.

We will now return to General Rosecrans's army, the main body of which we left on the fourteenth in the passes of Pigeon Mountain, with the enemy concentrating his forces, near La Fayette, to dispute its further advance. Bragg's threatened movements to the right and left were merely cavalry raids to cut off Rosecrans's line of supplies, and threaten his communications with Burnside. His main army was probably only awaiting the arrival of Longstreet's corps to give battle in the mountains of Georgia.

Of the movements of this corps, so well known to the enemy, we could get no reliable information. All we knew positively was, that one of Longstreet's divisions had arrived in Charleston to reinforce that place. It was said that other divisions had gone to Mobile, to protect it from an attack by Banks's army, but as there was no real danger of such an attack at that moment, it was more probably on its way to reinforce Bragg's army. But the time of its arrival was uncertain, as we had no reliable information of its departure from Richmond. We knew Bragg had been reinforced, by troops sent by Johnston from Mississippi, and it was afterward ascertained that the rebel authorities had falsely declared as exchanged, and released from parole, the prisoners of war captured by Grant and Banks at Vicksburgh and Port Hudson. This shameless violation of the cartel and of the well-established usages of civilized warfare, was resorted to by the enemy in order to swell the numbers of Bragg's army in the approaching conflict.

General Rosecrans's troops were, at this time, scattered along in an extended line from Gordon's Mills to Alpine, a distance of some forty miles. By the seventeenth, they were brought more within supporting distance, and on the morning of the eighteenth a concentration was begun toward Crawfish Spring, but slowly executed.

The battle of Chickamauga commenced on the morning of the nineteenth, McCook's corps forming on the right of our line of battle, and Crittenden's the centre, and Thomas's the left. The enemy first attacked our left, with heavy masses, endeavoring to turn it, so as to occupy the road to Chattanooga. But all their efforts proved abortive. The centre was next assailed, and temporarily driven back, but being promptly reinforced, maintained its ground. As night approached the battle ceased, and the combatants rested on their arms. The attack was furiously renewed on the morning of the twentieth, against our left and centre. Division after division was pushed forward to resist the attacking masses of

the enemy, when, according to General Rosecrans's report, General Wood, overlooking the direction "to close upon Reynolds," supposed he was to support him, by withdrawing from the line, and passing in the rear of General Brannon.

By this unfortunate mistake, a gap was opened in the line of battle, of which the enemy took instant advantage, and, striking Davis in the flank and rear, threw his whole division into confusion.

General Wood claims that the orders he received were of such a character as to leave him no option but to obey them in the manner he did.

Pouring in through this break in our line, the enemy cut off our right and right centre, and attacked Sheridan's division, which was advancing to the support of our left. After a gallant but fruitless effort against this rebel torrent, he was compelled to give way, but afterward rallied a considerable portion of his force, and by a circuitous route joined General Thomas, who now had to breast the tide of battle against the whole rebel army.

Our right and part of the centre had been completely broken, and fled in confusion from the field, carrying with them to Chattanooga their commanders, Generals McCook and Crittenden; also, General Rosecrans, who was on that part of the line. His Chief of Staff, General Garfield, however, made his way to the left and joined General Thomas, who still remained immovable in his position. His line had assumed a crescent form with its flanks supported by the lower spurs of the mountain, and here, like a lion at bay, he repulsed the terrible onsets of the enemy. About half-past three P.M. the enemy discovered a gap in the hills, in the rear of his right flank, and Longstreet commenced pouring his massive column through the opening. At this critical moment, Major-General Gordon Granger, who had been posted with his reserves to cover our left and rear, arrived upon the field. He knew nothing of the condition of the battle, but, with the true instincts of a soldier, he had marched to the sound of the cannon. General Thomas merely pointed out to him the gap through which the enemy was debouching, when, quick as thought, he threw upon it Steadman's brigade of cavalry.

In the words of General Rosecrans's official report: "Swift was the charge and terrible the conflict, but the enemy was broken. A thousand of our brave men, killed and wounded, paid for its possession, but we held the gap. Two of Longstreet's corps confronted the position: determined to take it, they successively came to the assault. A battery of six guns, which played into the gorge, poured death and slaughter into them. They charged to within a few yards of the pieces, but our grape and canister and the leaden hail of musketry, delivered in sparing but terrible volleys, from the cartridges taken, in many instances, from the boxes of their fallen companions, was too much even for Longstreet's

men. About sunset they made their last charge, when our men, being out of ammunition, rushed on them with the bayonet, and they gave way to return no more."

In the mean time the enemy made repeated attempts to carry General Thomas's position on the left and front, but were as often driven back with loss. At nightfall, the enemy fell back beyond the range of our artillery, leaving Thomas victorious on his hard-fought field.

As most of the corps of McCook and Crittenden were now in Chattanooga, it was deemed advisable, also, to withdraw the left wing to that place. Thomas, consequently, fell back during the night to Rossville, leaving the dead and most of the wounded in the hands of the enemy. He here received a supply of ammunition, and during all the twenty-first offered battle to the enemy, but the attack was not seriously renewed.

On the night of the twenty-first he withdrew the remainder of the army within the defences of Chattanooga.

The enemy suffered severely in these battles, and on the night of the twentieth was virtually defeated, but being permitted to gather the trophies off the field on the twenty-first, he is entitled to claim a victory, however barren in its results.

His loss, in killed, wounded, and missing, as reported in the rebel papers, was eighteen thousand. Our loss in these battles was one thousand six hundred and forty-four killed, nine thousand two hundred and sixty-two wounded, and four thousand nine hundred and forty-five missing. If we add the loss of the cavalry, in its several engagements, about five hundred, we have a total of sixteen thousand three hundred and fifty-one. We lost, in material, thirty-six guns, twenty caissons, eight thousand four hundred and fifty small arms, five thousand eight hundred and thirty-four infantry accoutrements.

We captured two thousand and three prisoners. After General Rosecrans retreated to Chattanooga, he withdrew his forces from the passes of Lookout Mountain, which covered his line of supplies from Bridgeport. These were immediately occupied by the enemy, who also sent a cavalry force across the Tennessee, above Chattanooga, which destroyed a large wagon train in the Sequatchie Valley, captured McMinsville and other points on the railroad, thus almost completely cutting off the supplies of General Rosecrans's army. Fortunately for us, the line of the railroad was well defended, and the enemy's cavalry being successfully attacked by Colonel McCook, at Anderson's Cross-Roads, on the second October; by General Mitchell, at Shelbyville, on the sixth; and by General Crook, at Farmington, on the eighth, were mostly captured or destroyed.

Major-General Grant arrived at Louisville, and on the nineteenth, in accordance with the orders of the President, assumed general command of the Departments of the Tennessee, Cumberland, and Ohio. In accordance with his recommendation, Major-General G. W. Thomas was placed in the immediate command of the department of the

Cumberland, and Major-General Sherman of that of the Tennessee.

As the supply of the army at Chattanooga demanded prompt attention, he immediately repaired to that place. By bringing up from Bridgeport the Eleventh and Twelfth corps, under Hooker, and throwing a force from Chattanooga, under General W. F. Smith, on the south side of the river, at Burns's Ferry, the points of Lookout Mountain commanding the river were recaptured on the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, and twenty-ninth of October. This important success restored his communications with his dépôts of supplies. It is not my province, even if I had the means of doing so, to speak of the brilliant exploits of our navy in the western waters. It may be proper, however, to remark, that General Grant and his department commanders report that Admirals Farragut, Porter, and their officers, have rendered most valuable assistance in all their operations.

* GENERAL REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

It has not been possible, in the foregoing summary, to refer to all the engagements which our troops have had with the enemy during the past year, as no official accounts or reports of some of them could be found, and the details given have been compiled from telegrams, despatches, and reports scattered through the various bureaus of the War Department. I respectfully recommend that all these official documents and reports, received since the beginning of the war, be collected and published in chronological order under the direction of the Adjutant-General's Department. Some have already been published by Congress, but they are so incorrectly printed and badly arranged as to be almost useless as historical documents.

The rebel armies live mainly upon the country through which they pass, taking food and forage alike from friend and foe. This enables them to move with ease and great rapidity. Our commanders, operating in the rebel States, generally find no supplies, and in the Border States it is difficult to distinguish between real friends and enemies. To live upon the country passed over often produces great distress among the inhabitants, but it is one of the unavoidable results of war, and is justified by the usages of civilized nations. Some of our commanders have availed themselves of this right of military appropriation, while others have required too large supply trains, and have not depended, as they might have done, upon the resources of the country in which they operated. General Grant says in his official report:

"In the march from Bruinsburgh to Vicksburgh, covering a period of twenty days before supplies could be obtained from the Government stores, only five days' rations were issued, and three of these were carried in the haversacks at the start, and were soon exhausted. All other subsistence was obtained from the country through which we passed. The march was

commenced without wagons, except such as could be picked up through the country."

Instructions have been given to the generals operating in hostile territory to subsist their armies, so far as possible, upon the country, receipting and accounting for every thing taken, so that all persons of proved loyalty may hereafter be remunerated for their losses. By this means our troops can move more rapidly and easily, and the enemy is deprived of supplies if he should reoccupy the country passed over by us. Some of our officers hesitate to fully carry out those measures, from praiseworthy but mistaken notions of humanity, for what is spared by us is almost invariably taken by rebel forces, who manifest very little regard for the suffering of their own people. In numerous cases, women and children have been fed by us to save them from actual starvation, while fathers, husbands, and brothers are fighting in the ranks of the rebel armies, or robbing and murdering in ranks of guerrilla bands.

Having once adopted a system of carrying nearly all our supplies with the army in the field, a system suited to countries where the mass of the population take no active part in the war, it is found very difficult to effect radical changes. Nevertheless, our trains have been very considerably reduced within the past year. A still greater reduction, however, will be required to enable our troops to move as lightly and as rapidly as those of the enemy. In this connection, I would respectfully call attention to the present system of army sutlers. There is no article legitimately supplied by sutlers to officers and soldiers which could not be furnished at much less price by quartermaster and commissary departments.

Sutlers and their employés are now only partially subject to military authority and discipline, and it is not difficult for those who are so disposed to act the part of spies, informers, smugglers, and contraband traders. The entire abolition of the system would rid the army of the incumbrance of sutler wagons on the march, and the nuisance of sutler stalls and booths in camp. It would relieve officers and soldiers of much of their present expenses, and would improve the discipline and efficiency of the troops in many ways, and particularly by removing from the camps the prolific evil of drunkenness.

I referred in my last report to the large number of officers and soldiers absent from their commands. It was estimated, from official returns in January last, that there were then absent from duty eight thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven officers, and two hundred and eighty-two thousand and seventy-three non-commissioned officers and privates. Only a part of these were really disabled or sick. The remainder were mostly deserters, stragglers, maligners, and shirks, or men who absented themselves in order to avoid duty. Much of this evil has been abated; very few furloughs are now given, and officers absent from duty not only lose their pay, but are subject to summary dismissal. Straggling

and desertion have also greatly diminished, and might be almost entirely prevented if the punishment could be prompt and certain.

In this respect our military penal code requires revision. The machinery of court-martial is too cumbrous for trial of military offences in time of actual war. To organize such courts it is often necessary to detach a large number of officers from active duty in the field, and then a single case sometimes occupies a court for many months. To enforce discipline in the field, it is necessary that trial and punishment should promptly follow the offence.

In regard to our military organization, I respectfully recommend an increase of the Inspector-General's department, and that it be merged in the Adjutant-General's department.

The grades of commander of armies and of army corps should be made to correspond with their actual commands. The creation of such grades need not cause any additional expense to the Government, as the pay and emoluments of general and lieutenant-general could be made the same as now allowed to major-generals commanding divisions.

I also respectfully call attention to our artillery organization. In the Fifth regiment of United States artillery, each battery is allowed one captain and four lieutenants, eight sergeants and twelve corporals, and all of these, together with the privates, receive cavalry pay and allowance. In the First, Second, Third, and Fourth regiments of the United States artillery, a battery is allowed one captain, three lieutenants, four sergeants, and four corporals, and, with the exception of two batteries to each regiment, for which special allowance was made by laws created March second, 1821, and March third, 1841, all of these receive the pay and allowances of infantry, yet they are all, with the exception of four or five companies, performing precisely similar duties.

A field battery of six guns absolutely requires all the officers and non-commissioned officers allowed in the Fifth artillery, and the additional responsibility of the officers, and the labor of both officers and enlisted men, render necessary the additional pay and allowances accorded by law to those grades in that regiment. A simple remedy for these evils is the enactment of a law giving to the First, Second, Third, and Fourth regiments of United States artillery the same organization and the same rates of pay as the Fifth regiment, which, it may be added, is also the same as that already given to all the volunteer field batteries now in the United States service. A similar discrepancy existed in the cavalry regiments till an act, passed by the last Congress, placed them all upon the same basis of organization and pay.

The act authorizing the President to call out additional volunteers, or the drafted militia, limits the call to the cavalry, artillery, and infantry arms, and makes no provision for organizing volunteer engineer regiments. This was unquestionably a mere verbal omission in the law, and should be supplied, as it creates embarrassments

in the organization of armies in the field. The generals commanding these armies complain in strong terms of the deficiency of engineer troops for the repairing of said roads, the construction of pontoon-bridges, and carrying on the operations of a siege, and urge that the evil be promptly remedied.

The waste and destruction of cavalry horses in our service has proved an evil of such magnitude as to require some immediate and efficient remedy. In the army of the Potomac there are thirty-six regiments of cavalry, averaging for the last six months from ten thousand to fourteen thousand men present for duty. The issues of cavalry horses to this army for the same period have been as follows: In May, five thousand six hundred and seventy-three; June, six thousand three hundred and twenty-seven; July, four thousand seven hundred and sixteen; August, five thousand four hundred and ninety-nine; September, five thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven; October, seven thousand and thirty-six—total, thirty-five thousand and seventy-eight.

To this number should be added the horses captured from the enemy and taken from citizens, making altogether an average remount every two months. We have now in our service some two hundred and twenty-three regiments of cavalry, which will require, at the same rate as the army of the Potomac, the issue, within the coming year, of four hundred and thirty-five thousand horses. The organization of a cavalry bureau in the War Department, with a frequent and thorough inspection, it was hoped would, in some degree, remedy these evils. To reach the source, however, further legislation may be necessary.

Probably the principal fault is in the treatment of these horses by the cavalry soldiers. Authority should therefore be given to dismount and transfer to the infantry service every man whose horse is, through his own fault or neglect, rendered unfit for service. The same rule might be applied to cavalry officers who fail to maintain the efficiency of their regiments and companies. The vacancies thus created could be filled by corresponding transfers from the regular and volunteer infantry.

By the existing law, the chief adjutant-general, inspector-general, quartermaster, and commissary of any corps are allowed additional rank and pay, while no such allowance is made to the chief engineers, artillery, and ordnance in the same corps. These latter officers hold the same relative positions, and perform duties at least as important and arduous as the others, and the existing distinction is deemed unjust to them.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

On the twenty-second of July, 1862, Major-General Dix and Major-General Hill entered into a cartel for the exchange of prisoners during the existing war, specially stipulating when and where exchanges should be made and how declared, defining the meaning of a parole and the rights and obligations of prisoners under parole,

and when and how they were to be released from their obligations.

Special agreements of this kind, modifying and explaining the general laws of war, furnish the rules of conduct for the contracting parties in all cases for which they provide or to which they are applicable. Finding that the rebel authorities were feeding prisoners contrary to these stipulations, they were notified, on the twenty-second of May last, that all paroles not given in the manner prescribed by the cartel, would be regarded as null and void. Nevertheless they continued to extort, by threats and ill-treatment, from our men paroles unauthorized by the cartel, and also refused to deliver our officers and men for exchange in the manner agreed upon, but retained all the colored prisoners and their officers. It is stated that they sold the former into slavery, and sentenced the latter to imprisonment and death for alleged violation of the local State laws. This compelled a resort to retaliatory measures, and an equal number of their prisoners in our hands were selected as hostages for the surrender of those retained by them. All exchanges under the cartel therefore ceased. In violation of general good faith, and of engagements solemnly entered into, the rebel commissioner then proceeded to declare exchanged all his own paroled prisoners, and ordered their return to the ranks of their regiments then in the field, and we are now asked to confirm these acts by opening new accounts and making new lists for exchange, and they seek to enforce these demands by the most barbarous treatment of our officers and men now in their hands.

The rebel prisoners held by the United States have been uniformly treated with consideration and kindness. They have been furnished with all necessary clothing, and supplied with the same quality and amount of food as our own soldiers; while our soldiers, who, by the casualties of war, have been captured by them, have been stripped of their blankets, clothing, and shoes, even in the winter seasons, and then confined in damp and loathsome prisons, and only half fed on damaged provisions, or actually starved to death, while hundreds have terminated their existence, loaded with irons, in filthy prisons. Not a few, after a semblance of trial by some military tribunal, have been actually murdered by their inhuman keepers.

In fine, the treatment of our prisoners of war by the rebel authorities has been even more barbarous than that which Christian captives formerly suffered from the pirates of Tripoli, Tunis, and Algiers, and the horrors of Belle Isle and Libby Prison exceed even those of British hulks or the Black Hole of Calcutta; and this atrocious conduct is applauded by the people and commended by the public press of Richmond, as a means of reducing the Yankee ranks. It has been proposed to retaliate upon the enemy by treating his prisoners precisely as he treats ours.

Such retaliation is fully justified by the laws and usages of war, and the present case seems to call for the exercise of this extreme right.

Nevertheless, it is revolting to our sense of humanity to be forced to so cruel an alternative. It is hoped self-interest, if not a sense of justice, may induce the rebels to abandon a course of conduct which must for ever remain a burning disgrace to them and their cause.

CONCLUSION.

It is seen from the foregoing summary of operations, during the past year, that we have repelled every attempt of the enemy to invade the loyal States, and have recovered from his domination Kentucky and Tennessee, and portions of Alabama and Mississippi, and the greater part of Arkansas and Louisiana, and restored the free navigation of the Mississippi River.

Heretofore the enemy has enjoyed great advantages over us in the character of his theatre of war. He has operated on short and safe interior lines, while circumstances have compelled us to occupy the circumference of a circle; but the problem is now changed by the reopening of the Mississippi River. The rebel territory has been actually cut in twain, and we can strike the isolated fragments by operating on safer and more advantageous lines.

Although our victories, since the beginning of the war, may not have equalled the expectations of the more sanguine, we have every reason to be grateful to Divine Providence for the steady progress of our army. In a little more than two years, we have recaptured nearly every important point held by the rebels on the sea-coast, and we have reconquered and now hold military possession of more than two hundred and fifty thousand square miles of territory held at one time by the rebel armies, and claimed by them as a constituent part of their Confederacy.

The extent of country thus recaptured and occupied by our armies is as large as France or Austria, or the entire peninsula of Spain and Portugal, and twice as large as Great Britain, or Prussia, or Italy. Considering what we have already accomplished, the present condition of the enemy, and the immense and still unimpaired military resources of the loyal States, we may reasonably hope, with the same measure of success as heretofore, to bring this rebellion to a speedy and final termination.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 1863.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I submit the following summary of the operations of General Grant's army since my report of the fifteenth ultimo. It appears from the official reports which have been received here, that our loss in the operations of the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, and twenty-ninth of October, in reopening communications on the south side of the Tennessee River, from Chattanooga to Bridgeport, was seventy-six killed, three hundred and

thirty-nine wounded, and twenty-two missing. Total, four hundred and thirty-seven.

The estimated loss of the enemy was over one thousand five hundred. As soon as General Grant could get up his supplies, he prepared to advance upon the enemy, who had become weakened by the detachment of General Longstreet's command against Knoxville. General Sherman's army arrived upon the north side of Tennessee River, and during the night of the twenty-third and twenty-fourth of November, established pontoon-bridges and crossed to the south side, between Citto Creek and the Chickamauga.

On the afternoon of the twenty-third, General Thomas's forces attacked the enemy's rifle-pits, between Chattanooga and Citto Creek. The battle was renewed on the twenty-fourth along the whole line. Sherman carried the eastern end of Missionary Ridge up to the tunnel, and Thomas repelled every attempt of the enemy to regain the position which he had lost at the centre, while Hooker's force in Lookout Valley crossed the mountain and drove the enemy from its northern slope. On the twenty-fifth, the whole of Missionary Ridge, from Rossville to the Chickamauga, was, after a desperate struggle, most gallantly carried by our troops, and the enemy completely routed.

Considering the strength of the rebel position, and the difficulty of storming his intrenchments, the battle of Chattanooga must be regarded as one of the most remarkable in history. Not only did the officers and men exhibit great skill and daring in their operations on the field, but the highest praise is also due the Commanding General for his admirable dispositions for dislodging the enemy from a position apparently impregnable. Moreover, by turning his right flank, and throwing him back upon Ringgold and Dalton, Sherman's forces were interposed between Bragg and Longstreet, so as to prevent any possibility of their forming a junction.

Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing is reported at about four thousand. We captured about six thousand prisoners, beside the wounded left in our hands, forty-two pieces of artillery, five thousand or six thousand small arms, and a large train. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded is not known. While Generals Thomas and Hooker pushed Bragg's army into Georgia, General Sherman, with his own and General Granger's forces, was sent into East-Tennessee to prevent the return of Longstreet, and to relieve General Burnside, who was then besieged in Knoxville. We have reliable information that General Sherman has successfully accomplished his object, and that Longstreet is in full retreat toward Virginia, but no details have been received in regard to Sherman's operations since he crossed the Hiwassee River. Of Burnside's defence of Knoxville, it is only known that every attack of the enemy on that place was successfully repulsed. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

Doc. 18.

FIGHT AT CAMPBELL'S STATION, TENN.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., November 7, 1862.

THE first engagement of any consequence between our forces and those of Longstreet, in the retreat to Knoxville, took place yesterday, at Campbell's Station—a little collection of houses on the Kingston road, where it forms a junction with the road to Loudon.

During the night of Sunday, the rebels made three different charges on our position at Lenoir, with the intention of capturing the batteries on the right of our position; but every onset was met and repulsed. In the morning, our troops again took up the march in retreat, and the rebels pushed our rear-guard with so much energy that we were compelled to burn a train of wagons, to obtain the mules to aid in getting away the artillery. Its destruction was necessary, as otherwise we would have been compelled to abandon it to the enemy. One piece of artillery, which had become mired and could not be hauled out by the horses, fell into their hands.

The rear was brought up by General Ferrero's division of the Ninth corps, and as the progress of the wagon-trains in the advance was necessarily slow, no easy duty devolved upon that portion of our column. To check the impetuous pursuit of the rebels was indispensable to the safety of our main body, as well as the wagons, which, in addition to the baggage, carried the subsistence for the march. The result was, that a series of heavy skirmishes ensued along the whole line of the retreat. As we approached Campbell's Station, where it was feared the enemy would endeavor to throw a force upon our flank, from the direction of Kingston, the division of Colonel Hartrauft was marched through the timber until it came upon the road leading from that point. In a short space of time, the wisdom of the precaution manifested itself; for the rebels soon made their appearance, but too late to execute their object. Colonel Hartrauft skirmished with them, and fell back slowly, fighting as he came. The rebels, at one time, made an effort to flank him, but failed. In this endeavor, they approached so close as to fire a volley directly at him and staff. A brigade of cavalry, under Colonel Biddle, gave material assistance in checking the enemy.

General Burnside, finding that the enemy were pressing him so closely as to endanger the trains and extra artillery, which, at the head of the column, still "dragged their slow length along," determined to come into position, to give them battle, and, pending it, to enable the wagons to get well in advance. Accordingly he selected positions for the artillery on commanding eminences to the right and left of the road, which at this point runs through a valley whose slopes are under cultivation, and consequently cleared of timber. The ground chosen was, in fact, a succession of farms, commencing at Campbell's Station, and flanking either side of the road for a distance of over two miles.

Our guns were in position some time before noon, but it was near that hour when the fight became warm. General Ferrero, in falling back on the Loudon road, came in advance of Colonel Hartrauft, and defiling to the right, (it would be to the left as he marched, but facing the enemy, it was the right,) took up his position in line of battle. Colonel Hartrauft, whose flank was now reinforced by a detachment of General White's command, under Colonel Chapin, came in rear of General Ferrero as he passed the fork of the road, and, marching to the left, came into position on the southern slope of the valley, Colonel Chapin still holding his position on the flank. A consideration of the whole movement will show with what admirable position each regiment and brigade came into line of battle. Indeed, the evolutions on the field at Campbell's Station have seldom been excelled in beauty and skill. In coming into position, as well as in the succeeding manoeuvres, the commands on both sides, Union as well as rebel, exhibited a degree of discipline which at once betrayed the veterans of many a battle-field. Our troops here found an enemy not unworthy of their steel, in the hands of Longstreet. Insignificant as the present fight may appear in comparison with others of this war, it certainly will rank among those in which real generalship was displayed. Every motion, every evolution, was made with the precision and regularity of the pieces on a chess-board.

The rebels, finding the disposition of our troops to be one which offered battle, readily accepted the gage thrown down to them, and it was not long before their main body was seen advancing from the timber at the end of the clearing in two formidable lines. On they came, alternately surmounting the crests of the little knolls in beautiful undulating lines, and disappearing again into the hollows beneath. Our forces opened at long-range; but still they pressed on, heedless of the shower of bullets which whistled all around them, until they reached a position apparently suitable to them, when they began to return the fire. The rattle of musketry soon became quite lively, and continued for upward of an hour, when it was discovered that, while they had thus engaged us in front, a heavy force was menacing us on both flanks. The steady music of the volley-bring was now mingled with the intermittent shots of the skirmishers, who pushed out upon us from the woods on either side. Our troops fell back, and the rebel lines closed in a semi-circle. Still advancing, still pouring in their volleys with the utmost deliberation, the enemy came on, and at length a portion of their column quickened into a charge. Our troops gave way, not in confusion, but in steady line, delivering their fire as they fell back, step by step, to the shelter of the batteries.

Quick as lightning our guns now belched forth from the summits of the hills above. Shell and shrapnel, canister and case, whichever came readiest to hand in the ammunition-chests, were

hurled at the serried ranks of the rebels. Our gunners could distinctly see the swathes which their missiles cut in those regiments advancing in solid mass. Benjamin, Roemer, Buckley, Gettings, Henshaw, all had full play upon the foe with their pet guns.

As might be expected, the rebels gave way under this severe fire, but in admirable order, and, falling back again to the cover of the timber, which, in addition, was beyond ordinary range, made their disposition for the renewal of the attack. Heretofore they had fought without artillery. They now brought three batteries into position, and opened from the tops of the knolls, while the infantry deployed upon our flanks once more.

It was now late in the afternoon, the trains had obtained a good start on the road, and so far, General Burnside had obtained his object. It was unnecessary, therefore, to hazard, in his present position, the result of the attack to which the rebels were returning with renewed vigor, while a better position was afforded in his rear. He accordingly fell back about half a mile, to another series of commanding hills, where our batteries again came into position, and the fight was renewed. The second engagement, like the first, was marked by the same stubborn fighting on either side.

Our forces contested the ground successfully until night terminated the battle, and left them in their chosen position. As the end for which General Burnside had given battle was attained, namely, the checking of the enemy's progress, until our trains were out of danger, and as he was not desirous of risking another engagement until he reached the fortifications at Knoxville, the retreat began once more, and it is reasonable to suppose, as the enemy gave no pursuit until the morning, that they were unaware of the movement, and expected a renewal of the fight on the ground of yesterday.

Despite the briskness and energy with which the fight was carried on, our loss is very small. It will not exceed three hundred, and General Burnside estimated it as low as two hundred.

The enemy have lost far more in comparison—the result of the severe artillery fire to which they were exposed; and one thousand is not far from their number.

I cannot finish my account without alluding to Colonel Chapin's brigade, of the Twenty-third corps, which fought with distinguished valor, and which, though not so long in the service as many of their veteran *confrères*, has well earned a place by their side.

Doc. 14.

BATTLES AT CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

DESPATCHES TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

FROM GENERAL GRANT.

[Received 6.40 P.M., Nov. 23, 1863.]

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., 8 P.M., Nov. 23, 1863.

Major-General H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief:
GENERAL THOMAS's troops attacked the ene-

my's left at two P.M. to-day, carried first line of rifle-pits, running over the knoll one thousand two hundred yards in front of Wood's Fort and low ridge to the right of it, taking about two hundred prisoners, besides killed and wounded; our loss small. The troops moved under fire with all the precision of veterans on parade. Thomas's troops will intrench themselves, and hold their position until daylight, when Sherman will join the attack from the mouth of the Chickamauga, and a decisive battle will be fought. U. S. GRANT,
Major-General.

FROM GENERAL THOMAS.

[Received in cipher, 8.45 A.M., Nov. 25.]

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Nov. 24, 1863—12 M.

Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief:

Yesterday, at half-past twelve, Granger's and Palmer's corps, supported by Howard's, were advanced directly in front of our fortifications, drove in the enemy's pickets, and carried his first line of rifle-pits between Chattanooga and Citico Creeks. We captured nine commissioned officers and about one hundred and sixty enlisted men. Our loss, about one hundred and eleven.

To-day, Hooker, in command of Geary's division, Twelfth corps, Osterhaus's division, Fifteenth corps, and two brigades Fourteenth corps, carried north slope of Lookout Mountain, with small loss on our side, and a loss to the enemy of five hundred or six hundred prisoners; killed and wounded not reported.

There has been continuous fighting from twelve o'clock until after night, but our troops gallantly repulsed every attempt to retake the position. Sherman crossed the Tennessee before daylight this morning, at the mouth of South-Chickamauga, with three divisions of the Fifteenth corps, one division Fourteenth corps, and carried the northern extremity of Missionary Ridge.

General Grant has ordered a general advance in the morning. Our success so far has been complete, and the behavior of the troops admirable.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

FROM GENERAL GRANT.

[Received 4 A.M., 25th.]

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Nov. 24, 1863—6 P.M.

Major-General Halleck:

The fight to-day progressed favorably. Sherman carried the end of Missionary Ridge, and his right is now at the Tunnel and left at Chickamauga Creek. Troops from Lookout Valley carried the point of the mountain, and now hold the eastern slope and point high up. I cannot yet tell the amount of casualties, but our loss is not heavy. Hooker reports two thousand prisoners taken, besides which a small number have fallen into our hands from Missionary Ridge.

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General.

FROM GENERAL GRANT.

[Received 10 P.M.]

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Nov. 25, 1863—7½ P.M.

Major-General H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief:
Although the battle lasted from early dawn

till dark this evening, I believe I am not premature in announcing a complete victory over Bragg. Lookout Mountain top, all the rifle-pits in Chattanooga Valley, and Missionary Ridge entire, have been carried and now held by us.

I have no idea of finding Bragg here to-morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General Commanding.

FROM GENERAL THOMAS.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NOV. 25, 1863—12 Midnight.

To *Major-General H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief*:

The operations of to-day have been more successful than yesterday, having carried Missionary Ridge from near Rossville to the railroad tunnel, with a comparatively small loss on our side, capturing about forty pieces of artillery, a large quantity of small arms, camp and garrison equipage, besides the arms in the hands of the prisoners. We captured two thousand prisoners, of whom two hundred were officers of all grades, from colonels down.

We will pursue the enemy in the morning. The conduct of the officers and troops was every thing that could be expected. Missionary Ridge was carried simultaneously at six different points.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

FROM GENERAL THOMAS.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NOV. 26, 1863—11 P.M.

To *Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief*:

General Davis, commanding division, Fourteenth corps, operating with General Sherman, gained possession of Chickamauga depot at half-past twelve to-day. My troops having pursued by the Rossville and Greysville road, came upon the enemy's cavalry at New-Bridge, posted on east side of creek. They retired on the approach of our troops. The column will be detained for a few hours to rebuild the bridge, but Hooker thinks he can reach Greysville, and perhaps Ringgold, to-night. Many stragglers have been picked up to-day, perhaps two thousand. Among the prisoners are many who were paroled at Vicksburg.

GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General.

FROM GENERAL GRANT.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., 1 A.M., NOV. 27, 1863.

To *Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief*:

I am just in from the front. The rout of the enemy is most complete. Abandoned wagons, caissons, and occasionally pieces of artillery, are everywhere to be found. I think Bragg's loss will fully reach sixty pieces of artillery. A large number of prisoners have fallen into our hands. The pursuit will continue to Red Clay in the morning, for which place I shall start in a few hours.

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General.

FROM GENERAL THOMAS.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NOV. 27, 1863—12 P.M.

To *Major-General H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief*:

General Palmer reports Johnson's division, Fourteenth corps, surprised A. P. Stewart's divi-

sion last night, taking four guns, two caissons, and many prisoners. Hooker reports his arrival at Ringgold at nine A.M. to-day; found the road strewn with caissons, limbers, and ambulances. He commenced skirmishing with enemy at eleven A.M., in Railroad Pass or Gap, near Ringgold—about half Osterhaus's and third Geary's division engaged, and forced the enemy to abandon the position he had taken in the passes. Both divisions suffered severely, the enemy making obstinate resistance. On the morning of the twenty-fourth, I sent Colonel Long, commanding Second brigade, Second cavalry division, across South-Chickamauga to make raids on East-Tennessee and Georgia Railroad. He returned this evening, bringing two hundred and fifty prisoners, and reports he has destroyed the railroad from Tyner's Station to the Hiawassee, and ten miles south-west of Cleveland. He also destroyed eighty wagons and large quantity commissary stores and other supplies at Cleveland. The prisoners we have taken since the twenty-third now sum up more than five thousand.

GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General Commanding.

GENERAL GRANT'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE }
MISSISSIPPI, IN FIELD, }
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., DEC. 23, 1863. }

Colonel J. C. Kelton, Assistant-Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.:

COLONEL: In pursuance of General Orders No. 337, War Department, of date Washington, October sixteenth, 1863, delivered to me by the Secretary of War at Louisville, Kentucky, on the eighteenth of the same month, I assumed command of the "Military Division of the Mississippi," comprising the departments of the Ohio, the Cumberland, and the Tennessee, and telegraphed the order assuming command, together with the order of the War Department referred to, to Major-General A. E. Burnside, at Knoxville, and to Major-General W. S. Rosecrans, at Chattanooga.

My action in telegraphing these orders to Chattanooga in advance of my arrival there, was induced by information furnished me by the Secretary of War of the difficulties with which the army of the Cumberland had to contend in supplying itself over a long, mountainous, and almost impassable road from Stevenson, Alabama, to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and his fears that General Rosecrans would fall back to the north side of the Tennessee River. To guard further against the possibility of the Secretary's fears, I also telegraphed to Major-General Thomas, on the nineteenth of October, from Louisville, to hold Chattanooga at all hazards, that I would be there as soon as possible. To which he replied, on same date: "I will hold the town till we starve."

Proceeding directly to Chattanooga, I arrived there on the twenty-third of October, and found that General Thomas had, immediately on being placed in command of the department of the Cumberland, ordered the concentration of Major-

General Hooker's command at Bridgeport, preparatory to securing the river and main wagon-road between that place and Brown's Ferry, immediately below Lookout Mountain. The next morning, after my arrival at Chattanooga, in company with Thomas and Brigadier-General W. F. Smith, Chief-Engineer, I made a reconnoissance of Brown's Ferry and the hills on the south side of the river and at the mouth of Lookout valley. After the reconnoissance, the plan agreed upon was for Hooker to cross at Bridgeport to the south side of the river, with all the force that could be spared from the railroad, and move on the main wagon-road by way of Whitesides to Wauhatchie in Lookout valley. Major-General J. M. Palmer was to proceed by the only practicable route north of the river, from his position opposite Chattanooga to a point on the north bank of the Tennessee River, and opposite Whitesides, then to cross to the south side to hold the road passed over by Hooker.

In the mean time, and before the enemy could be apprised of our intention, a force under the direction of Brigadier-General W. F. Smith, Chief-Engineer, was to be thrown across the river, at or near Brown's Ferry, to seize the range of hills at the mouth of Lookout valley, covering the Brown's Ferry road, and orders were given accordingly.

It was known that the enemy held the north end of Lookout valley with a brigade of troops, and the road leading around the foot of the mountain from their main camp in Chattanooga valley to Lookout valley. Holding these advantages, he would have had little difficulty in concentrating a sufficient force to have defeated or driven him back. To remedy this, the seizure of the range of hills at the mouth of Lookout valley, and covering the Brown's Ferry road, was deemed of the highest importance. This, by the use of pontoon-bridges at Chattanooga and Brown's Ferry, would secure to us, by the north bank of the river across Moccasin Point, a shorter line by which to reinforce our troops in Lookout valley than the narrow and tortuous road around the foot of Lookout Mountain afforded the enemy for reinforcing his.

The force detailed for this expedition consisted of four thousand men, under command of General Smith, Chief-Engineer, one thousand eight hundred of which, under Brigadier-General W. B. Hazen, in sixty pontoon boats, containing thirty armed men each, floated quietly from Chattanooga past the enemy's pickets, to the foot of Lookout Mountain, on the night of the twenty-seventh of October, landed on the south side of the river at Brown's Ferry, surprised the enemy's pickets stationed there, and seized the hills covering the ferry, without the loss of a man killed, and but four or five wounded. The remainder of the forces, together with the materials for a bridge, were moved by the north bank of the river across Moccasin Point to Brown's Ferry, without attracting the attention of the enemy; and before day dawned, the whole force was ferried to the south bank of the

river, and the almost inaccessible heights rising from Lookout valley, at its outlet to the river, and below the mouth of Lookout Creek, were secured.

By ten o'clock A.M., an excellent pontoon-bridge was laid across the river at Brown's Ferry, thus securing to us the end of the desired road nearest the enemy's forces, and the shorter line over which to pass troops if a battle became inevitable. Positions were taken up by our troops from which they could not have been driven except by vastly superior forces, and then only with great loss to the enemy. Our artillery was placed in such position as to completely command the roads leading from the enemy's main camp in Chattanooga valley to Lookout valley.

On the twenty-eighth, Hooker emerged into Lookout valley at Wauhatchie, by the direct road from Bridgeport by way of Whitesides to Chattanooga, with the Eleventh army corps under Major-General Howard, and Geary's division of the Twelfth army corps, and proceeded to take up positions for the defence of the road from Whitesides, over which he had marched, and also the road leading from Brown's Ferry to Kelly's Ferry, throwing the left of Howard's corps forward to Brown's Ferry.

The division that started, under command of Palmer, for Whitesides, reached its destination, and took up the position intended in the original plan of this movement. These movements, so successfully executed, secured to us two comparatively good lines by which to obtain supplies from the terminus of the railroad at Bridgeport, namely, the main wagon-road by way of Whitesides, Wauhatchie, and Brown's Ferry, distant but twenty-eight miles, and the Kelly's Ferry and Brown's Ferry road, which, by the use of the river from Bridgeport to Kelly's Ferry, reduced the distance for wagoning to but eight miles.

Up to this period, our forces at Chattanooga were practically invested, the enemy's lines extending from the Tennessee River, above Chattanooga, to the river at and below the point of Lookout Mountain, below Chattanooga, with the south bank of the river picketed to near Bridgeport, his main force being fortified in Chattanooga valley, at the foot of and on Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain, and a brigade in Lookout valley. True, we held possession of the country north of the river, but it was from sixty to seventy miles, over the most impracticable roads to army supplies.

The artillery horses and mules had become so reduced by starvation that they could not have been relied upon for moving any thing. An attempt at retreat must have been with men alone, and with only such supplies as they could carry. A retreat would have been almost certain annihilation, for the enemy, occupying positions within gunshot of, and overlooking, our very fortifications, would unquestionably have pursued retreating forces. Already more than ten thousand animals had perished in supplying half-

rations to the troops by the long and tedious route from Stevenson and Bridgeport to Chattanooga over Waldrous Ridge. They could not have been supplied another week.

The enemy was evidently fully apprised of our condition in Chattanooga, and of the necessity of our establishing a new and shorter line by which to obtain supplies, if we would maintain our position; and so fully was he impressed of the importance of keeping from us these lines—lost to him by surprise, and in a manner he little dreamed of—that, in order to regain possession of them, a night attack was made by a portion of Longstreet's forces on a portion of Hooker's troops (George's division of the Twelfth corps) the first night after Hooker's arrival in the valley. The attack failed, however, and Howard's corps, which was moving to the assistance of Geary, finding that it was not required by him, carried the remaining heights held by the enemy west of Lookout Creek. This gave us quiet possession of the lines of communication heretofore described south of the Tennessee River. Of these operations I cannot speak more particularly, the sub-reports having been sent to Washington without passing through my hands.

By the use of two steamboats—one of which had been left at Chattanooga by the enemy and fell into our hands, and one that had been built by us at Bridgeport and Kelly's Ferry—we were enabled to obtain supplies with but eight miles of wagoning. The capacity of the railroad and steamboats was not sufficient, however, to supply all the wants of the army, but actual suffering was prevented.

Ascertaining from scouts and deserters that Bragg was detaching Longstreet from the front and moving him in the direction of Knoxville, Tenn., evidently to attack Burnside, and feeling strongly the necessity of some move that would compel him to retain all his forces and recall those he had detached, directions were given for a movement against Missionary Ridge, with a view to carrying it and threatening the enemy's communications with Longstreet, of which I informed Burnside by telegraph on the seventh of November.

After a thorough reconnoissance of the ground, however, it was deemed utterly impracticable to make the move until Sherman could get up, because of the inadequacy of our forces and the condition of the animals then at Chattanooga; and I was forced to leave Burnside, for the present, to contend against superior forces of the enemy until the arrival of Sherman with his men and means of transportation. In the mean time, reconnoissances were made, and plans matured for operations. Despatches were sent to Sherman, informing him of the movement of Longstreet, and the necessity of his immediate presence at Chattanooga.

On the fourteenth of November, I telegraphed to Burnside as follows:

"Your despatch and Dana's just received. Being there, you can tell better how to resist Longstreet's attack than I can direct. With

your showing, you had better give up Kingston at the last moment, and save the most productive part of your possessions. Every arrangement is now made to throw Sherman's force across the river, just at and below the mouth of Chickamauga Creek, as soon as it arrives. Thomas will attack on his left at the same time; and, together, it is expected to carry Missionary Ridge, and from there rush a force on to the railroad between Cleveland and Dalton. Hooker will at the same time attack, and, if he can, carry Lookout Mountain. The enemy now seems to be looking for an attack on his left flank. This favors us. To further confirm this, Sherman's advance division will march direct from Whitesides to Trenton. The remainder of his force will pass over a new road just made from Whitesides to Kelly's Ferry, thus being concealed from the enemy, and leave him to suppose the whole force is going up Lookout valley.

"Sherman's advance has only just reached Bridgeport. The rear will only reach there on the sixteenth. This will bring it to the nineteenth as the earliest day for making the combined movement as desired. Inform me if you think you can sustain yourself till that time. I can hardly conceive of the enemy breaking through at Kingston, and pushing for Kentucky. If they should, however, a new problem would be left for solution. Thomas has ordered a division of cavalry to the vicinity of Sparta. I will ascertain if they have started, and inform you. It will be entirely out of the question to send for ten thousand men, not because they cannot be spared, but how could they be fed after they got one day east of here?

"U. S. GRANT,

Major-General.

"To Major-General A. E. BURNSIDE."

On the fifteenth—having received from the General-in-Chief a despatch of date the fourteenth, in reference to Burnside's position, the danger of his abandonment of East-Tennessee unless immediate relief was afforded, and the terrible misfortune such a result would be to our arms; and also despatches from Mr. C. A. Dana, Assistant Secretary of War; and Colonel Wilson of my staff, sent at the instance of General Burnside, informing me more fully of the condition of affairs as detailed to them by him—I telegraphed him as follows:

CHATTANOOGA, November 15, 1863.

I do not know how to impress on you the necessity of holding on to East-Tennessee in strong enough terms. According to the despatches of Mr. Dana and Colonel Wilson, it would seem that you should, if pressed to do it, hold on to Knoxville and that portion of the valley you will necessarily possess holding to that point. Should Longstreet move his whole force across the Little Tennessee, an effort should be made to cut his pontoons on that stream even if it sacrificed half the cavalry of the Ohio army.

By holding on, and placing Longstreet between the Little Tennessee and Knoxville, he should

not be allowed to escape with an army capable of doing any thing this winter. I can hardly conceive the necessity of retreating from East-Tennessee. If I did at all, it would be after losing most of the army, and then necessity would suggest the route. I will not attempt to lay out a line of retreat. Kingston, looking at the map, I thought of more importance than any one point in East-Tennessee.

But my attention being called more closely to it, I can see that it might be passed by, and Knoxville and the rich valley about it possessed, ignoring that place entirely. I should not think it advisable to concentrate a force near Little Tennessee to resist the crossing, if it would be in danger of capture; but I would harass and embarrass progress in every way possible, reflecting on the fact that the army of the Ohio is not the only army to resist the onward progress of the enemy.

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General.

To Major-General A. E. BURNSIDE.

Previous reconnaissances made, first by Brigadier-General W. F. Smith, Chief-Engineer, and afterward by Thomas, Sherman, and myself, in company with him, of the country opposite Chattanooga and north of the Tennessee River, extending as far east as the mouth of the South-Chickamauga and the north end of Missionary Ridge, so far as the same could be made from the north bank of the river without exciting suspicions on the part of the enemy, showed good roads from Brown's Ferry up the river and back of the first range of hills opposite Chattanooga, and out of view of the enemy's positions. Troops crossing the bridge at Brown's Ferry could be seen, and their numbers estimated by the enemy; but not seeing any thing further of them as they passed up in rear of these hills, he would necessarily be at a loss to know whether they were moving to Knoxville, or held on the north side of the river for further operations at Chattanooga. It also showed that the north end of Missionary Ridge was imperfectly guarded, and that the banks of the river from the mouth of South-Chickamauga Creek, eastward to his main line in front of Chattanooga, was watched only by a small cavalry picket. This determined the plan of operations indicated in my despatch of the fourteenth to Burnside.

Upon further consideration—the great object being to mass all the forces possible against one given point, namely, Missionary Ridge, converging toward the north end of it—it was deemed best to change the original plan, so far as it contemplated Hooker's attack on Lookout Mountain, which would give us Howard's corps of his command to aid in this purpose; and on the eighteenth the following instructions were given Thomas:

"All preparations should be made for attacking the enemy's position on Missionary Ridge by Saturday at daylight. Not being provided with a map giving names of roads, spurs of the mountain, and other places, such definite instructions cannot be given as might be desirable. How-

ever, the general plan, you understand, is for Sherman, with the force brought with him, strengthened by a division from your command, to effect a crossing of the Tennessee River, just below the mouth of the Chickamauga, his crossing to be protected by artillery from the heights of the north bank of the river, (to be located by your Chief of Artillery,) and to secure the heights from the northern extremity to about the railroad tunnel before the enemy can concentrate against him. You will cooperate with Sherman.

"The troops in Chattanooga valley should all be concentrated on your left flank, leaving only the necessary force to defend fortifications on the right and centre, and a movable column of one division in readiness to move whenever ordered. This division should show itself as threateningly as possible on the most practicable line for making an attack up the valley. Your effort, then, will be to form a junction with Sherman, making your advance well toward the northern end of Missionary Ridge, and moving as near simultaneously with him as possible. The junction once formed, and the ridge carried, connections will be at once established between the two armies by roads on the south bank of the river. Further movements will then depend on those of the enemy. Lookout valley, I think, will be easily held by Geary's division, and what troops you may still have there belonging to the old army of the Cumberland.

"Howard's corps can then be held in readiness to act either with you at Chattanooga or with Sherman. It should be marched on Friday night to a position on the north side of the river, not lower down than the first pontoon-bridge, and then held in readiness for such orders as may become necessary. All these troops will be provided with two days' cooked rations, in haversacks, and one hundred rounds of ammunition, on the person of each infantry soldier. Special care should be taken by all officers to see that ammunition is not wasted or unnecessarily fired away. You will call on the engineer department for such preparations as you may deem necessary for carrying your infantry and artillery over the creek.

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General.

"To Major-General GEORGE H. THOMAS."

A copy of these instructions was furnished Sherman with the following communication:

Inclosed herewith I send you copy of instructions to Major-General Thomas, for, having been over the ground in person, and having heard the whole matter discussed, further instructions will not be necessary for you. It is particularly desirable that a force should be got through to the railroad between Cleveland and Dalton, and Longstreet thus cut off from communication with the South; but being confronted by a large force here, strongly located, it is not easy to tell how this is to be effected until the result of our first effort is known. I will add, however, what is not shown in my instructions to Thomas, that a brigade of cavalry has been ordered here, which,

if it arrives in time, will be thrown across the Tennessee above Chickamauga, and may be able to make the trip to Cleveland or thereabouts.

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General.

To Major-General W. T. SHERMAN.

Sherman's forces were moved from Bridgeport by way of Whitesides—one division threatening the enemy's left front in the direction of Trenton—crossing at Brown's Ferry, up the north bank of the Tennessee to near the mouth of South-Chickamauga, where they were kept concealed from the enemy until they were ready to form a crossing. Pontoons for throwing a bridge across the river were built, and placed in North-Chickamauga, near its mouth, a few miles further up, without attracting the attention of the enemy. It was expected we would be able to effect the crossing on the twenty-first of November; but, owing to heavy rains, Sherman was unable to get up until the afternoon of the twenty-third, and then only with Generals Morgan L. Smith's, John E. Smith's, and Hugh Ewing's divisions of the Fifteenth corps, under command of Major-General Frank P. Blair, of his army.

The pontoon-bridge at Brown's Ferry having been broken by the drift consequent upon the rise in the river, and rafts sent down by the enemy, the other division—Osterhaus's—was retained on the south side, and was, on the night of the twenty-third, ordered, unless it could get across by eight o'clock the next morning, to report to Hooker, who was instructed, in this event, to attack Lookout Mountain, as contemplated in the original plan.

A deserter from the rebel army, who came into our lines on the night of the twenty-second November, reported Bragg falling back. The following letter, received from Bragg by flag of truce on the twentieth, tended to confirm this report:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE, }
IN THE FIELD, November 20, 1863. }

Major-General U. S. Grant, Commanding United States Forces at Chattanooga:

GENERAL: As there may still be some non-combatants in Chattanooga, I deem it proper to notify you that prudence would dictate their early withdrawal.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General Commanding.

Not being willing that he should get his army off in good order, Thomas was directed, early on the morning of the twenty-third, to ascertain the truth or falsity of this report, by driving in his pickets and making him develop his lines. This he did, with the troops stationed at Chattanooga and Howard's corps, (which had been brought into Chattanooga because of the apprehended danger to our pontoon-bridges from the rise in the river and the enemy's rafts,) in the most gallant style, driving the enemy from his first line, and securing to us what is known as "Indian Hill," or "Orchard Knoll," and the low range of hills

south of it. These points were fortified during the night, and artillery put in position on them. The report of this deserter was evidently not intended to deceive, but he had mistaken Bragg's movements. It was afterward ascertained that one division of Buckner's corps had gone to join Longstreet, and a second division of the same corps had started, but was brought back in consequence of our attack.

On the night of the twenty-third of November, Sherman, with three divisions of his army, strengthened by Davis's division of Thomas's corps, which had been stationed along the north bank of the river, convenient to where the crossing was to be effected, was ready for operations. At an hour sufficiently early to secure the south bank of the river, just below the mouth of South-Chickamauga, by dawn of day, the pontoons in the North-Chickamauga were loaded with thirty armed men each, who floated quietly past the enemy's pickets, landed, and captured all but one of the guard, twenty in number, before the enemy was aware of the presence of a foe. The steamboat Dunbar, with a barge in tow, after having finished ferrying across the river the horses procured from Sherman, with which to move Thomas's artillery, was sent up from Chattanooga to aid in crossing artillery and troops; and by daylight of the morning of the twenty-fourth of November, eight thousand men were on the south side of the Tennessee, and fortified in rifle-trenches.

By twelve o'clock M., the pontoon-bridges across the Tennessee and the Chickamauga were laid, and the remainder of Sherman's forces crossed over, and at half past three P.M. the whole of the northern extremity of Missionary Ridge, to near the railroad tunnel, was in Sherman's possession. During the night he fortified the position thus secured, making it equal, if not superior, in strength to that held by the enemy.

By three o'clock of the same day, Colonel Long, with his brigade of cavalry, of Thomas's army, crossed to the south side of the Tennessee and to the north of Chickamauga Creek, and made a raid on the enemy's lines of communication. He burned Tyner's Station, with many stores, cut the railroad at Cleveland, captured near a hundred wagons and over two hundred prisoners. His own loss was small.

Hooker carried out the part assigned him for this day equal to the most sanguine expectations. With Geary's division (Twelfth corps) and two brigades of Stanley's division (Fourth corps) of Thomas's army, and Osterhaus's division (Fifteenth corps) of Sherman's army, he scaled the western slope of Lookout Mountain, drove the enemy from his rifle-pits on the northern extremity and slope of the mountain, capturing many prisoners, without serious loss.

Thomas having done on the twenty-third, with his troops in Chattanooga, what was intended for the twenty-fourth, bettered and strengthened his advanced positions during the day, and pushed the Eleventh corps forward along the south bank of the Tennessee River, across Citico Creek,

one brigade of which, with Howard in person, reached Sherman just as he had completed the crossing of the river.

When Hooker emerged in sight of the northern extremity of Lookout Mountain, Carlin's brigade of the Fourteenth corps was ordered to cross Chattanooga Creek and form a junction with him. This was effected late in the evening, and after considerable fighting.

Thus, on the night of the twenty-fourth, our forces maintained an unbroken line, with open communications, from the north end of Lookout Mountain, through Chattanooga valley, to the north end of Missionary Ridge.

On the morning of the twenty-fifth, Hooker took possession of the mountain-top with a small force, and with the remainder of his command, in pursuance of orders, swept across Chattanooga valley, now abandoned by the enemy, to Rossville. In this march he was detained four hours building a bridge across Chattanooga Creek. From Rossville he ascended Missionary Ridge, and moved southward toward the centre of the now shortened line.

Sherman's attack upon the enemy's most northern and most vital point was vigorously kept up all day. The assaulting column advanced to the very rifle-pits of the enemy, and held this position firmly and without wavering. The right of the assaulting column being exposed to the danger of being turned, two brigades were sent to its support. These advanced in the most gallant manner over an open field on the mountain side to near the works of the enemy, and lay there partially covered from the fire for some time. The right of these two brigades rested near the head of a ravine or gorge in the mountain side, which the enemy took advantage of, and sent troops covered from view below them, and to their right rear. Being unexpectedly fired into from this direction, they fell back across the open field below them, and re-formed in good order in the edge of the timber. The column which attacked them were speedily driven to their intrenchments by the assaulting column proper.

Early in the morning of the twenty-fifth, the remainder of Howard's corps reported to Sherman, and constituted a part of his forces during that day's battle, the pursuit, and subsequent advance for the relief of Knoxville.

Sherman's position not only threatened the right flank of the enemy, but, from his occupying a line across the mountain and to the railroad bridge across Chickamauga Creek, his rear and stores at Chickamauga Station. This caused the enemy to move heavily against him. This movement of his being plainly seen from the position I occupied on Orchard Knoll, Baird's division of the Fourteenth corps was ordered to Sherman's support; but receiving a note from Sherman, informing me that he had all the force necessary, Baird was put in position on Thomas's left.

The appearance of Hooker's column was at this time anxiously looked for, and momentarily expected, moving north on the ridge, with his

left in Chattanooga Valley, and his right east of the ridge. His approach was intended as the signal for storming the ridge in the centre with strong columns, but the time necessarily consumed in the construction of the bridge near Chattanooga Creek detained him to a later hour than was expected. Being satisfied from the latest information from him that he must, by this time, be on his way from Rossville, though not yet in sight, and discovering that the enemy, in his desperation to defeat or resist the progress of Sherman, was weakening his centre on Missionary Ridge, determined me to order the advance at once. Thomas was accordingly directed to move forward his troops constituting our centre—Baird's division, (Fourteenth corps,) Wood's and Sheridan's division, (Fourth corps,) and Johnson's division, (Fourteenth corps,) with a double line of skirmishers thrown out, followed in easy supporting distance by the whole force, and carry the rifle-pits at the foot of Missionary Ridge, and, when carried, to re-form his lines in the rifle-pits, with a view to carrying the top of the ridge.

These troops moved forward, drove the enemy from the rifle-pits at the base of the ridge like bees from a hive, stopped but a moment until the whole were in line, and commenced the ascent of the mountain from right to left almost simultaneously, following closely the retreating enemy without further orders. They encountered a fearful volley of grape and canister from near thirty pieces of artillery and musketry from still well-filled rifle-pits on the summit of the ridge. Not a waver, however, was seen in all that long line of brave men. Their progress was steadily onward until the summit was in their possession. In this charge the casualties were remarkably few for the fire encountered. I can account for this only on the theory that the enemy's surprise at the audacity of such a charge caused confusion and purposeless aiming of their pieces.

The nearness of night, and the enemy still resisting the advance of Thomas's left, prevented a general pursuit that night, but Sheridan pushed forward to Mission Mills.

The resistance on Thomas's left being overcome, the enemy abandoned his position near the railroad-tunnel in front of Sherman, and by twelve o'clock at night was in full retreat; and the whole of his strong positions on Lookout Mountain, Chattanooga Valley, and Missionary Ridge were in our possession, together with a large number of prisoners, artillery, and small arms.

Thomas was directed to get Granger with his corps, and detachments enough from other commands, including the force available at Kingston, to make twenty thousand men, in readiness to go to the relief of Knoxville upon the termination of the battle at Chattanooga—these troops to take with them four days' rations, and a steamboat loaded with rations to follow up the river.

On the evening of the twenty-fifth of November orders were given to both Thomas and Sherman to pursue the enemy early next morning, with

all their available force, except that under Granger, intended for the relief of Knoxville.

On the morning of the twenty-sixth, Sherman advanced by way of Chickamauga Station, and Thomas's forces under Hooker and Palmer moved on the Rossville road toward Grapeville and Ringgold.

The advance of Thomas's forces reached Ringgold on the morning of the twenty-seventh, where they found the enemy in strong position in the gorge and on the crest of Taylor's Ridge, from which they dislodged him after a severe fight, in which we lost heavily in valuable officers and men, and continued the pursuit that day until near Tunnel Hill, a distance of twenty miles from Chattanooga.

Davis's division (Fourteenth corps) of Sherman's column reached Ringgold about noon of the same day. Howard's corps was sent by General Sherman to Red Clay to destroy the railroad between Dalton and Cleveland, and thus cut off Bragg's communication with Longstreet, which was successfully accomplished.

Had it not been for the imperative necessity of relieving Burnside, I would have pursued the broken, demoralized, and retreating enemy as long as supplies could have been found in the country. But my advices were, that Burnside's supplies could only last until the third of December. It was already getting late to afford the necessary relief. I determined, therefore, to pursue no further. Hooker was directed to hold the position he then occupied until the night of the thirtieth, but to go no further south at the expense of a fight. Sherman was directed to march to the railroad crossing of the Hiwassee, to protect Granger's flank until he was across that stream, and to prevent further reinforcements being sent by that route into East-Tennessee.

Returning from the front on the twenty-eighth, I found that Granger had not yet got off, nor would he have the number of men I directed. Besides, he moved with reluctance and complaint. I therefore determined, notwithstanding the fact that two divisions of Sherman's forces had marched from Memphis, and had gone into battle immediately on their arrival at Chattanooga, to send him with his command; and orders in accordance therewith were sent him at Calhoun to assume command of the troops with Granger, in addition to those with him, and proceed with all possible despatch to the relief of Burnside.

General Elliot had been ordered by Thomas, on the twenty-sixth of November, to proceed from Alexandria, Tennessee, to Knoxville, with his cavalry division, to aid in the relief of that place.

The approach of Sherman caused Longstreet to raise the siege of Knoxville and retreat eastward on the night of the fourth of December. Sherman succeeded in throwing his cavalry into Knoxville on the night of the third.

Sherman arrived in person at Knoxville on the sixth, and after a conference with Burnside in reference to "organizing a pursuing force large enough to overtake the enemy and beat him, or

drive him out of the State," Burnside was of the opinion that the corps of Granger, in conjunction with his own command, was sufficient for that purpose, and on the seventh addressed to Sherman the following communication:

"KNOXVILLE, Dec. 7, 1868.

"To Major-General Sherman:

"I desire to express to you and your command my most hearty thanks and gratitude, for your promptness in coming to our relief during the siege of Knoxville, and I am satisfied that your approach served to raise the siege. The emergency having passed, I do not deem, for the present, any other portion of your command but the corps of General Granger necessary for operations in this section; and, inasmuch as General Grant has weakened the forces immediately with him in order to relieve us, thereby rendering portions of General Thomas's less secure, I deem it advisable that all the troops now here, except those commanded by General Granger, should return at once to within supporting distance of the forces operating against General Bragg's army. In behalf of my command, I again desire to thank you and your command for the kindness you have done us.

A. E. BURNSIDE,

"Major-General."

Leaving Granger's command at Knoxville, Sherman, with the remainder of the forces, returned by slow marches to Chattanooga.

I have not spoken more particularly of the result of the pursuit of the enemy, because the more detailed reports accompanying this do the subject justice. For the same reason I have not particularized the part taken by corps and division commanders.

To Brigadier-General W. F. Smith, Chief-Engineer, I feel under more than ordinary obligations for the masterly manner in which he discharged the duties of his position, and desire that his services may be fully appreciated by higher authorities.

The members of my staff discharged faithfully their respective duties, for which they have my warmest thanks.

Our losses in these battles were seven hundred and fifty-seven killed, four thousand five hundred and twenty-nine wounded, and three hundred and thirty missing—total, five thousand six hundred and sixteen.

The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded was probably less than ours, owing to the fact that he was protected by his intrenchments, while we were without cover. At Knoxville, however, his loss was many times greater than ours, making his entire losses at the two places equal to, if not exceeding ours. We captured six thousand one hundred and forty-two prisoners, of whom two hundred and thirty-nine were commissioned officers; forty pieces of artillery, sixty-nine artillery carriages and caissons, and seven thousand stand of small arms.

The armies of the Cumberland and the Tennessee, for their energy and unsurpassed bravery in the three days' battle of Chattanooga,

and the pursuit of the enemy; their patient endurance in marching to the relief of Knoxville; and the army of the Ohio for its masterly defence of Knoxville, and repeated repulses of Longstreet's assaults upon that place, are deserving of the gratitude of their country. I have the honor to be, Colonel, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Major-General U. S. Army.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT AND ARMY OF THE
TENNESSEE, BRIDGEPORT, ALA., Dec. 19, 1863. }

Brigadier-General John A. Rawlins, Chief of Staff to General Grant, Chattanooga, Tenn. :

GENERAL: For the first time, I am now at leisure to make an official record of the events with which the troops under my command have been connected during the eventful campaign which has just closed.

During the month of September last, the Fifteenth army corps, which I had the honor to command, lay in camps along the Big Black, about twenty miles east of Vicksburg, Miss.

It consisted of four divisions. The First, commanded by Brigadier-General B. J. Osterhaus, was composed of two brigades, led by Brigadier-General C. K. Woods and Colonel J. A. Williamson, of the Fourth Iowa. The Second, commanded by Brigadier-General Morgan L. Smith, was composed of two brigades, led by Generals Giles A. Smith and J. A. D. Lightburn. The Third, commanded by Brigadier-General J. M. Tuttle, was composed of three brigades, led by Generals J. A. Momer and R. B. Buckland and Colonel J. J. Wood, of the Twelfth Iowa. The Fourth, commanded by Brigadier-General Hugh Ewing, was composed of three brigades, led by General J. M. Corse, Colonel Loomis, of the Twenty-sixth Illinois, and Colonel J. R. Cockrell, of the Seventieth Iowa.

On the twenty-second day of September, I received a telegraphic despatch from General Grant, then at Vicksburg, commanding the department of the Tennessee, requiring me to detach one of my divisions to march to Vicksburg, there to embark for Memphis, where it was to form part of an army to be sent to Chattanooga to reinforce General Rosecrans.

I designated the First division, and at four p.m. the same day it marched for Vicksburg, and embarked the next day.

On the twenty-third of September, I was summoned to Vicksburg by the General Commanding, who showed me several despatches from the General-in-Chief, which led him to suppose he would have to send me and my whole corps to Memphis and eastward, and I was instructed to prepare for such orders.

It was explained to me that in consequence of the low stage of water in the Mississippi, boats had arrived irregularly, and had brought despatches that seemed to conflict in meaning, and that John E. Smith's division, of McPherson's corps, had been ordered up to Memphis, and that

I should take that division and leave one of my own in its stead to hold the line of the Big Black.

I detailed my Third division, General Tuttle, to remain and report to Major-General J. B. McPherson, commanding the Seventeenth corps, at Vicksburg; and that of General John E. Smith, already started for Memphis, was styled the Third division, though it still belonged to the Seventeenth army corps.

This division is also composed of three brigades, commanded by General Mathias, Colonel G. B. Baum, of the Fifty-sixth Illinois, and Colonel J. J. Alexander, of the Fiftieth Indiana.

The Second and Fourth divisions were started for Vicksburg the moment I was notified that boats were in readiness, and on the twenty-seventh September I embarked in person in the steamer Atlantic for Memphis, followed by a fleet of boats conveying these two divisions.

Our progress was slow, on account of the unprecedentedly low water in the Mississippi and the scarcity of coal and wood. We were compelled in places to gather fence-rails, and to land wagons and haul wood from the interior to the boats; but I reached Memphis during the night of the second of October, and the other boats came in on the third and fourth.

On arrival at Memphis I saw General Hurlbut, and read all the despatches and letters of instructions of General Halleck, and therein derived my instructions, which I construed to be as follows:

To conduct the Fifteenth army corps, and all other troops which could be spared from the line of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, to Athens, Ala., and thence report by letter for orders to General Rosecrans, commanding the army of the Cumberland at Chattanooga; to follow substantially the railroad eastwardly, repairing it as I moved; to look to my own lines for supplies, and in no event to depend on General Rosecrans for supplies, as the roads to his rear were already overtaxed to supply his present army.

I learned from General Hurlbut that Osterhaus's division was already out in front of Corinth, and that John E. Smith was still at Memphis, moving his troops and material out by rail as fast as its limited stock would carry them. General J. D. Webster was Superintendent of the railroad, and was enjoined to work night and day and expedite the movement as much as possible; but the capacity of the railroad was so small that I soon saw that I could move horses, mules, and wagons by the road under escort, and finally moved the entire Fourth division by land.

The enemy seemed to have had early notice of this movement, and he endeavored to thwart us from the start.

A considerable force assembled in a threatening attitude at Salem, south of Salisbury Station, and General Carr, who commanded at Corinth, felt compelled to turn back and use a part of my troops that had already reached Corinth to resist the threatened attack.

On Sunday, October eleventh, having put in

motion my whole force, I started myself for Corinth in a special train, with the battalion of the Thirtieth United States infantry for escort. We reached Collierville Station about noon, just in time to take part in the defence made of that station by Colonel D. C. Anthony, of the Sixty-sixth Indiana, against an attack made by General Chalmers with a force of about three thousand cavalry with eight pieces of artillery.

He was beaten off, the damage to the road repaired, and we resumed our journey next day, reaching Corinth at night.

I immediately ordered General Blair forward to Iuka with the First division, and as fast as I got troops up pushed them forward of Bear Creek, the bridge of which was completely destroyed, and an engineer regiment, under command of Colonel Flad, engaged in its repair.

Quite a considerable force of the enemy was in our front, near Tuscumbia, to resist our advance. It was commanded by General Stephen D. Lee, and composed of Roddy's and Furgeson's brigades, with irregular cavalry, amounting in the aggregate to about five thousand.

In person I moved from Corinth to Burnsville on the eighteenth, and to Iuka on the nineteenth of October.

Osterhaus's division was in the advance, constantly skirmishing with the enemy. It was supported by Morgan L. Smith, both divisions under the general command of Major-General Blair.

John E. Smith's division covered the working party engaged in rebuilding the railroad.

Foreseeing difficulty in crossing the Tennessee, I had written to Admiral Porter at Cairo, asking him to watch the Tennessee and send up some gunboats the moment the stage of water admitted, and had also requested General Allen, at St. Louis, to despatch up to Eastport a steam-tug ferry-boat.

The Admiral, ever prompt and ready to assist us, had two gunboats up at Eastport under Captain Phelps, the very day after my arrival at Iuka, and Captain Phelps had a coal-barge decked over with which to cross horses and wagons before the arrival of the ferry-boat.

Still following literally the instructions of General Halleck, I pushed forward the repairs of the railroad, and ordered General Blair, with his two leading divisions, to drive the enemy beyond Tuscumbia. This he did successfully, after a pretty severe fight at Cane Creek, occupying Tuscumbia on the twenty-seventh of October.

In the mean time many important changes in command had occurred, which I must note here, to a proper understanding of the case.

General Grant had been called from Vicksburg and sent to Chattanooga to command the three armies of the Ohio, Cumberland, and the Tennessee, and the department of the Tennessee had been devolved on me, with instructions, however, to retain command of the army in the field.

At Iuka I made what appeared to me the best disposition of matters relating to this depart-

ment, giving General McPherson full powers as to Mississippi, and General Hurlbut as to West-Tennessee, and assigned General Blair to the command of the Fifteenth army corps; and I summoned General Hurlbut from Memphis, and General Dodge from Corinth, and selected out of the Sixteenth corps a force of about eight thousand men, which I directed General Dodge to organize with all expedition and with it to follow me eastward.

On the twenty-seventh October, when General Blair with two divisions was at Tuscumbia, I ordered General Ewing, with the Fourth division, to cross the Tennessee, by means of the gunboats and scow, as rapidly as possible, at Eastport, and push forward to Florence, which he did, and the same day a messenger from General Grant floated down the Tennessee over the Muscle Shoals, landed at Tuscumbia, and was sent to me at Iuka. He bore a short message from the General to this effect:

"Drop all work on the Railroad east of Bear Creek; put your command toward Bridgeport till you meet orders."

Instantly the order was executed, and the order of march was reversed, and all columns directed to Eastport, the only place where I could cross the Tennessee.

At first I only had the gunboats and coal-barge, but the two transports and ferry-boat arrived on the thirty-first October, and the work of crossing was pushed with all the vigor possible.

In person I crossed, and passed to the head of the column in Florence on the first November, leaving the rear division to be conducted by General Blair, and marched to Rogersville and the Elk River. This was found to be impassable. To ferry would have consumed too much time, and to build a bridge still more, and there was no alternative but to turn up Elk River by way of Gilbertsboro, Elkton, etc., to the stone bridge at Fayetteville. There we crossed Elk, and proceeded to Winchester and Decherd.

At Fayetteville I received orders from General Grant to come to Bridgeport with the Fifteenth army corps, and leave General Dodge's command at Pulaski and along the railroad from Columbia to Decatur. I instructed General Blair to follow with the Second and First divisions by way of New-Market, Larkinsville, and Bellefonte, while I conducted the other two divisions by Decherd, the Fourth division crossing the mountains to Stevenson, and the Third by University Place and Sweiden's Cave.

In person I proceeded by Sweiden's Lane and Battle Creek, reaching Bridgeport at night of November thirteenth.

I immediately telegraphed to the Commanding-General my arrival and the position of my several divisions, and was summoned to Chattanooga.

I took the first boat during the night of the fourteenth for Kelly's, and rode into Chattanooga on the fifteenth.

I then learned the post assigned me in the

coming drama, was supplied with the necessary maps and information, and rode, during the sixteenth, in company with Generals Grant, Thomas, W. F. Smith, Brannan, and others, to the position on the west bank of the Tennessee, from which could be seen the camps of the enemy, compassing Chattanooga and the line of Missionary Hills with its terminus on Chickamauga Creek, the point that I was expected to take, hold, and fortify.

Pontoons with a full supply of balks and chasses had been prepared for the bridge over the Tennessee, and all things prearranged with a foresight that elicited my admiration. From the hills we looked down upon the amphitheatre of Chattanooga as on a map, and nothing remained but for me to put my troops in the desired position.

The plan contemplated that in addition to crossing the Tennessee and making a lodgment on the terminus of Missionary Ridge, I should demonstrate against Lookout Mountain near Trenton with a part of my command.

All on the Chattanooga were impatient for action, rendered almost acute by the natural apprehension felt for the safety of General Burnside in East-Tennessee.

My command had marched from Memphis, and I had pushed them as fast as the roads and distance would permit; but I saw enough of the condition of men and animals in Chattanooga to inspire me with renewed energy.

I immediately ordered my leading division (Ewing's) to march *via* Shell Mound to Trenton, demonstrate against Lookout Ridge, but to be prepared to turn quickly and follow me to Chattanooga, and in person I returned to Bridgeport, rowing a boat down the Tennessee from Kelly's, and immediately on arrival put in motion my division in the order they had arrived.

The bridge of boats at Bridgeport was frail, and, though used day and night, our passage was slow, and the roads thence to Chattanooga were dreadfully cut up and encumbered with the wagons of other troops stationed along the road.

I reached General Hooker's headquarters during a rain in the afternoon of the twentieth, and met General Grant's orders for the general attack for the next day. It was simply impossible for me to fill my post in time. Only one division, General John E. Smith's, was in position. General Ewing was still in Trenton, and the other two were toiling along the terrible road from Shell Mound to Chattanooga.

No troops ever were or could be in better condition than mine, or who labored harder to fulfil their part. On a proper representation, General Grant postponed the attack.

On the twenty-first, I got the Second division over Brown's Ferry Bridge, and General Ewing got up, but the bridge broke repeatedly, and delays occurred which no human sagacity could prevent.

All labored night and day, and General Ewing

got over on the twenty-third, but my rear division was cut off by the broken bridge at Brown's Ferry, and could not join me, but I offered to go in action with my three divisions, supported by Brigadier-General Jeff. C. Davis, leaving one of my best divisions to act with General Hooker against Lookout Mountain. That division has not joined me yet, but I know and feel that it has served the country well, and that it has reflected honor on the Fifteenth army corps, and the army of the Tennessee.

I leave the record of its history to General Hooker, or whoever has had its services during the late memorable events, confident that all will do it merited honor.

At last, on the twenty-third of November, my Third division behind the hills opposite the mouths of Chickamauga, I despatched the brigade of the Second division, commanded by General Giles A. Smith, up under cover of the hills to North-Chickamauga, to man the boats designed for the pontoon-bridge, with orders at midnight to drop down silently to a point above the mouth of South-Chickamauga, then land the regiments, who were to move along the river quietly, and capture the enemy's river pickets. General Giles A. Smith then to drop rapidly below the mouth of Chickamauga, disembark the rest of his brigade, and despatch the boats across for fresh loads.

These orders were skilfully executed, and every picket but one captured.

The balance of General Morgan L. Smith's division was then rapidly ferried across; that of General John E. Smith followed, and by daylight of November twenty-fourth, two divisions of about eight thousand men were on the east bank of the Tennessee, and had thrown up a very respectable rifle-trench as a *tête-du-pont*.

As soon as the day dawned, some of the boats were taken from the use of ferrying, and a pontoon-bridge begun under the immediate direction of Captain Dresser, the whole planned and supervised by General W. F. Smith in person. A pontoon-bridge was also built at the same time over Chickamauga Creek, near its mouth, giving communication with the two regiments left on the north bank, and fulfilling a most important purpose at a later stage of the drama.

I will here bear my willing testimony to the completeness of this whole business. All the officers charged with the work were present, and manifested a skill which I cannot praise too highly. I have never beheld any work done so quietly, so well; and I doubt if the history of the war can show a bridge of that extent, (namely, one thousand three hundred and fifty feet,) laid down so noiselessly and well in so short a time. I attribute it to the genius and intelligence of General W. F. Smith.

The steamer Dunbar arrived up in the course of the morning, and relieved General Ewing's division of the labor of rowing across, but by noon the pontoon-bridge was down, and my

Third division were across with men, horses, artillery, and every thing. General Jeff. C. Davis was ready to take the Missionary Hills.

The movement had been carefully explained to all division commanders, and at one P.M. we marched from the river in three columns in echelon; the left, General Morgan L. Smith, the column of direction, following substantially Chickamauga Creek; the centre, General J. E. Smith, in columns, doubled on the centre at full brigade intervals to the right and rear; the right, General Ewing, in column at the same distance to the right and rear, prepared to deploy to the right, on the supposition that we would meet an enemy in that direction.

Each head of column was covered by a good line of skirmishers, with supports. A light drizzling rain prevailed, and the clouds hung low, cloaking our movements from the enemy's tower of observation on Lookout. We soon gained the foot-hills, our skirmishers kept up the face of the hill, followed by their supports, and at half-past three P.M. we gained with no loss the desired point.

A brigade of each division was pushed up rapidly to the top of the hill, and the enemy, for the first time, seemed to realize the movement, but too late, for we were in possession. He opened with artillery, but General Ewing soon got some of Captain Richardson's guns up that steep hill, and we gave back artillery, and the enemy's skirmishers made one or two ineffectual dashes at General Lightburn, who had swept around and got a further hill, which was the real continuation of the ridge.

From studying all the maps, I had inferred that Missionary Ridge was a continuous hill, but we found ourselves on two high points, with a deep depression between us and the one immediately over the tunnel, which was my chief objective point. The ground we had gained, however, was so important that I could leave nothing to chance, and ordered it to be fortified during the night. One brigade of each division was left on the hill, one of General Morgan L. Smith's closed the gap to Chickamauga Creek, two of General John E. Smith's were drawn back to the base in reserve, and General Ewing's right was extended down into the plain, thus crossing the ridge in a general line facing south-east.

The enemy felt our left flank about four P.M., and a pretty sharp engagement with artillery and muskets ensued, when he drew off, but it cost us dear, for General Giles A. Smith was severely wounded, and had to go to the rear, and the command of the brigade then devolved on Colonel Tupper, One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois, who managed it with skill during the rest of the operations.

At the moment of my crossing the bridge, General Howard appeared, having come with three regiments from Chattanooga along the east bank of the Tennessee, connecting my new position with that of the main army in Chattanooga. He left the three regiments, which I attached temporarily to General Ewing's right, and he re-

turned to his own corps at Chattanooga. As night closed, I ordered General Jeff. C. Davis to keep one of his brigades at the bridge, one close up to my position, and one intermediate. Thus we passed the night, heavy details being kept at work on the intrenchments on the hill.

During the night the sky cleared away bright, and a cold frost filled the air, and our camp-fires revealed to the enemy and to our friends in Chattanooga our position on Missionary Ridge.

About midnight I received at the hands of Major Rowley, of General Grant's staff, orders to attack the enemy at dawn of day, and notice that General Thomas would attack in force early in the day.

Accordingly, before day I was in the saddle, attended by all my staff, rode to the extreme left of our position, near Chickamauga, thence up the hill held by General Lightburn, and round to the extreme right of General Ewing.

Catching as accurate an idea of the ground as possible by the dim light of morning, I saw that our line of attack was in the direction of Missionary Ridge, with wings supporting on either flank; quite a valley lay between us and the next hill of the series, and this hill presented steep sides, the one to the west partially cleared, but the other covered with the native forest; the crest of the ridge was narrow and wooded.

The further point of the hill was held by the enemy with a breastwork of logs and fresh earth, filled with men and two guns. The enemy was also seen in great force on a still higher hill beyond the tunnel, from which he had a fair plunging fire on the hill in dispute.

The gorge between, through which several roads and the railroad tunnel pass, could not be seen from our position, but formed the natural *place d'armes* where the enemy covered his masses, to resist our contemplated movement of turning his right and endangering his communications with his *dépôt* at Chickamauga.

As soon as possible, the following dispositions were made:

The brigades of Colonels Cockrell and Alexander and General Lightburn were to hold our hill as the key point; General Corse, with as much of his brigade as could operate along the narrow ridge, was to attack from our right centre; General Lightburn was to despatch a good regiment from his position to coöperate with General Corse; and General Morgan L. Smith was to move along the east base of Missionary Ridge, connecting with General Corse, and Colonel Loomis, in like manner, to move along the west base, supported by the two reserve brigades of General John E. Smith.

The sun had already risen before General Corse had completed his preparations and his bugle sounded the "forward."

The Fortieth Illinois, supported by the Forty-sixth Ohio, on our right centre, with the Twentieth Ohio, Colonel Jones, moved down the face of our hill, and up that held by the enemy. The line advanced to within about eighty yards of the intrenched position, where General Corse

found a secondary crest, which he gained and held.

To this point he called his reserves, and asked for reinforcements, which were sent, but the space was narrow, and it was not well to crowd the men, as the enemy's artillery and musketry fire swept the approach to his position, giving him great advantage.

As soon as General Corse had made his preparations he assaulted, and a close, severe contest ensued, lasting more than an hour, giving and losing ground, but never the position first obtained, from which the enemy in vain attempted to drive him.

General Morgan L. Smith kept gaining ground on the left spur of Missionary Ridge, and Colonel Loomis got abreast of the tunnel and the railroad embankment on his side, drawing the enemy's fire, and to that extent relieving the assaulting party on the hill-crest.

Calander had four of his guns on General Ewing's hill, and Captain Wood his Napoleon battery on General Lightburn's; also, two guns of Dillon's battery were with Colonel Alexander's brigade.

The suddenness of the attack disconcerted the men, and, exposed as they were in the open field, they fell back in some disorder to the lower end of the field, and re-formed. These two brigades were in the nature of supports, and did not constitute a part of the real attack.

The movement, seen from Chattanooga, five miles off, gave rise to the report, which even General Meigs had repeated, that we were repulsed on the left. Not so. The real attacking columns of General Corse, Colonel Loomis, and General Smith were not repulsed. They engaged in a close struggle all day persistently, stubbornly, and well. When the two reserve brigades of General John E. Smith fell back as described, the enemy made a show of pursuit, but were caught in flank by the well-directed fire of our brigade on the wooded crest, and hastily sought his cover behind the hill.

Thus matters stood about three P.M.

The day was bright and clear, and the amphitheatre of Chattanooga lay in beauty at our feet. I had watched for the attack of General Thomas "early in the day." Column after column of the enemy were streaming toward me, gun after gun poured its concentric shot on us from every hill and spur that gave a view of any part of the ground held by us.

All directed their fire as carefully as possible to clear the hill to our front without endangering our own men. The fight raged furiously about ten A.M., when General Corse received a severe wound and was carried off the field, and the command of the brigade, and of the assault at that key point, devolved on that fine young officer, Colonel Wolcott, of the Forty-sixth Ohio, who filled his post manfully. He continued the contest, pressing forward at all points. Colonel Loomis had made good progress to the right; and at about two P.M. General John E. Smith, judging the battle to be most severe on the hill,

and being required to support General Ewing, ordered up Colonel Runion's and General Matthias's brigades across the fields to the summit that was being fought for. They moved up under a heavy fire of cannon and musketry, and joined to Colonel Wolcott, but the crest was so narrow that they necessarily occupied the west face of the hill. The enemy at the time being massed in great strength in the tunnel gorge, moved a large force, under cover of the ground and the thick bushes, and suddenly appeared on the right and rear of this command.

An occasional shot from Fort Wood and Orchard Knoll, and some musketry fire and artillery over about Lookout, was all that I could detect on our side; but about three P.M. I noticed the white line of musketry fire, in front of Orchard Knoll, extending further right and left, and on. We could only hear a faint echo of sound, but enough was seen to satisfy me that General Thomas was moving on the centre. I knew our attack had drawn vast masses of the enemy to our flank, and felt sure of the result. Some guns which had been firing at us all day were silent, or were turned in a different direction.

The advancing line of musketry fire from Orchard Knoll disappeared to us behind a spur of the hill, and could no longer be seen, and it was not until night closed that I knew that the troops in Chattanooga had swept across Missionary Ridge, and broken the enemy's centre.

Of course, the victory was won, and pursuit was the next step. I ordered General Morgan L. Smith to feel the tunnel, and it was found vacant, save by the dead and wounded of our own and enemy's, commingled.

The reserve of General Jeff. C. Davis was ordered to march at once, by the pontoon-bridge across the Chickamauga at its mouth, and push forward for the dépôt.

General Howard had reported to me, in the early part of the day, with the remainder of his army corps, (the Eleventh,) and had been posted to connect my left with Chickamauga Creek.

He was ordered to repair an old broken bridge about two miles up Chickamauga, and to follow General Davis at four A.M., and the Fifteenth army corps to march at daylight. But General Howard found to repair the bridge more of a task than at first supposed, and we were compelled all to cross Chickamauga on the new pontoon-bridge at its mouth.

By about eleven A.M., General Jeff. C. Davis's division appeared at the dépôt, just in time to see it in flames. He entered with one brigade, and found the enemy occupying two hills partially intrenched just beyond the dépôt. These he soon drove away.

The dépôt presented a scene of desolation that war alone exhibits. Corn-meal and corn, in huge burning piles, broken wagons, abandoned caissons, two thirty-two pounder rifled guns, with carriages burned, pieces of pontoons, balks, chasses, etc., (destined, doubtless, for the famous invasion of Kentucky,) and all manner of things

burning and broken. Still the enemy kindly left us a good supply of forage for our horses, and meal, beans, etc., for our men.

Pausing but a short while, we passed on, the road lined with broken wagons and abandoned caissons, till night. Just as the head of the column emerged from a dark, miry swamp, we encountered the rear-guard of the retreating army. The fight was sharp, but the night closed in so dark that we could not move. General Grant came up to us there—General Davis still leading.

At daylight we resumed the march, and at Greysville, where a good bridge spanned the Chickamauga, we found the corps of General Palmer, on the south bank. He informed us that General Hooker was on a road still further south, and we could hear his guns near Ringgold.

As the roads were filled with all the troops they could accommodate, I then turned to the east to fulfil another part of the general plan, namely, to break up all communications between Bragg and Longstreet.

We had all sorts of rumors as to the latter, but it was manifest that we should interpose a proper force between these two armies.

I therefore directed General Howard to move to Parker's Gap, and thence send a competent force to Red Clay, or the Council Ground, and there destroy a large section of the railroad which connects with Dalton and Cleveland. This work was most successfully and completely performed that day.

The division of General Jeff. C. Davis was moved up close to Ringgold, to assist General Hooker, if needed, and the Fifteenth corps held at Greysville, for any thing that might turn up.

About noon, I had a message from General Hooker, saying that he had had a pretty hard fight at the mountain pass just beyond Ringgold, and he wanted me to come forward, and turn the position.

He was not aware, at the time, that Howard, by running through Parker's Gap toward Red Clay, had already turned it. So I rode forward to Ringgold, and found the enemy had already fallen back to Tunnel Hill. He was already out of the valley of Chickamauga, and on ground where the waters flow to the Coosa. He was out of Tennessee.

I found General Grant at Ringgold, and, after some explanations as to breaking up the railroad from Ringgold back to the State line, as soon as some cars loaded with wounded could be pushed back to Chickamauga Dépôt, I was ordered to move slowly and leisurely back to Chattanooga.

On the following day, the Fifteenth corps destroyed absolutely and effectually the railroad, from a point half-way between Greysville and Ringgold, back to the State line; and General Grant, coming to Greysville, consented that, instead of returning to Chattanooga, I might send back my artillery, wagons, and impediments, and make a circuit by the north as far as the Hiawassee.

Accordingly, on the morning of November twenty-ninth, General Howard moved from Parker's Gap to Cleveland, General Davis by way of McDaniel's Gap, and General Blair, with two divisions of the Fifteenth army corps, by way of Julian's Gap—all meeting at Cleveland that night. Here another good break was made in the Cleveland and Dalton road. On the thirtieth, the army moved to Charleston, General Howard approaching so rapidly that the enemy evacuated in haste, leaving the bridge but partially damaged, and five car-loads of flour and provisions on the north bank of the Hiawassee.

This was to have been the limit of our journey. Officers and men had brought no luggage or provisions, and the weather was bitter cold. I had hardly entered the town of Charleston, when General Wilson arrived with a letter from General Grant, at Chattanooga, informing me that the latest authentic accounts from Knoxville were to the twenty-seventh, at which time General Burnside was completely invested, and had provisions only to include the third December; that General Granger had left Chattanooga for Knoxville by the railroad, with a steamboat following him in the river; but the General feared Granger could not reach Knoxville in time, and ordered me to take command of all troops moving to the relief of Knoxville, and hasten to Burnside.

Seven days before, we had left our camps on the other side of the Tennessee, with two days' rations, without a change of clothing, stripped for the fight, with but a single blanket or coat per man—from myself to the private included; of course, we then had no provisions, save what we gathered by the road, and were ill supplied for such a march.

But we learned that twelve thousand of our fellow-soldiers were beleaguered in the mountain town of Knoxville, eighty-four miles distant, that they needed relief, and must have it in three days. This was enough, and it had to be done.

General Howard, that night, repaired and planked the railroad bridge, and at daylight the army passed the Hiawassee, and marched to Athens, fifteen miles. I had supposed rightfully that General Granger was about the mouth of the Hiawassee, and sent him notice of my orders that the General had sent me a copy of his written instructions, which were full and complete, and that he must push for Kingston, near which we would make a junction. By the time I reached Athens, I had time to study the geography, and sent him orders which found him at Decatur; that Kingston was out of our way; that he should send his boat to Kingston, but with his command strike across to Philadelphia, and report to me there. I had but a small force of cavalry, which was, at the time of my receipt of General Grant's orders, scouting over and about Benton and Columbus. I left my aid, Major McCoy, at Charleston, to communicate with the cavalry, and hurry it forward. It overtook me in the night at Athens.

On the second December, the army moved

rapidly north toward Loudon, twenty-six miles distant.

About eleven A.M., the cavalry passed to the head of the column, and was ordered to push to Loudon, and, if possible, save the pontoon-bridge across the Tennessee, held by a brigade of the enemy, commanded by General Vaughn. The cavalry moved with such rapidity as to capture every picket; but the brigade of Vaughn had artillery in position, covered with earthworks, and displayed a force too respectable to be carried by a cavalry dash, and darkness closed in before General Howard's infantry got in.

The enemy abandoned that place in the night, destroying the pontoons, running three locomotives and forty-eight cars into the Tennessee, and abandoning a large quantity of provisions, four guns, and other material, which General Howard took at daylight.

But the bridge was gone, and we were forced to turn east, and trust to General Burnside's bridge at Knoxville.

It was all-important that General Burnside should have notice of our coming, and but one day of the time remained.

Accordingly, at Philadelphia, during the night of December second, I sent my Aid, Captain Audenreid, forward to Colonel Long, commanding the brigade of cavalry, to explain to him how all-important it was that General Burnside should have notice within twenty-four hours of our approach, and ordering him to select the best material of his command to start at once, ford the Little Tennessee, and push into Knoxville at whatever cost of life and horseflesh.

Captain Audenreid was ordered to go along. The distance to be travelled was about forty miles, and the roads villainous. Before day they were off, and at daylight the Fifteenth corps was turned from Philadelphia to the Little Tennessee at Morgantown, where my maps represented the river as very shallow, but it was found too deep for fording, and the water freezing cold—width two hundred and forty yards, depth from two to five feet. Horses could ford, but artillerymen could not. A bridge was indispensable. General Wilson, who accompanied me, undertook to superintend the bridge, and I am under many obligations to him, as I was without an engineer, having sent Captain Jenny back to Greysville to survey the field of battle. We had our pioneers, but only such tools as axes, picks, and spades; but General Wilson, working part with crib-work and part with trestles, made of the houses of the late town of Morgantown, progressed apace, and by dark of December fourth troops and animals passed on the bridge, and by daylight of the fifth the Fifteenth corps, General Blair, was over, and General Granger's corps and General Davis's division were ready to pass; but the diagonal bracings were imperfect for want of proper spikes, and the bridge broke, causing delay.

I had ordered General Blair to march out on the Marysville road five miles, there to await notice that General Granger was on a parallel

road abreast of him, and in person I was at a house where the roads parted, when a messenger rode up bringing me a few words from General Burnside, dated December fourth.

Colonel Long had arrived at Knoxville with his cavalry, and all was well there. Longstreet still lay before the place, but there were symptoms of a speedy departure. I felt that I had accomplished the first great step in the problem for the relief of General Burnside's army, but still urged on the work.

As soon as the bridge was mended, all the troops moved forward. General Howard had marched from Loudon and had formed a pretty good ford for his wagons and horses at Davis, seven miles from Morgantown, and had made an ingenious bridge of the wagons left by Vaughn at Loudon, on which to pass his men. He marched by Unitia and Louisville. On the night of the fifth, all the heads of columns communicated at Marysville, where I met Major Van Buren, of General Burnside's staff, announcing that Longstreet had the night before retreated on the Rutledge, Rodgersville, and Bristol road, leading to Virginia; that General Burnside's cavalry was on his heels; that the General desired to see me in person as soon as I could come to Knoxville. I ordered all the troops to halt and rest, except the two divisions of General Granger, which were ordered to move forward to Little River, and General Granger to report in person to General Burnside for orders.

His force was originally designed to reinforce General Burnside, and it was eminently proper that it should join in the stern chase after Longstreet. On the morning of December sixth, I rode from Marysville into Knoxville and met General Burnside. General Granger arrived later in the day. We examined his lines of fortifications, which were a wonderful production for the short time allowed in the selection of ground and construction of work. It seemed to me they were nearly impregnable. We examined the redoubt named Saunders, where, on the Sunday previous, three brigades of the enemy had assaulted and met a bloody repulse. Now all was peaceful and quiet, where, but a few hours before, the deadly bullet sought its victim, all round about that hilly barren.

The General explained fully and frankly what he had done and what he had proposed to do. He asked of me nothing but General Granger's command, and suggested, in view of the large force I had brought from Chattanooga, that I should return with due expedition to the line of the Hiawassee, lest Bragg, reinforced, might take advantage of his absence to assume the offensive. I asked him to reduce it to writing, which he did, and I here introduce it as part of my report:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO, }
KNOXVILLE, December 7, 1863. }

Major-Gen. W. T. Sherman, Commanding, etc.:

GENERAL: I desire to express to you and your command my most hearty thanks and gratitude for your promptness in coming to our relief

during the siege of Knoxville; and I am satisfied your approach served to raise the siege.

The emergency having passed, I do not deem for the present any other portion of your command but the corps of General Granger necessary for operations in this section; and inasmuch as General Grant has weakened the force immediately with him in order to relieve us, thereby rendering the position of General Thomas less secure, I deem it advisable that all the troops now here, save those commanded by General Granger, should return at once to within supporting distance of the forces in front of Bragg's army.

In behalf of my command, I desire again to thank you and your command for the kindness you have done us.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General Commanding.

Accordingly, having seen the forces of General Burnside move out of Knoxville in pursuit of Longstreet, and General Granger's move in, I put in motion my own command to return.

General Howard was ordered to move, *via* Davis's Ford and Sweetwater, to Athens, with a guard formed at Charleston, to hold and repair the bridge which the enemy had taken after our passage up. General Jeff. C. Davis moved to Columbus on the Hiwassee, *via* Madisonville, and the two divisions of the Fifteenth corps moved to Telire Plains, to cover a movement of cavalry across the mountain into Georgia to overtake a wagon train which had dodged us on our way up, and had escaped by way of Murphy. Subsequently, on a report from General Howard that the enemy still held Charleston, I directed General Ewing's division to Athens, and went in person to Telire with General Morgan L. Smith's division. By the ninth, all our troops were in position, and we held the rich country between the Little Tennessee and the Hiwassee. The cavalry under Colonel Long passed the mountains at Telire, and proceeded about seventeen miles beyond Murphy, when Colonel Long deeming his further pursuit of the wagon train useless, he returned on the twelfth to Telire.

I then ordered him and the division of General Morgan L. Smith to move to Charleston, to which point I had previously ordered the corps of General Howard.

On the fourteenth of December, all of my command on the field lay along the Hiwassee. Having communicated to General Grant the actual state of affairs, I received orders to leave on the line of the Hiwassee all the cavalry and come to Chattanooga with the balance of my command. I left the brigade of cavalry, commanded by Colonel Long, reinforced by the Fifth Ohio cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Heath, the only cavalry properly belonging to the Fifteenth army corps, at Charleston, and with the remainder moved by easy marches by Cleveland and Tymus dépot into Chattanooga, when I received in person from General Grant, orders to transfer back to the appropriate commands the corps of General

Howard and division commanded by General Jeff. C. Davis, and to conduct the Fifteenth army corps to its new field of operations.

It will thus appear that we have been constantly in motion since our departure from the Big Black until the present moment. I have been unable to receive from subordinate commanders the usual full detailed reports, and have therefore been compelled to make up this report from my own personal memory, but as soon as possible subordinate reports will be received and duly forwarded.

In reviewing the facts, I must do justice to my command for the patience, cheerfulness, and courage which officers and men have displayed throughout, in battle, on the march, and in camp. For long periods, without regular rations or supplies of any kind, they have marched through mud and over rocks, sometimes barefooted, without a murmur, without a moment's rest. After a march of over four hundred miles, without stop for three successive nights, we crossed the Tennessee, fought our part of the battle of Chattanooga, pursued the enemy out of Tennessee, and then turned more than one hundred miles north, and compelled Longstreet to raise the siege of Knoxville, which gave so much anxiety to the whole country.

It is hard to realize the importance of these events without recalling the memory of the general feeling which pervaded all minds at Chattanooga prior to our arrival. I cannot speak of the Fifteenth army corps without a seeming vanity, but as I am no longer its commander, I assert that there is no better body of soldiers in America than it, or who have done more or better service. I wish all to feel a just pride in its real honors. To General Howard and his command, to General Jeff C. Davis and his, I am more than usually indebted for the intelligence of commanders and fidelity of command. The brigade of Colonel Buschbrek, belonging to the Eleventh corps, which was the first to come out of Chattanooga to my flank, fought at the Tunnel Hill in connection with General Ewing's division, and displayed a courage almost amounting to rashness; following the enemy almost to the tunnel gorge, it lost many valuable lives, prominent among them Lieutenant-Colonel Taft, spoken of as a most gallant soldier.

In General Howard throughout I found a polished and Christian gentleman, exhibiting the highest and most chivalrous traits of the soldier.

General Davis handled his division with artistic skill, more especially at the moment we encountered the enemy's rear-guard near Greysville at nightfall. I must award to this division the credit of the best order during our marches through East-Tennessee, when long marches and the necessity of foraging to the right and left gave some reasons for disordered ranks.

Inasmuch as exceptions might be taken to my explanation of the temporary confusion, during the battle of Chattanooga, in the two brigades of General Matthews and Colonel Baum, I will here state that accidents will happen in battle as else-

where; and at the point where they so manfully went to relieve the pressure in other parts of our assaulting line they exposed themselves unconsciously to an enemy vastly superior in force, and favored by the shape of the ground. Had that enemy come out on equal terms, these brigades would have shown their mettle, which has been tried more than once before, and stood the test of fire. They re-formed their ranks, and were ready to support General Ewing's division in a very few minutes, and the circumstance would have hardly called for a notice on my part, had not others reported for my wing of the army at a distance of nearly five miles, from which could only be seen the troops in the open field when this affair occurred.

I now subjoin the best report of casualties I am able to compile from the records thus far received:

FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
First Division,	57	364	66	497
Second Division,	10	90	2	102
Third Division,	89	283	122	499
Fourth Division,	73	585	21	628

Total loss in Fifteenth Army Corps, ... 1726

ELEVENTH ARMY CORPS.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Burkbank Brigade,	87	145	81	263

General Jeff C. Davis has sent in no report of casualties in his division, but his loss was small.

Among the killed were some of our most valuable officers — Colonels Putnam of the Ninety-third Illinois, O'Meara of the Ninetieth Illinois, Torrence of the Thirtieth Iowa, Lieutenant-Colonel Taft of the Eleventh corps, and Major Bushnell of the Thirteenth Illinois volunteers.

Among the wounded are Generals Giles A. Smith, J. M. Corse, and Matthews; Colonel Baum; Colonel Wangeline, Twelfth Missouri volunteers; Lieutenant-Colonel Patridge, Thirtieth Illinois volunteers; Major P. J. Welch, Fifty-sixth Illinois volunteers; and Major M. Allen, Tenth Iowa volunteers.

Among the missing is Lieutenant-Colonel Archer, Seventeenth Iowa.

My report is already so long, that I must forbear mentioning acts of individual merit. These will be recorded in the reports of division commanders, which I will cheerfully indorse, but I must say that it is but justice that colonels of regiments who have so long and so well commanded brigades as in the following cases should be commissioned to the grade which they have filled with so much usefulness and credit to the public service, namely:

Colonels J. R. Cockerell, Seventieth Ohio volunteers; J. M. Loomis, Twenty-sixth Illinois; C. E. Wolcott, Forty-sixth Ohio; J. A. Williamson, Fourth Iowa; G. B. Baum, Fifty-sixth Illinois; J. J. Alexander, Fifty-ninth Indiana.

My personal staff, as usual, have served their country with fidelity and credit to themselves throughout these events, and have received my personal thanks.

Inclosed you will please find a map of that

part of the battle-field of Chattanooga, fought over by the troops under my command, surveyed and drawn by Captain Jenny, of my staff. I have the honor to be,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General Commanding.

REPORT OF MAJOR-GENERAL THOMAS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, {
CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 1, 1863.

Brigadier-General L. Thomas, Adjutant-General U. S. A., Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: The following operations of the army of the Cumberland, since October thirty-first, are respectfully submitted to the General-in-Chief:

As soon as communications with Bridgeport had been made secure, and the question of supplying the army at this point rendered certain, preparations were at once commenced for driving the enemy from his position in our immediate front — on Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge — and if possible to send a force to the relief of Knoxville. To enable me to dislodge the enemy from the threatening position he had assumed in our front, guns of a heavier calibre than those with the army were needed; also additional means for crossing the Tennessee River. Brigadier-General Brannan, Chief of Artillery, was directed to send for the necessary number of guns and ammunition, and, after consulting with Brigadier-General W. F. Smith, Chief-Engineer, to prepare the batteries for the guns on their arrival. While awaiting the arrival of the guns and ammunition, work was prosecuted on the fortifications around the town. In addition to his duties of superintending the work on the fortifications, General Smith pushed vigorously the construction of two pontoon-bridges, to be used in the execution of the movements which were determined upon as necessary to a successful dislodgment of the enemy.

Guerrillas having become somewhat troublesome to the north-east of McMinnville and east of the Caney Fork of the Cumberland, Brigadier-General Elliott, Chief of Cavalry, was ordered, November fourteenth, to establish his headquarters, with the First division of cavalry, at or near Alexandria, and employ the division in hunting and exterminating these marauders. Elliott reached Alexandria on the eighteenth, and on the twenty-seventh reports that his scouts met those of Burnside on Hint Ridge, east of Sparta, and that Lieutenant-Colonel Brownlow, with detachments from the First East-Tennessees and Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry, attacked the rebel Colonel Murray on the twenty-sixth at Sparta, killing one, wounding two, and capturing ten of the enemy, including a lieutenant of Champ Ferguson's; he also captured a few horses and ammunition, and destroyed extensive salt-works used by the rebels. A company of scouts under Captain Brixir also encountered a party of guerrillas near Beersheba Springs, captured fifteen or twenty and dispersed the rest. Brigadier-General R. S. Granger reports from Nashville, November second, that "a mixed command, under Lieutenant-Colonel Scully, First Middle Tennes-

see infantry, sent out from Nashville, attacked and defeated Hawkins and other guerrilla chiefs and pursued them to Centreville, Dickman County, where Hawkins made another stand, attacking our forces while crossing the river. Hawkins was again routed and pursued until his forces dispersed. Rebel loss from fifteen to twenty killed and sixty prisoners; our loss, one severely and several slightly wounded." Again, on November fourth, that "Major Fitzgibbon, Fourteenth Michigan infantry, came upon the combined forces of Cooper, Kirk, Williams, and Scott, (guerrillas,) at Lawrenceburgh, thirty-five miles from Columbia, and after a severe hand-to-hand fight, defeated them, killing eight, wounding seven, and capturing twenty-four prisoners; among the latter are one captain and two lieutenants. Our loss, three men slightly wounded and eight horses killed. He reports the enemy four hundred strong, and his force one hundred and twenty." November thirteenth, "Captain Cutter, with one company of mounted infantry and a portion of Whitemore's battery, (mounted,) belonging to the garrison of Clarksville, had a fight near Palmyra with Captain Grey's company of guerrillas, killing two, wounding five, and taking one prisoner; Cutter's loss, one lieutenant and one man wounded." November sixteenth, "Scout organized by General Paine and sent out from Gallatin and La Vergne returned, and report having killed five and captured twenty-six guerrillas, with horses, sheep, cattle, and hogs in their possession, collected for the use of the rebel army."

Brigadier-General Crook, commanding Second division of cavalry, was ordered, November seventeenth, to concentrate his division at or near Huntsville, Ala., and to patrol the north side of the Tennessee from Decatur to Bridgeport, and to hunt up bands of guerrillas reported to be swarming about in that region, arresting and robbing Union citizens. General Crook reports, on the twenty-first, that an expedition sent down the Tennessee had destroyed nine boats between Whitesburgh and Decatur, some of them sixty feet long. The expedition crossed the river and drove off the rebels, taking their boats. From the best information to be obtained, there were two small regiments of cavalry and one battery on the other side, doing picket-duty. Lee and Roddy reported as having gone to Mississippi.

Major-General Sherman, commanding army of the Tennessee, having been ordered, with the Fifteenth corps, to this point, to participate in the operations against the enemy, reached Bridgeport with two divisions on the —. He came to the front himself, and, having examined the ground, expressed himself confident of his ability to execute his share of the work. The plan of operations was then written out substantially as follows:

Sherman, with the Fifteenth corps, strengthened with one division from my command, was to effect a crossing of the Tennessee River, just below the mouth of the South-Chickamauga, on Saturday, November twenty-first, at daylight;

his crossing to be protected by artillery planted on the heights on the north bank of the river. After crossing his force, he was to carry the heights of Missionary Ridge, from their northern extremity to about the railroad tunnel, before the enemy could concentrate a force against him. I was to cooperate with Sherman by concentrating my troops in Chattanooga Valley on my left flank, leaving only the necessary force to defend the fortifications on the right and centre, with a movable column of one division in readiness to move wherever ordered. This division was to show itself as threateningly as possible on the most practicable line for making an attack up the valley. I was then to effect a junction with Sherman, making my advance from the left, well toward the north end of Mission Ridge, and moving as nearly simultaneously with Sherman as possible. The junction once formed, and the ridge carried, communications would be at once established between the two armies by roads running on the south bank of the river; further movements to depend on those of the enemy. Lookout Valley was to be held by Geary's division of the Twelfth corps, and the two brigades of the Fourth corps ordered to cooperate with him; the whole under command of Major-General Hooker. Howard's corps was to be held in readiness to act either with my troops at Chattanooga or with General Sherman, and was ordered to take up a position on Friday night on the north side of the Tennessee, near the pontoon-bridge, and then held in readiness for such orders as might become necessary. General Smith commenced at once to collect his pontoons and materials for bridges in the North-Chickamauga Creek preparatory to the crossing of Sherman's troops, proper precautions being taken that the enemy should not discover the movement. General Sherman then returned to Bridgeport to direct the movements of his troops.

Colonel Long, (Fourth Ohio cavalry,) commanding Second brigade, Second division cavalry, was ordered on the sixteenth to report at Chattanooga on Saturday, the twenty-first, by noon, the intention being for him to follow up the left flank of Sherman's troops, and if not required by General Sherman, he was to cross the Chickamauga, make a raid upon the enemy's communications, and do as much damage as possible.

Owing to a heavy rain-storm, commencing on Friday (twentieth) and lasting all of the twenty-first, General Sherman was not enabled to get his troops in position in time to commence operations on Saturday morning, as he expected.

Learning that the enemy had discovered Sherman's movements across Lookout valley, it was thought best that General Howard should cross over into Chattanooga, thus attracting the attention of the enemy, with the intention of leading him to suppose that those troops he had observed moving were reinforcing Chattanooga, and thereby concealing the real movements of Sherman. Accordingly, Howard's corps was crossed into Chattanooga on Sunday, and took up a position

in full view of the enemy. In consequence of the bad condition of the roads, General Sherman's troops were occupied all of Sunday in getting into position. In the mean time, the river having risen, both pontoon-bridges were broken by rafts sent down the river by the enemy, cutting off Osterhaus's division from the balance of Sherman's troops. It was thought this would delay us another day; but during the night of the twenty-second, two deserters reported that Bragg had fallen back, and that there was only a strong picket-line in our front. Early on the morning of the twenty-third, I received a note from Major-General Grant directing me to ascertain by a demonstration the truth or falsity of this report.

Orders were accordingly given to General Granger, commanding the Fourth corps, to form his troops and to advance directly in front of Fort Wood, and thus develop the strength of the enemy. General Palmer, commanding the Fourteenth corps, was directed to support General Granger's right with Baird's division refused and in echelon; Johnson's division, Fourteenth corps, to be held in readiness under arms in the intrenchments, to reinforce at any point. Howard's corps was formed in mass behind the centre of Granger's corps. The two divisions of Granger's corps, Sheridan's and Wood's, were formed in front of Fort Wood—Sheridan on the right, Wood on the left, with his left nearly extending to Citico Creek. The formation being completed about two p.m., the troops were advanced steadily and with rapidity directly to the front, driving before them, first the rebel pickets, then their reserves, and falling upon their grand-guards stationed in their first line of rifle-pits, captured something over two hundred men, and secured themselves in their new position before the enemy had sufficiently recovered from his surprise to attempt to send reinforcements from his main camp. Orders were then given to General Granger to make his position secure by constructing temporary breastworks, and throwing out strong pickets to his front. Howard's corps was moved up on the left of Granger with the same instructions, and Bridge's battery (Ill.) was placed in position on Orchard Knob. The troops remained in that position for the night.

The Tennessee River having risen considerably from the effect of the previous heavy rain-storm, it was found difficult to rebuild the pontoon-bridge at Brown's Ferry. Therefore, it was determined that General Hooker should take Osterhaus's division, which was still in Lookout valley, Geary's division, and Whitaker's and Grose's brigades of the First division, Fourth corps, under Brigadier-General Cruft, and make a strong demonstration on the northern slope of Lookout Mountain, for the purpose of attracting the enemy's attention in that direction, and thus withdrawing him from Sherman while crossing the river at the mouth of South-Chickamauga. General Hooker was instructed that in making this demonstration, if he discovered the position and strength of the enemy would justify him in at-

tempting to carry the point of the mountain, to do so.

By four o'clock on the morning of the twenty-fourth, General Hooker reported his troops in position and ready to advance. Finding Lookout Creek so much swollen as to be impassable, he sent Geary's division, supported by Cruft's two brigades, to cross the creek at Wauhatchie and work down on the right bank, while he employed the remainder of his force in constructing temporary bridges across the creek on the main road. The enemy, being attracted by the force on the road, did not observe the movements of Geary until his column was directly on their left, and threatened their rear. Hooker's movements were facilitated by the heavy mist which overhung the mountain, enabling Geary to get into position without attracting attention.

Finding himself vigorously pushed by a strong column on his left and rear, the enemy began to fall back with rapidity; but his resistance was obstinate, and the entire point of the mountain was not carried until about two p.m., when General Hooker reported by telegraph that he had carried the mountain as far as the road from Chattanooga valley to the "White House." Soon after, his main column coming up, his line was extended to the foot of the mountain, near the mouth of Chattanooga Creek. His right, being still strongly resisted by the enemy, was reinforced by Carlin's brigade, First division, Fourteenth corps, which arrived at the "White House" about five p.m., in time to take part in the contest still going on at that point. Continuous and heavy skirmishing was kept up in Hooker's front until ten at night, after which there was an unusual quietness along our whole front.

With the aid of the steamer Dunbar, which had been put in condition and sent up the river at daylight of the twenty-fourth, General Sherman by eleven a.m. had crossed three divisions of the Fifteenth corps, and was ready to advance as soon as Davis's division of the Fourteenth corps commenced crossing. Colonel Long, (Fourth Ohio cavalry,) commanding Second brigade, Second division cavalry, was then ordered to move up at once, follow Sherman's advance closely, and to proceed to carry out his instructions of the day before, if not required by General Sherman to support his left flank. Howard's corps moved to the left about nine a.m., and communicated with Sherman about noon.

Instructions were sent to General Hooker to be ready to advance, on the morning of the twenty-fifth, from his position on the point of Lookout Mountain to the Summertown road, and endeavor to intercept the enemy's retreat, if he had not already withdrawn, which he was to ascertain by pushing a reconnoissance to the top of Lookout Mountain. The reconnoissance was made as directed, and having ascertained that the enemy had evacuated during the night, General Hooker was then directed to move on the Rossville road with the troops under his command, (except

Carlin's brigade, which was to rejoin its division,) carry the pass at Rossville, and operate upon the enemy's left and rear. Palmer's and Granger's troops were held in readiness to advance directly on the rifle-pits in their front as soon as Hooker could get into position at Rossville. In retiring on the night of the twenty-fourth, the enemy had destroyed the bridges over Chattanooga Creek on the road leading from Lookout Mountain to Rossville, and in consequence General Hooker was delayed until after two o'clock P.M., in effecting the crossing of the creek.

About noon, General Sherman becoming heavily engaged by the enemy, they having massed a strong force in his front, orders were given for General Baird to march his division within supporting distance of General Sherman. Moving his command promptly in the direction indicated, he was placed in position to the left of Wood's division of Granger's corps. Owing to the difficulties of the ground, his troops did not get in line with Granger's until about half-past two P.M. Orders were then given him, however, to move forward on Granger's left, and within supporting distance, against the enemy's rifle-pits on the slope and at the foot of Missionary Ridge. The whole line then advanced against the breast-works, and soon became warmly engaged with the enemy's skirmishers; these, giving way, retired upon their reserves, posted within their works.

Our troops advancing steadily in a continuous line, the enemy, seized with panic, abandoned the works at the foot of the hill, and retreated precipitately to the crest, whither they were closely followed by our troops, who, apparently inspired by the impulse of victory, carried the hill simultaneously at six different points, and so closely upon the heels of the enemy, that many of them were taken prisoners in the trenches. We captured all their cannon and ammunition, before they could be removed or destroyed. After halting a few moments to reorganize the troops, who had become somewhat scattered in the assault of the hill, General Sherman pushed forward in pursuit, and drove those in his front, who escaped capture, across Chickamauga Creek. Generals Wood and Baird, being obstinately resisted by reinforcements from the enemy's extreme right, continued fighting until darkness set in, slowly but steadily driving the enemy before them. In moving upon Rossville, General Hooker encountered Stuart's division and other troops; finding his left flank threatened, Stuart attempted to escape by retreating toward Greysville, but some of his force, finding their retreat threatened in that quarter, retired in disorder toward their right along the crest of the ridge, where they were met by another portion of General Hooker's command, and were driven by these troops in the face of Johnson's division of Palmer's corps, by whom they were nearly all made prisoners.

It will be seen by the above report that the original plan of operations was somewhat modi-

fied to meet and take the best advantage of emergencies, which necessitated material modification of that plan. It is believed, however, that the original plan, had it been carried out, could not possibly have led to more successful results. The alacrity displayed by officers in executing their orders, the enthusiasm and spirit displayed by the men who did the work, cannot be too highly appreciated by the nation, for the defence of which they have on so many other memorable occasions nobly and patriotically exposed their lives in battle.

Howard's corps, (Eleventh,) having joined Sherman on the twenty-fourth, his operations from that date will be included in Sherman's report, as will also those of Brigadier-General J. C. Davis's division of the Fourteenth corps, who reported for duty to General Sherman on the twenty-first.

General Granger's command returned to Chattanooga, with instructions to prepare and hold themselves in readiness for orders to reinforce General Burnside at Knoxville. On the twenty-sixth, the enemy were pursued by Hooker's and Palmer's commands, surprising a portion of their rear-guard near Greysville, after nightfall, capturing three pieces of artillery and several hundred prisoners. The pursuit was continued on the twenty-seventh, capturing an additional piece of artillery at Greysville. Hooker's advance encountered the enemy, posted in the pass through Taylor's Ridge, who, after an obstinate resistance of an hour, were driven from the pass with considerable loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners. Our loss was also heavy.

A large quantity of forage and some additional caissons and ammunition were captured at Ringgold. On the twenty-eighth, Colonel Long (Fourth Ohio cavalry) returned to Chattanooga, from his expedition, and reported verbally that on the twenty-fourth he reached Tyner's Station, destroying the enemy's forage and rations at that place, also some cars, and doing considerable injury to the railroad. He then proceeded to Doltawah, where he captured and destroyed some trains loaded with forage; thence he proceeded to Cleveland, remaining there one day, destroyed their copper-rolling mill and a large depot of commissary and ordnance stores.

Being informed that a train of the enemy's wagons was near Charleston, on the Hiawasse, and was probably unable to cross the river on account of the break in their pontoon-bridge, after a few hours' rest he pushed forward with a hope of being able to destroy them, but found, on reaching Charleston, that the enemy had repaired their bridge, and had crossed their trains safely, and were prepared to defend the crossing with one or two pieces of artillery, supported by an infantry force, on the north bank. He then returned to Cleveland, and damaged the railroad for five or six miles in the direction of Dalton, and then returned to Chattanooga.

On the twenty-eighth, General Hooker was ordered by General Grant to remain at Ringgold until the thirtieth, and so employ his troops as

to cover the movements of General Sherman, who had received orders to march his force to the relief of Burnside, by way of Cleveland and Loudon. Palmer's corps was detached from the force under General Hooker, and returned to Chattanooga.

I have the honor to annex hereto consolidated returns of prisoners, captured property, and casualties. I am, General, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
GEORGE H. THOMAS,
Major-General U. S. A. Commanding.

DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND—REPORT OF CASUALTIES DURING THE BATTLE OF CHATTANOOGA, NOVEMBER, 1863.

Fourth Army Corps—Major-General Granger: First division, Major-General Stanley, 19 killed, 85 wounded—aggregate, 104; Second division, Major-General Sheridan, 185 killed, 1151 wounded—aggregate, 1286; Third division, Brigadier-General Wood, 150 killed, 851 wounded—aggregate, 1001. Total, 2391.

Fourteenth Army Corps—Major-General Palmer: First division, Brigadier-General Johnson, 46 killed, 258 wounded—aggregate, 804; Third division, Brigadier-General Baird, 97 killed, 461 wounded and missing—aggregate, 565. Total, 869.

Eleventh Army Corps—Major-General Howard: Second division, Brigadier-General Steinwehr, 25 killed, 176 wounded, 124 missing—aggregate, 325; Third division, Major-General Schurz, 1 killed, 14 wounded, 10 missing—aggregate, 25. Total, 850.

Twelfth Army Corps—Major-General Slocum: First division, Brigadier-General Williams, not engaged; Second division, Brigadier-General George, 58 killed, 255 wounded, 4 missing—aggregate, 345. Total, 345.

Grand Total, 529 killed, 3281 wounded, 141 missing—aggregate, 8955.

The following is a copy of a telegram just received from Major-General Granger at Knoxville. The list of casualties in the Fourth army corps, on the previous page, is compiled from the statement of staff-officers at this place. The discrepancy cannot be explained until General Granger's report is received:

[By telegraph from Strawberry Plains, January sixteenth, 1864, via Calhoun, Tenn.]

To General G. H. Thomas, Chattanooga, Tenn.:
Loss in Sheridan's and Wood's divisions 2544 men; in Stanley's, about 200. G. GRANGER,
Major-General.

REPORT OF REBEL DESERTERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR RECEIVED AND CAPTURED FROM OCTOBER 20, 1863, TO DECEMBER 1, 1863.

	October.	November.	Aggregate.
Deserters,.....	41	532	573
Prisoners,.....	98	5471	5569
Grand Total,....	139	6003	6142

ORDNANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

ORDNANCE OFFICER,
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Jan. 16, 1864.

Brigadier-General W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General Department of the Cumberland:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a list of all ordnance and ordnance stores captured from the enemy, together with a list of expenditures and losses by our own troops in the recent battle of Chattanooga. Captured from the enemy:

CANNON, FIELD-GUNS, AND HOWITZERS.

Smooth Bores.—Six-pounder guns, 8; twelve-pounder guns, light, confederate pattern, 13; twelve-pounder guns, model 1857, Leeds and Company, New-Orleans, 6; twelve-pounder field howitzers, 3. Total smooth bores, 30.

Rifled Guns.—Three-inch, confederate pattern, 1; ten-pounder Parrott guns, model 1861, 4; six-pounder field, 2; six-pounder James, 1. Total rifled guns, 8. Twenty-four pound guns, 2. Total number of pieces captured, 40.

Artillery carriages, 28; caissons, 26; battery wagons, 4; travelling forge, 1. A good many parts of harness were captured, but no complete sets; 2336 rounds of artillery ammunition; 6175 stand of small arms, mostly Enfield; 28 cavalry sabres, 549 infantry accoutrements, 511 bayonet-scarbards, 1911 cartridge-pouches, 439 cartridge-boxes, 149 cartridge-box plates, 165 cartridge-box belts, 165 waist-belts, 149 waist-belt plates, and 55,000 rounds infantry ammunition.

Our own troops lost and expended 211 stand of small arms, 171 infantry accoutrements, 1977 rounds artillery ammunition, 1,560,125 rounds infantry ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. G. BAGLER,
Captain and Chief of Ordnance Department Cumberland.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOOKER'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH CORPS,
LOOKOUT VALLEY, TENN., Feb. 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General W. D. Whipple, A. A. G., Army of the Cumberland:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the operations of the army which resulted in driving the rebel forces from their position in the vicinity of Chattanooga, and of its participation immediately afterward in their pursuit.

In order that these operations may be distinctly understood, that the troops concerned be known and receive the honor due them, it is necessary to premise by stating that the general attack was ordered to be made on the enemy's extreme right at daylight on the twenty-first of November, and that preparatory orders were sent through me on the eighteenth, for the Eleventh corps to cross to the north bank of the Tennessee River on the twentieth. At this time the Eleventh corps and a part of the Twelfth corps were encamped in Lookout Valley, opposite to

the left of the enemy's line. In consequence of the non-arrival of the force mainly relied on to lead off, the attack was postponed until the following morning, and again postponed until the twenty-fourth, for the same reason. Meanwhile orders were received for the Eleventh corps to go to Chattanooga, where it reported on the twenty-second. This divided my command, and, as the orders contemplated no advance from Lookout Valley, application was made by me to the Major-General commanding the department, for authority to accompany the Eleventh corps, assigning, as a reason, that it was my duty to join that part of my command going into battle. This was acceded to, and, preparatory to leaving, invitation was sent for Brigadier-General Geary, who was the senior officer in my absence, to examine with me the enemy's position and defences, and to be informed at what points I desired to have his troops held. This was to enable me to make use of the telegraph in communicating with him advisedly during the progress of the fight, should a favorable opportunity present itself for him to advance.

THE ADVANCE UPON AND CAPTURE OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

On the twenty-third, the commander of the department requested me to remain in Lookout Valley, and make a demonstration as early as possible the next morning on the point of Lookout Mountain, my command to consist of the parts of two divisions. Later in the day, (the twenty-third,) a copy of a telegram was received from the Major-General commanding the military division of the Mississippi, to the effect that in the event the pontoon-bridge at Brown's Ferry could not be repaired in season for Osterhaus's division of the Fifteenth corps to cross by eight o'clock A.M. on the twenty-fourth, the division would report to me. Soon after, another telegram, from the headquarters of the department instructed me, in the latter case, to take the point of Lookout Mountain, if my demonstrations should develop its practicability. At two o'clock A.M., word was received that the bridge could not be put in serviceable condition for twelve hours; but, to be certain on the subject, a staff-officer was despatched to ascertain, and a quarter-past three A.M. on the twenty-fourth, the report was confirmed.

GENERAL HOOKER'S ACTUAL COMMAND.

As now composed, my command consisted of Osterhaus's division, Fifteenth corps; Cruft's, of the Fourth, and Geary's, of the Twelfth, (excepting from the two last-named divisions such regiments as were required to protect our communications with Bridgeport and Kelly's Ferry;) Battery K, of the First Ohio, and Battery K, First New-York, of the Eleventh corps, (the two having horses but for one;) a part of the Second Kentucky cavalry, and company K, of the Fifteenth Illinois cavalry—making an aggregate force of nine thousand six hundred and eighty-one. We were all strangers, no one division ever having seen either of the others.

Geary's division, supported by Whitaker's brigade, of Cruft's division, was ordered to proceed up the valley, cross the creek near Wauhatchie, and march down, sweeping the rebels from it. The other brigade of the Fourth corps was to advance, seize the bridge just below the railroad, and repair it. Osterhaus's division was to march up from Brown's Ferry, under cover of the hills, to the place of crossing; also to furnish supports for the batteries. The Ohio battery was to take a position on Bald Hill, and the New-York battery on the hill directly in the rear. The Second Kentucky cavalry was despatched to observe the movements of the enemy in the direction of Trenton, and the Illinois company to perform orderly and escort duty. This disposition of the forces was ordered to be made as soon after daylight as practicable.

THE ENEMY—LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN AND THE VALLEYS.

At this time the enemy's pickets formed a continuous line along the right bank of Lookout Creek, with the reserves in the valleys, while his main force was encamped in the hollow, half-way up the slope of the mountain. The summit itself was held by three brigades of Stevenson's division, and those were comparatively safe, as the only means of access from the west, for a distance of twenty miles up the valley, was by two or three trails, admitting of the passage of but one man at a time, and even these trails were held at the top by rebel pickets. For this reason no direct attempt was made for the dislodgment of this force. On the Chattanooga side, which is less precipitous, a road of easy grade has been made, communicating with the summit by zig-zag lines running diagonally up the mountain-side; and it was believed that before our troops should gain possession of this, the enemy on the top would evacuate his position, to avoid being cut off from his main body, to rejoin which would involve a march of twenty or thirty miles. Viewed from whatever point, Lookout Mountain, with its high, palisaded crest and its steep, ragged, rocky, and deeply furrowed slopes, presented an imposing barrier to our advance, and when to these natural obstacles were added almost interminable well-planned and well-constructed defences, held by Americans, the assault became an enterprise worthy of the ambition and renown of the troops to whom it was intrusted. On the northern slope, midway between the summit and the Tennessee, a plateau or belt of arable land enriches the crest. There a continuous line of earthworks had been thrown up, while redoubts, redans, and pits appeared lower down the slope, to repel an assault from the direction of the river. On each flank were rifle-pits, epaulements for batteries, walls of stone, and abattis to resist attacks from either Chattanooga or Lookout valley. In the valleys themselves, were earthworks of still greater extent.

THE ADVANCE OF THE UNION TROOPS—THE MOUNTAIN TAKEN.

Geary commenced his movement as instructed, crossed the creek at eight o'clock, captured the

entire picket of forty-two men posted to defend it, marched directly up the mountain till his right rested on the palisades, and headed down the valley. At the same time Gross's brigade advanced resolutely, with brisk skirmishing, drove the enemy from the bridge, and at once proceeded to put it in repair. The firing at this point alarmed the rebels, and immediately their columns were seen filing down the mountains from their camps, and moving into their rifle-pits and breastworks. At the same time numbers established themselves behind the embankment of the railroad, which enabled them, without exposure, to sweep with a fire of musketry the field over which our troops would be compelled to march for a distance of three or four hundred yards. These dispositions were distinctly visible, and, as facilities for avoiding them were close at hand, Osterhaus was directed to send a brigade, under cover of the hills and trees, about eight hundred yards higher up the creek, and prepare a crossing at that point. This was Brigadier-General Wood's brigade. Soon after this, Cruft was ordered to leave a sufficient force at the bridge to engage the attention of the enemy, and for the balance of Gross's brigade to follow Wood's. Meanwhile a section of howitzers was planted to enfilade the position the enemy had taken, and Osterhaus established a section of twenty-pounder Parrotts to enfilade the route by which the enemy had left his camp. The battery on Bald Hill enfiladed the railroad and highway leading to Chattanooga, and all the batteries and sections of batteries had a direct or enfilading fire, within easy range, on all the positions taken by the rebels. Besides, the twenty-pounder Parrotts could be used with good effect on the rebel camp on the side of the mountain. With this disposition of the artillery, it was believed we would be able to prevent the enemy from despatching relief to oppose Geary, and also keep him from running away.

At eleven o'clock, Wood had completed his bridge; Geary appeared close by, his skirmishers smartly engaged, and all the guns opened. Wood's and Gross's then sprang across the river, joined Geary's left, and moved down the valley. A few of the enemy escaped from the artillery fire, and those who did run upon our own infantry and were captured. The balance of the rebel forces were killed or taken prisoners, many of them remaining in the bottom of their pits for safety until forced out by our men.

Simultaneously with these operations the troops on the mountain rushed on in their advance, the right passing directly under the muzzles of the enemy's guns on the summit, climbing over ledges and boulders, up hill and down, furiously driving the enemy from his camp and from position after position. This lasted until twelve o'clock, when Geary's advance heroically rounded the peak of the mountain. Not knowing to what extent the enemy might be reinforced, and fearing, from the rough character of the field of operations, that our lines might be disordered, directions had been given for the troops to halt

on reaching this high ground; but, fired by success, with a flying, panic-stricken force before them, they pressed impetuously forward. Cobham's brigade, occupying the high ground on the right, between the enemy's main line of defence on the plateau and the palisades, incessantly plied them with fire from above and behind, while Freeland's brigade was vigorously rolling them up on the flank, and both being closely supported by the brigades of Whitaker and Creighton. Our success was uninterrupted and irresistible. Before losing the advantages the ground presented us, (the enemy had been reinforced meantime,) after having secured the prisoners, two of Osterhaus's regiments had been sent forward on the Chattanooga road, and the balance of his and Cruft's divisions had joined Geary. All the rebel efforts to resist us only resulted in rendering our success more thorough. After two or three short but sharp conflicts the plateau was cleared. The enemy, with his reinforcements, driven from the walls and pits around Craven's house, (the last point at which he could make a stand in force,) all broken and destroyed, were hurled in great numbers over the rocks and precipices into the valley.

It was now near two o'clock, and our operations were arrested by the darkness. The clouds, which had hovered over and enveloped the summit of the mountain during the morning, and to some extent favored our movements, gradually settled into the valley and completely veiled it from our view. Indeed, from the moment we rounded the peak of the mountain, it was only from the roar of battle, and the occasional glimpse our comrades in the valley could catch of our lines and standards, that they knew of the strife in its progress, and when, from these evidences, our true condition was revealed to them, their painful anxiety yielded to transports of joy, which only soldiers can feel in the earliest movements of dawning victory. Deeming a descent into the valley imprudent, without more accurate information of its topography, and also of the position and strength of the enemy, our line was established on the east side of the mountain, the right resting on the palisades, and the left near the mouth of Chattanooga Creek, and this we strengthened by all the means at hand, working until four o'clock, when the commander of the department was informed that our position was impregnable.

During all of these operations the batteries on Moccasin Point, under Captain Naylor, had been busily at work from the north bank of the Tennessee River, and had contributed as much to our assistance as the irregularities of the ground and the state of the atmosphere would admit of. From our position we commanded the enemy's line of defence, stretching across Chattanooga valley, by an enfilading fire, and also, by a direct fire, many of his camps, some of which were in our immediate vicinity; also, direct communication had been opened with Chattanooga, and at a quarter-past five o'clock Brigadier-General Carlin, Fourteenth corps, reported to me, with his

brigade, and was assigned to duty on the right of the line, to relieve Geary's command, almost exhausted with the fatigue and excitement incident to their unparalleled march.

To prevent artillery being brought forward, the enemy had undermined the road and covered it with felled timber. This was repaired and placed in serviceable condition before morning. During the day and till after midnight, an irregular fire was kept up along our line, and had the appearance at one time of an effort to break it. This was on the right, and was at once vigorously and handsomely repelled. In this, Carlin's brigade rendered excellent service. His report is herewith forwarded.

Before daylight, anticipating the withdrawal of the rebel force from the summit of the mountain, parties from several regiments were despatched to scale it; but to the Eighth Kentucky must belong the distinction of having been foremost to reach the crest, and at sunrise to display our flag from the peak of Lookout, amid the wild and prolonged cheers of the men whose dauntless valor had borne it to that point.

During the night the enemy had quietly abandoned the mountain, leaving behind twenty thousand rations, the camp and garrison equipage of three brigades, and other *materiel*.

An impenetrable mist still covered the face of the valley. Prisoners reported that the enemy had abandoned it; but, deeming it imprudent to descend, a reconnaissance was ordered, and soon after nine o'clock a report came in that the rebels had retired, but that their pickets still held the right bank of Chattanooga Creek, in the direction of Rossville. Soon after the fog vanished, and nothing was to be seen in the valley but the deserted and burning camps of the enemy.

Among the fruits of the preceding operations may be enumerated the concentration of the army, the abandonment of the defences, upward of eight miles in extent; the recovery of all the advantages in a position the enemy had gained from our army on the bloody field of Chickamauga, giving to us the undisputed navigation of the river and the control of the railroad; the capture of between two and three thousand prisoners, five stands of colors, two pieces of artillery, upward of five thousand muskets, etc.

Of the troops opposed to us were four brigades of Walker's division, Hardee's corps; a portion of Stewart's division, of Breckinridge's corps; and on the top of the mountain were three brigades of Stevenson's division.

THE PURSUIT—THE FIGHT ON THE RIDGE.

In conformity with orders, two regiments were despatched to hold the mountain, Carlin's brigade was directed to await orders on the Summertown road, and at ten o'clock my column, Osterhaus's (being nearest the road) leading, marched for Rossville.

On arriving at Chattanooga Creek, it was discovered that the enemy had destroyed the bridge, and, in consequence, our pursuit was delayed nearly three hours. As soon as the stringers

were laid, Osterhaus managed to throw over the Twenty-seventh Missouri regiment, and soon after all of his infantry. The former deployed, pushed forward as skirmishers to the gorge in Missionary Ridge, and drew the fire of the artillery and infantry holding it, and also discovered that the enemy was attempting to cover a train of wagons, loading with stores at the Rossville House. As the position was one presenting many advantages for defence, the skirmishers were directed to keep the enemy engaged in front, while Wood's brigade was taking the ridge on the right and four regiments of Williamson's on the left. Two other regiments of this brigade were posted on the road leading to Chattanooga, to prevent surprise. In executing their duties, the troops were necessarily exposed to the enemy's artillery, but as soon as it was discovered that his flanks were being turned, and his retreat threatened, he hastily evacuated the gap, leaving behind large quantities of artillery and small arms, ammunition, wagons, ambulances, and a house full of commissary stores. Pursuit was made as far as consistent with my instructions to clear Missionary Ridge.

Meanwhile, the bridge had been completed, and all the troops over, or crossing. Osterhaus received instructions to move, with his division, parallel with the ridge, on the east; Cruft on the ridge, and Geary in the valley, to the west of it, within easy supporting distance. The batteries accompanied Geary, as it was not known that roads could be found for them with the other divisions, without delaying the movements of the column. General Cruft, with his staff, preceded his column in ascending the ridge, to supervise the formation of his lines, and was at once met by a line of the enemy's skirmishers, advancing. The Ninth and Thirty-sixth Indiana regiment sprang forward, ran into line under their fire, and, instantly charging, drove back the rebels, while the residue of the column formed their lines; Gross's brigade, with the Fifty-first Ohio and Thirty-fifth Indiana, of Whitaker's, in advance, the balance of the latter closely supporting the front line. It was, however, soon found that the ridge on top was too narrow to admit of this formation, and the division was thrown into four lines. By this time the divisions of Geary and Osterhaus were abreast of it, and all advanced at a charging pace.

The enemy had selected, for his advanced line of defence, the breastworks thrown up by our army on its return from Chickamauga; but such was the impetuosity of our advance, that his front line was routed before an opportunity was afforded him to prepare for a determined resistance. Many of the fugitives, to escape, ran down the east slope to the lines of Osterhaus; a few to the west, and were picked up by Geary. The bulk of them, however, sought refuge behind the second line, and they, in their turn, were soon routed, and the fight became almost a running one. Whenever the accidents of the ground enabled the rebels to make an advantageous

stand, Geary and Osterhaus—always in the right place—would pour a withering fire into their flanks, and again the race was renewed. This continued until near sunset, when those of the enemy who had not been killed or captured, gave way, and, in attempting to escape along the ridge, ran into the arms of Johnson's division of the Fourteenth corps, and were captured.

Our enemy, the prisoners stated, was Stewart's division. But few escaped. Osterhaus alone captured two thousand of them. This officer named the Fourth Iowa, Seventy-sixth Ohio, and Twenty-seventh Missouri regiments as having been especially distinguished in this engagement. Landgraber's battery of howitzers also rendered brilliant service on this field.

Here our business for the day ended, and the troops went into bivouac, with cheers and rejoicing, which were caught up by other troops in the vicinity, and carried along the ridge, until lost in the distance.

THE PURSUIT CONTINUED—RINGGOLD—THE ENEMY OVERTAKEN.

Soon after daylight, every effort was made, by reconnoissance and inquiry, to ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy; but to no purpose. The field was silent as the grave. Knowing the desperate extremities to which he must be reduced by our success, with his retreat seriously threatened by the only line left him with a hope of success, I felt satisfied the enemy must be in full retreat; and accordingly suggested to the commander of the department that my column march to Greysville, if possible, to intercept him. This was approved of, and, reinforced by Palmer's corps, all moved immediately in that direction, Palmer's corps in advance.

On arriving at the west fork of the Chickamauga River, it was found that the enemy had destroyed the bridge. To provide for this contingency, Major-General Butterfield, my Chief of Staff, had in the morning prudently requested that three pontoons, with their calks and chesses, might be despatched for my use, but as they had not come up, after a detention of several hours, a bridge was constructed for the infantry, the officers swimming their horses. It was not until after three o'clock that the regiments were able to commence crossing, leaving the artillery and ambulances to follow as soon as practicable; also a regiment of artillery as a guard, to complete the bridge, if possible, for the artillery, and also to assist in throwing over the pontoon-bridge as soon as it arrived. Partly in consequence of this delay, instructions were given for Palmer's command to continue on to Greysville, on reaching the La Fayette road, and for the balance of the command to proceed to Ringgold, (Cruft now leading,) as this would enable me to strike the railroad five or six miles to the south of where it was first intended. Palmer was to rejoin me in the morning.

Soon after dark, word was received from Palmer, through a member of his staff, that he had come up with the enemy, reported to be a bat-

tery and two or three thousand infantry. Instructions were sent him to attack them at once; and, while forming his lines to the left for that purpose, the remaining part of the column was massed, as it came up, to the right of the road, and held, awaiting the movements of Palmer. His enemy was discovered to be a battery of three pieces, with a small escort, and was the rear of the rebel army on the road from Greysville to Ringgold. Three pieces of artillery were captured, and subsequently an additional piece, with, I believe, a few prisoners. I have received no report, from this officer, of his operations while belonging to my command, although mine has been delayed six weeks in waiting. We were now fairly up with the enemy. This was at ten o'clock at night. Cruft's division advanced, and took possession of the crest of Chickamauga hills—the enemy's abandoned camp-fires still burning brightly on the side—and we all went into bivouac.

My artillery was not yet up; and, in this connection, I desire that the especial attention of the Commander of the department may be called to that part of the report of General Osterhaus which relates to the conduct of the officers who had the pontoon-bridge in charge. I do not know the names of the officers referred to; was not furnished with a copy of their instructions, nor did they report to me. The pontoons were not brought forward to the point of crossing at all, and the calks and chess-planks only reached their destination between nine and ten o'clock p.m.—distance from Chattanooga ten miles, and the roads excellent. Then trestles had to be framed, and the bridge was not finished until six o'clock the following morning. The report of Lieutenant H. C. Wharton, of the engineers, and temporarily attached to my staff, who was left behind to hasten the completion of the bridge, is herewith transmitted.

No better commentary on this culpable negligence is needed than is furnished by the record of our operations in the vicinity of Ringgold. The town was distant five miles. At daylight the pursuit was renewed—Osterhaus in the advance, Geary following, and Cruft in the rear. Evidences of the precipitate flight of the enemy were everywhere apparent; caissons, wagons, ambulances, arms, and ammunition were abandoned in the hurry and confusion of retreat. After going about two miles, we came up with the camps he had occupied during the night, the fires still burning. A large number of prisoners were also taken before reaching the east fork of the Chickamauga River.

We found the ford, and also the bridge to the south of Ringgold, held by a body of rebel cavalry. These discharged their arms, and quickly gave way before a handful of our men, and were closely pursued into the town. I rode to the front on hearing the firing, where I found Osterhaus out with his skirmishers, intensely alive to all that was passing, and pushing onward briskly. He informed me that four pieces of artillery had just left the rebel camp, weakly escorted,

and ran into the gorge, which he could have captured with a small force of cavalry. The gorge is to the east of Ringgold, and we were approaching it from the west. A little firing occurred between our skirmishers as they entered the town and small parties of the enemy's cavalry and infantry, the latter retiring in the direction of the gap. There is a break in Taylor's Ridge of sufficient width for the river to flow, and on its north bank room for an ordinary road and a railroad, when the ridge rises abruptly on both sides four or five hundred feet, and from thence, running nearly north and south, continues unbroken for many miles. Covering the entrance to it, is a small patch of trees and undergrowth. It was represented by citizens friendly to our cause, and confirmed by contrabands, that the enemy had passed through Ringgold sorely pressed, his animals exhausted, and his army hopelessly demoralized. In a small portion of it only had the officers been able to preserve regimental and company formations, many of the men having thrown away their arms. A still greater number were open and violent in their denunciations of the Confederacy. In order to gain time, it was the intention of the rear-guard to make use of the natural advantages the gorge presented to check the pursuit. The troops relied on for this were posted behind the mountain and the trees, and the latter were also used to mask a couple of pieces of artillery. Only a feeble line of skirmishers appeared in sight. The only way to ascertain the enemy's strength was to feel of him; and as our success, if prompt, would be crowned with a rich harvest of *materiel*, without waiting for my artillery, (not yet up, though after nine o'clock,) the skirmishers advanced. Wood deployed his brigade in rear of them, under cover of the embankment of the railroad, and a brisk musketry fire commenced between the skirmishers.

At the same time the enemy kept his artillery busily at work. Their skirmishers were driven in, and, as we had learned the position of their battery, the Thirteenth Illinois regiment, from the right of Wood's line, was thrown forward to seize some houses from which their gunners could be picked off by our men. These were heroically taken and held by that brave regiment. Apprehensive that he might lose his artillery, the enemy advanced with a superior force on our skirmishers, and they fell back behind Wood's line, when that excellent officer opened on the rebels and drove them into the gorge, they leaving, as they fled, their dead and wounded on the ground. Our skirmishers at once re-occupied their line, the Thirteenth Illinois all the time maintaining its position with resolution and obstinacy. While this was going on in front of the gorge, Osterhaus detached four regiments, under Colonel Williamson, half a mile to the left, to ascend the ridge and turn the enemy's right. Two of these, the Seventy-sixth Ohio, supported by the Fourth Iowa, were thrown forward, and, as the enemy appeared in great force, when they had nearly gained the crest,

Geary ordered four of his regiments still further to the left, under Colonel Creighton, for the same object, where they also found an overwhelming force confronting them. Vigorous attacks were made by both of these columns, in which the troops exhibited extraordinary daring and devotion, but were compelled to yield to numerical superiority. The first took shelter in a depression in the side of the ridge, about fifty paces in rear of their most advanced position, and there remained. The other column was ordered to resume its position on the railroad. All the parties sent forward to ascertain the enemy's position and strength were small; but the attack had been made with so much vigor, and had succeeded so well in its object, that I deemed it unwise to call up the commands of Palmer and Cruft, and the remaining brigades of Geary, to deliver a general attack, without my artillery. I therefore gave instructions for no advance to be made, and for the firing to be discontinued, except in self-defence. These orders were conveyed and delivered to every officer in command on our advance line. Word was received from General Wood that appearances in his front were indicative of a forward movement on the part of the enemy, when Ireland's brigade, of Geary's division, was sent to strengthen them. Calhoun's brigade, of the same division, took a well-sheltered position behind the knoll, midway between the *dépôt* and the opening to the gap. These officers were also ordered not to attack or fire unless it should become necessary. I may here state that the greatest difficulty I experienced with my new commands, and the one which caused me the most solicitude, was to check and curb their disposition to engage, regardless of circumstances, and, it appeared, almost of consequences. This had also been the case on Look-out Mountain and on Missionary Ridge. Despite my emphatic and repeated instructions to the contrary, a desultory fire was kept up on the right of the line until the artillery arrived; and you will see by the report of commanders, that, under cover of elevated ground between my position and our right, several small parties advanced to capture the enemy's battery and harass his flank at the gap. It is not with displeasure I refer to these circumstances in evidence of the animation of the troops, neither is it with a feeling of resentment; for of that I was disarmed by an abiding sense of their glorious achievements. It has never been my fortune to serve with more zealous and devoted troops.

Between twelve and one o'clock, the artillery came up, not having been able to cross the west fork of the Chickamauga until eight o'clock on the morning of the twenty-seventh. Under my acting Chief of Artillery, Major Reynolds, in conjunction with Generals Geary and Osterhaus, one section of twelve-pounder howitzers was placed in position to bear on the enemy in front of our right and to enfilade the gap; another section of ten-pounder Parrotts was assigned to silence the enemy's battery; and one section, further to the left, to bear on some troops held

in mass in front of Geary's regiments. At the same time a regiment from Cruft's had been sent around by the bridge to cross the Chickamauga, and, if possible, to gain the heights of the ridge on the south side of the river, the possession of which would give us a plunging fire upon the enemy in the gorge. Two companies had nearly gained the summit when they were recalled. The artillery had opened with marked effect, the enemy's guns were hauled to the rear, his troops seen moving, and before one o'clock he was in full retreat. Williamson's brigade followed him over the mountain, while skirmishers from the Sixtieth and One Hundred and Second New-York regiments pursued him through the gap. Efforts were made to burn the railroad bridges; but the rebels were driven from them, and the fires extinguished.

During the artillery firing the Major-General commanding the division of the Mississippi arrived, and gave directions for the pursuit to be discontinued. Later in the day, soon after three o'clock, I received instructions from him to have a reconnoissance made in the direction of Tunnel Hill—the enemy's line of retreat—for purposes of observation, and to convey to the enemy the impression that we were still after him. Gross's brigade was despatched on this service. About two miles out he ran upon a small force of rebel cavalry and infantry, and pursued them about a mile and a half, when he fell upon what he supposed to be a division of troops posted on the hills commanding the road. The brigade returned at eight o'clock, and went into bivouac. Colonel Gross's report in this connection closes by saying that "we found broken caissons, wagons, dead and dying men of the enemy strewn along the way to a horrible extent."

As some misapprehension appears to exist with regard to our losses in this battle, it is proper to observe that the reports of my division commanders exhibit a loss of sixty-five killed and three hundred and seventy-seven wounded, about one half of the latter so severely that it was necessary to have them conveyed to the hospital for proper treatment. They also show of the enemy killed and left on the field one hundred and thirty. Of his wounded we had no means of ascertaining, as only those severely hurt remained behind, and they filled every house by the wayside as far as our troops penetrated. A few of our wounded men fell into the enemy's hands, but were soon retaken. We captured two hundred and thirty prisoners and two flags, to make no mention of the vast amount of property and *materiel* that fell into our hands. Adding to the number of prisoners and killed as above stated the lowest estimated proportion of wounded to killed usual in battle, would make the losses of the enemy at least three to our one.

From this time the operations of the right wing, as it was now called, became subordinate to those of the column marching to the relief of the garrison at Knoxville. Instructions reached me from the headquarters of the military divi-

sion to remain at Ringgold during the twenty-ninth and thirtieth, unless it should be found practicable to advance toward Dalton without fighting a battle, the object of my remaining, as stated, being to protect Sherman's flank, with authority to attack or move on Dalton should the enemy move up the Dalton and Cleveland road. In retreating, the enemy had halted a portion of his force at Tunnel Hill, midway between Ringgold and Dalton, and, as he evinced no disposition to molest Sherman, my command rested at Ringgold. I was kept fully advised of the rebel movements, through the activity and daring of the Second Kentucky cavalry, which had joined me on the twenty-eighth. In obedience to verbal directions given me by the commander of the division, the railroad was thoroughly destroyed for two miles, including the bridges on each side of Ringgold, by Palmer's and Cruft's commands; also the *dépôt*, tannery, all the mills, and all *materiel* that could be used in the support of an army. We found on our arrival large quantities of forage and flour. What was not required by the wants of the service was either sent to the rear or burned. Our wounded were as promptly and as well cared for as circumstances would permit. Surgeon Moore, Medical Director of the army of the Tennessee, voluntarily left his chief to devote himself to their relief, and under his active, skilful, and humane auspices, and those of the medical directors with the divisions, they were comfortably removed to Chattanooga on the twenty-eighth. My sincere thanks are tendered to all the officers of the medical staff for their zealous and careful attentions to the wounded on this as well as on former fields. Especially are they due to Surgeon Ball, Medical Director of Geary's division, and to Surgeon Menzies, Medical Director of Cruft's division.

On the twenty-ninth, Major-General Palmer returned to Chattanooga with his command, having in charge such prisoners as remained in Ringgold. On the thirtieth, the enemy, being reassured by the cessation of our pursuit, sent a flag of truce to our advanced lines at Catoosa, by Major Calhoun Benham, requesting permission to bury his dead and care for his wounded abandoned on the field of his last disaster at Ringgold. Copies of this correspondence have heretofore been forwarded. Also on the thirtieth, under instructions from department headquarters, Gross's brigade, Cruft's division, marched for the old battle-field at Chickamauga to bury our dead; and on the first of December, the infantry and cavalry remaining left Ringgold—Geary and Cruft to return to their old camps, and Osterhaus to encamp in Chattanooga valley.

The reports of the commanders exhibit a loss in the campaign, including all the engagements herein reported, in killed, wounded, and missing, of nine hundred and sixty. Inconsiderable in comparison with my apprehension, or the ends accomplished, nevertheless, there is cause for the deepest regret and sorrow. Among the fallen are some of the brightest names of the army. Creighton and

Crane, of the Seventh Ohio; Acton, of the Fortieth Ohio; Bushnell, of the Thirteenth Illinois; Elliott, of the One Hundred and Second New-York, and others whose names my limits will not allow me to enumerate, will be remembered and lamented as long as courage and patriotism are esteemed as virtues among men.

The reports of commanders also show the capture of six thousand five hundred and forty-seven prisoners, (not including those taken by Palmer at Greysville, of which no return has been received;) also seven pieces of artillery, nine battle-flags, not less than ten thousand stand of small arms, one wagon train, and a large amount of ammunition for artillery and infantry, forage, rations, camp and garrison equipage, caissons and limbers, ambulances, and other impediments. The reports relating to the capture of the flags are herewith transmitted.

In the foregoing it has been impossible to furnish more than a general outline of our operations, relying upon the reports of subordinate commanders to give particular and discriminating information concerning the services of divisions, brigades, regiments, and batteries. These reports are herewith respectfully transmitted. The attention of the Major-General commanding is especially invited to those of the division commanders. As to the distinguished services of those commanders I cannot speak in terms too high. They served me, day and night, present or absent, with all the well-directed earnestness and devotion they would have served themselves had they been charged with the responsibilities of the commander. The confidence inspired by their active and generous cooperation early inspired me to feel that complete success was inevitable.

My thanks are due to General Carlin and his brigade for their services on Lookout Mountain on the night of the twenty-fourth. They were posted in an exposed position, and when attacked repelled it with great spirit and success. I must also express my acknowledgments to Major-General Palmer and his command for services rendered while belonging to my column. Lieutenant Ayers, of the Signal corps, with his assistants, rendered me valuable aid in his branch of the service during our operations.

Major Reynolds, the Chief of Artillery of Geary's division, proved himself to be a skilful artilleryman, and requires especial mention for his services. His batteries were always posted with judgment, and served with marked ability. The precision of his fire at Lookout and Ringgold elicited universal admiration.

To my staff more than ever am I indebted for the assistance rendered upon this occasion. Major-General Butterfield, Chief of Staff, always useful in counsel, was untiring and devoted on the field. Captain H. W. Perkins, Assistant Adjutant-General, Colonel James D. Fessenden, Major William H. Lawrence, Captain R. H. Hall, Lieutenants P. A. Oliver, and Samuel W. Taylor, aids-de-camp, bravely and intelligently performed all their duties.

Lieutenant H. C. Wharton, a promising young officer of engineers, reported to me from the staff of the Major-General commanding the department, and was unwearied in his assistance, both as an engineer and as an officer of my personal staff.

Major-General Howard has furnished me for transmittal his able report of the operations and services of the Eleventh corps from the time it passed my command, November twenty-second, to that of its return, December seventeenth. As it relates to events of which I had no personal knowledge, it only remains to comply with his wishes, with the request that the Major-General commanding the department will give it his especial attention. I may add that the zeal and devotedness displayed by this corps and its commander, in performing all the duties assigned them, and in cheerfully encountering its perils and privations, afford me great satisfaction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
IN THE FIELD, CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
March 25, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to Major-General H. W. Halleck, Washington, D. C.:

I know of no objection to the substituting of this for Major-General Hooker's original report of his operations in the battle of Chattanooga.

Attention is called to that part of the report giving, from the reports of the subordinate commanders, the number of prisoners and small arms captured, which is greater than the number really captured by the whole army.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General United States Army.

GENERAL WM. F. SMITH'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION
OF THE MISSISSIPPI
NASHVILLE, TENN., JANUARY 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General John A. Rawlins, Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of engineering operations done with reference to the battle of Chattanooga, November twenty-third, twenty-fourth, and twenty-fifth.

Frequent and careful reconnoissances had determined that Missionary Ridge, from the tunnel to the Chickamauga, was not occupied by the enemy, and that a passage of the river could be forced at the mouth of the Chickamauga. General Grant having determined to attempt the seizure of that portion of the ridge, the preparatory steps were first to put the works at Chattanooga into defensible condition, in order to allow a comparatively small force to hold that place, and thus to bring every available man into the field.

To do this, heavy details were made and kept constantly at work before the battle, so that on Saturday, November twenty-first, the works were all in a condition to defy assault. Second. Bridge material had to be collected for the bridges and put in convenient position for use.

There was in the department of the Cumberland one regular bridge-train, which was scattered from Bridgeport to Chattanooga; this, by the strenuous exertions of Lieutenant Geo. W. Dressen, Fourth artillery, was collected in the vicinity of Brown's Ferry, by Wednesday, November seventeenth. The two saw-mills in my charge were also run night and day, and a new bridge started, under the superintendence of Captain P. V. Fox, Michigan Engineers. The river at the point designated to throw the bridge, was, at the time of measurement, one thousand two hundred and ninety-six feet in width, and the current gentle, so that no trouble was anticipated in the mechanical part of the operation.

In order to afford facilities for the occupation of the north bank of the creek, and to allow a cavalry force to break the railroad between Knoxville and Dalton, the Chickamauga also required bridging at its mouth. This stream was about one hundred and eighty feet in width, with a sluggish current. The North-Chickamauga, which is a stream emptying into the Tennessee River on the right bank about eight miles above Chattanooga, offered such facilities for launching the boats, that it was determined to put them in the water there and float them down, loaded with soldiers, to the point of crossing, as an operation quicker and more quiet than that of launching them at the place of passage. By Friday night, November twenty-sixth, one hundred and sixteen boats were in the creek, furnished with oars and crews, the creek cleared of snags to its mouth, and all the citizens in the vicinity put under strict guard to prevent the information getting to the enemy.

The boats were taken to the creek over by-roads through the woods, and not exposed to view of the rebels in any point of the distance. In the matter of selecting the roads, cleaning the creek, furnishing crews for the boats, and keeping the citizens under guard, I must acknowledge my obligations to Colonel Daniel McCook, commanding a brigade posted near the mouth of North-Chickamauga. The rest of the bridge-material, and boats, (about twenty-five,) packed behind the river ridge of hills, and within four hundred yards of the place of crossing, entirely concealed from the enemy. During this time the Tennessee River, swollen by rains in the upper country, brought down drift-wood in such quantities, and of such a character, that, on Friday night, or early Saturday morning, the pontoon-bridge at Chattanooga was carried away, and so much of the material lost that it was impossible to re-lay it. On Saturday night the flying ferry at Chattanooga was disabled, and the pontoon-bridge at Brown's Ferry was so injured that it was not re-laid till Tuesday, November twentieth. This left to us for communication only the steamer Dunbar, at Chattanooga, and a horse ferry-boat at Brown's Ferry. On Monday night, however, the flying ferry was repaired and again in operation. Fortunately, the troops had all been placed in position before the disasters, and the only effort was to lull the enemy into

security under the idea that no attack could be made with our communication so cut. The fear was, that it would be impossible to throw a bridge across the river for General Sherman's command, or that, if thrown, it could be maintained as long as it was needed. On Monday, November twenty-third, General Thomas moved to the front to reconnoitre, and occupied Indian Hill, with his left on Citico Creek. Captain Merrill and Lieutenant Wharton, of the Engineer corps, were instructed to attend to the building of bridges across that stream. On Monday night, at twelve M., the boats with the designated brigade left the North-Chickamauga and quietly effected a landing on the left bank of the Tennessee, both above and below the mouth of the South-Chickamauga, and the business of ferrying over troops then began. The rise in the river had increased its width so that we had not been able to accumulate boats sufficient for the bridges across the Tennessee, therefore only one was commenced. Lieutenant Dressen, in charge of the regular pontoon-train, began the construction of this bridge about five o'clock A.M. on the twenty-fourth, taking from the ferry the boats of his train as fast as they were needed, and allowing the others to be used in crossing troops. Colonel George P. Buell, in command of the Pioneer brigade, soon after the boats had landed their first load, deployed his men on the right bank, and went to work vigorously to clean up the ground on the shore, and level it when necessary for the passage of troops to the boats, and also to prepare a steamboat landing.

At daylight he sent a party furnished with ropes and ringbolts to catch and make fast to shore the rafts in the Chickamauga Creek, which we learned from deserters had been made for the destruction of the bridge at Chattanooga. The duty was well performed, as all duty is by Colonel Buell, and five rafts were anchored to the shore. The rebels had intended to prepare the rafts each with a small pilot raft having a torpedo attached, containing about fifty pounds of powder, to blow up by percussion, as they went under the bridge.

The arrangements were not completed when they were interfered with by General Sherman's passage of the river. At daylight, eight thousand troops were across the river, and in line of battle. Soon after, work was continued on the bridge across the river from both ends, and Captain P. V. Fox, Michigan Engineers, began the bridge across the South-Chickamauga. According to previous arrangement, Brigadier-General I. H. Wilson brought up the steamer Dunbar to assist in the passage of the troops. About eight thousand infantry, and one battery of artillery, besides the horses of the generals and their staff, were crossed in that manner, under the energetic directions of General Wilson. At twenty minutes past twelve P.M., the bridge across the river was complete, the one across the creek having been finished a little before, and by three o'clock P.M., the brigade of cavalry under Colonel Lang had crossed and was

on its march. The bridge across the river was thrown with less trouble than was anticipated, because it was found that most of the drift hugged the right bank, and to avoid the catching of the drift on the cables, anchors were dispensed with for several boats near the shore, and the structure kept in place by guy-lines to the trees on shore. Lieutenant Dressen deserves all praise for his intelligent energy in throwing a bridge of nearly one thousand four hundred feet in length over such a flood in such a short time. That same afternoon two pontoon-bridges were thrown across Chattanooga Creek, to connect the centre and right of General Thomas's command, the right by that time occupying the base of Lookout Mountain. On the twenty-fifth, an additional bridge was thrown across the Citico Creek at its mouth, and the unused bridge also brought down and thrown across the river at Chattanooga. On the twenty-sixth, Lieutenant Wharton and the Pioneer brigade, under Colonel George P. Buell, were ordered to accompany the pursuing column toward Ringgold, and Colonel Buell reports the completion of a bridge across the West-Chickamauga Creek by daylight of Friday morning. Lieutenant Downing, of the Engineer corps, had been ordered to reconstruct the bridge near Shallow Ford, across the South-Chickamauga. On Friday, at Ringgold, orders were given to Lieutenant Wharton to attend to the destruction of the railroad at that place, and whatever mills were in that vicinity. On Sunday, Captain Morrell was ordered to accompany the column under General Gordon Granger toward Knoxville. I beg to call the particular attention of General Grant to the accompanying report of Brigadier-General Wilson, with reference to the bridge constructed under his direction, across the Little Tennessee, for the passage of General Sherman's column over that stream; also that of Captain Poe, Chief Engineer army of the Ohio. The officers of the Engineer corps were zealous and efficient. I forward with the report a map large enough to show the strategic movements made before the battle, and also a map giving the battle-field. These maps are mostly due to the exertions of Captain West, U. S. Coast Survey, of my staff, and to the labors of Captains Darr and Down, of the same department, who had been ordered to report to me by Professor Bache, Superintendent S. S., and who all deserve the thanks of the General for labors done by them. The distances were determined before the battle for the use of artillery, and the heights of artillery positions occupied by us and the enemy. Very respectfully, W. F. SMITH, Brigadier-General, Chief Engineer Military Division of the Mississippi.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER-GENERAL WHITTAKER.

SHELL MOUND, TENN., HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
THIRD DIVISION, FOURTH CORPS, }
ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND, Dec. 8, 1863.

To Lieutenant Wright, A. A. G., First Division,
Fourth Corps:

The following report of the part taken by my brigade in storming Lookout Mountain, and driv-

ing the enemy from before Chattanooga, is submitted:

On leaving Shell Mound, the One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois, the Eighty-fourth Indiana, and the Fifth Indiana battery were detailed to defend the works erected at that place for the protection of our supply train. They were under the command of Colonel Moore of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois. This duty was well performed.

Six regiments, (the Eighth Kentucky, Colonel Sydney M. Barnes; the Ninety-sixth Illinois, Colonel Thomas E. Champion; the Thirty-fifth Indiana, Colonel Mullen; the Fortieth Ohio, Colonel Taylor; Ninety-ninth Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Cummings; Fifty-first Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Wood,) under my command, left Shell Mound November twenty-third, at nine o'clock A.M. After a tiresome march over rough roads, I reported to General Cruft, division commander, at the base of Raccoon Mountain, near the mouth of Lookout Creek, having made twenty-three miles during the day.

For reasons unknown to me, the command of our brave and efficient division, General Cruft's, (two brigades,) was divided, and this brigade ordered by General Hooker to report at daylight on the morning of the twenty-fourth to Brigadier-General Geary, of General Hooker's command. This was done with celerity and despatch. The troops were massed under cover of the hills near Wauhatchie. They were deployed crossing Lookout Creek on the dam of a little mill, near which, by order, the knapsacks and blankets of my command were left under guard. The line of battle was as follows: Second brigade, of General Geary's division, in front on the right; Third brigade in the centre; and the First brigade on the extreme left and near the base of the mountain. These brigades were small and the division did not muster many more men for the fight than did my brigade, which was formed, the Eighth Kentucky on the extreme right at the base of the rough projecting crags, forming the summit of Lookout; the Thirty-fifth Indiana next; then the Ninety-ninth Ohio, and the Fortieth Ohio on my extreme left; next to General Geary's right the Ninety-sixth Illinois and Fifty-first Ohio were placed, one hundred yards in rear of my right, on the upper bench, to make firm my right flank. The lines of the entire storming party, though intended to be double, were, from the extent of the ground, to be assailed partially, if not entirely, in echelon; and my front had to be protected by skirmishers, which I had done. Owing to the formation of the mountain, my brigade occupying the position nearest the apex of the cone, had a shorter route in going around the mountain than those nearest its base, and *ex necessitate* in advancing would and did overtake and pass the front line. Thus formed, the brigade advanced rapidly and in good order over the steep, rocky, ravine-seamed, torrent-torn sides of the mountain for nearly three miles. It was laborious and extremely tiresome! The enemy was found sheltered by rocks, trees, and timber cut to form abattis or obstructions, while

the summit of the mountain was covered with sharp-shooters concealed by the overhanging cliffs. Attacking them with vigor, we drove them before us. One of the enemy's camps being assailed by General Geary's command lower down the mountain, numbers of them fled toward the summit of the mountain and were captured by this brigade; they did not conceive it possible for a force to advance on the ground my brigade was then covering. Steadily but energetically and firmly advancing, my brigade reached the crest of Lookout's bold projecting slope. Its profile is delineated from beneath against the sky. In good order my bold command now became one line, swung round the crest, the right being the pivot, with the flags of the Fortieth Ohio on the left, and of the Eighth Kentucky on the right, floating free and triumphant.

Two vast armies looked upon us with beating hearts. We heard the soul-stirring vivas of our country's friends; responding, boldly we charged upon the rallying columns of the rebels. A portion of General Geary's division meeting overwhelming opposition from the rifle-pits in the orchard before reaching the White House, and having no cover, were falling back in considerable disorder; the enemy were also sending reinforcements from the summit of the mountain over a swag or depression in the cliff some three or four thousand yards to our rear on the west side of the mountain. The Eighth Kentucky, Colonel Barnes, was halted on the crest of the ridge with orders to deploy skirmishers to drive the enemy back, and to hold the crest at all hazards from an assault on the rear or flank. This was well done. The Ninety-sixth Illinois and the Fifty-first Ohio were ordered forward to assail the rifle-pits in the rear; while the Fortieth Ohio, Ninety-ninth Ohio, and Thirty-fifth Indiana assailed them on the flank. These dispositions were made at more than double-quick time, and my brigade had now passed the right of the front line.

Boldly the charge was made; the enemy resisted stubbornly; so that a hand-to-hand contest in portions of the intrenchment ensued. The force on my right, under Champion and Wood, swept down between the White House and summit. The other regiments pressed the enemy's flanks, and we drove the rebels with impetuosity along the side and down the mountain, between a quarter and half-mile beyond the White House, over breastworks, ravines, and rocks, and Lookout Mountain was ours. My command pursued them, and, with a portion of General Geary's division, formed and held the advance line—not only against the retreating foe, but against heavy reinforcements of the enemy—until we were partially relieved and reinforced by other troops. This took place near nightfall and after night. In this charge, the Fortieth Ohio, Colonel Taylor, took two pieces of cannon, which have been turned over to the ordnance officer.

A little after one o'clock P.M., the General in command of this brigade, with a portion of his staff, had possession of the White House, whence

messages were sent at two o'clock to General Cruft, division commander; General Granger, corps commander; and General Thomas, announcing our success.

Late in the evening, that brave officer, Colonel Grose, arrived with his troops on the crest in the rear of my command, where he took position. The skirmish firing of the enemy along the front was very spirited, occasionally varied by an effort to charge our lines. I directed him to throw forward his regiments to the right to the support of the Ninety-sixth Illinois and Fifty-first Ohio, to enable Colonel Champion to take the Summertown road in order to capture the artillery and rebel forces on the mountain. This he declined to do, and exhibited to me a written order from General Hooker, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL HOOKER, }
November 24, 1863.

Brigadier-General Cruft, Commanding Division:

Major-General Hooker directs that as soon as the enemy are started our forces pursue to the crest of Lookout slope only, where the lines will be formed. Pursue no further than the rest until further orders. The bridges are to be made perfect after the troops have passed.

DANIEL BUTTERFIELD,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

This, he said, he was to obey. This order I did not see or know of until after my command had driven the enemy beyond the crest of Lookout slope, near three quarters of a mile. I was subsequently supported ably, and a portion of my command relieved from skirmish duty on the front line during the night by Colonel Grose. The enemy threw grenades or shell over the cliff, and the fire of their sharp-shooters was so galling that we must inevitably have lost many men but for a dense cloud that enveloped the mountain-top about noon, and enshrouded friend and foe in its vapory folds. Weary with the forced march of the previous day, and with the fight that had been prolonged all day into the night, wet with the cold drizzling rain that fell on the mountain, yet my command were vigilant and active to maintain the position so fearlessly and boldly won.

Early on the morning of the twenty-fifth, I called for volunteers from the Eighth Kentucky infantry to scale the cliffs that overhang the crest of the ridge or point and take Lookout Rock. It was not known what force was on its top. Captain Wilson, of company C, Eighth Kentucky infantry; Sergeant H. H. Davis and private William Wilt, of company A; Sergeant Joseph Wagers and James B. Wood, of company B, and private Joseph Bradley, of company I, promptly volunteered for this purpose. It was a bold undertaking. Scaling the cliff, they took possession and unfurled our country's flag where so lately treason had defiantly flaunted her symbol of ruin.

This flag was the gift of the loyal women of Estill County, Kentucky. It has been most

honorably borne. These men were quickly followed by the Eighth Kentucky infantry, led by Colonel Barnes, who was reinforced late in the day by the Ninety-sixth Illinois, Colonel Champion leading. They were directed to hold the mountain at all hazards. Considerable stores and munitions of war, with the tents of a large encampment, fell into our hands. For particulars, I refer to the report of Colonel Barnes, who took them in charge. The number of prisoners taken by this command on Lookout is about six hundred, (600.) They were sent to the prison-pound at the rear.

I refer to the report of the Provost-Marshal of this brigade for particulars. About eleven o'clock of this day, the Fortieth Ohio, Ninety-ninth Ohio, Fifty-first Ohio, and Thirty-fifth Indiana, under my command, advanced by orders in the direction of Rossville, to assault the left of the enemy on Missionary Ridge. At a signal from our centre near Chattanooga, we advanced—Colonel Grose's splendid brigade having the advance, my command supporting him. General Cruft was in command to-day of the division. The enemy were driven with great impetuosity and loss. To prevent Colonel Grose's command from being flanked on the left, two of my regiments—the Thirty-fifth Indiana, Colonel Mullen, and the Fifty-first Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Wood—were ordered to the front line on the left of the Third brigade. They advanced in fine order, and continued fighting gallantly and effectually in the front line until the enemy were driven from the ridge. That night we slept on Missionary Ridge. The next morning, the twenty-sixth, we marched in pursuit of the routed, swiftly-flying foe. Our progress was impeded by destroyed bridges and swollen streams. That night we bivouacked on the ridge beyond Pea Vine, which divides the waters of East and West-Chickamauga.

At day-dawn, the twenty-seventh, the pursuit was continued, and the rear of the enemy overtaken at Ringgold; here the battle of Ringgold (most gallantly maintained by General Osterhaus and General Geary) was fought; my command was held in reserve by order from General Hooker. Later in the day on Monday, I detailed the Ninety-ninth Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Cummings, to reconnoitre the peak of Taylor's Ridge, to the right of the gorge through which the railroad passes. This was being rapidly done when the enemy were routed and fled.

My command destroyed over a mile of railroad, beginning at the depot in Ringgold. The ties were burned and the iron bent. The weather became excessively cold, freezing the ground and little ponds hard. The men were without blankets and overcoats, but not a murmur of dissatisfaction came from them; officers and men were inspired by a loyal enthusiasm that enabled them to beat the enemies of our Government and endure the little hardships of exposure unrepining.

I specially commend Colonel Sid. M. Barnes, Colonel Thomas E. Champion, Colonel Taylor,

Colonel Mullen, Lieutenant-Colonel Cummings, and Lieutenant-Colonel Wood for bravery and the skillful manner in which they handled their regiments. I also call attention to Major Dufficy and Major John S. Clark, for gallant conduct. I have not a word of censure for any officer of my command, but am highly gratified to have it in my power to say they all discharged their duty promptly and efficiently. The enlisted men were quick to obey and execute every order, however hazardous to carry out, and in addition to those already mentioned I add the names of John Mosly, Sergeant-Major of the Eighth Kentucky; — Duncan, Color-Sergeant of the Ninety-ninth Ohio; the Sergeant of the Fortieth Ohio, Jacob Buttle, of company G, and Clark Thornton, of company D, of the same regiment; John Powers, Sergeant-Major of the Thirty-fifth Indiana, as worthy of special observation.

To my staff I call the attention of the General in command. We had to dismount and go on foot in storming Lookout. The transportation of orders over its rugged sides in the face of the enemy was one of great danger and labor, but the energy of my intrepid Acting Adjutant-General, Captain J. Rowan Boone; of my untiring aids, Lieutenants Phipps, Peck, and Riley; of my Provost-Marshal, Lieutenant Pepoom; and of Brigade Inspector, Captain North, enabled me to overcome it all, and, through their assistance, I was enabled to handle my brigade in the manner I desired. Not an order was sent that was not swiftly carried and as swiftly executed. I deem it due Warren C. Gallehue, of the Eighty-fourth Indiana, and William Spears, of the Fortieth Ohio, and Joseph Long, orderlies of my staff, to recommend them for promotion for gallantry.

Quartermaster's Lieutenant Igot, though Brigade Quartermaster, offered his services for the expedition, and discharged his thankless fatiguing duty regardless of mud, and was active in obtaining supplies for my men and forage for the animals through the cold freezing nights. The surgeons of the brigade, under control of Dr. Beach, discharged their duties well. Father Coony, Chaplain to the Thirty-fifth Indiana, a most exemplary man, was with us to cheer us, and wait upon the wounded and dying according to the rites of his Church. He came under my personal notice in the fiercest of the fight. The strength of my command in storming Lookout was one hundred and ten commissioned officers and one thousand three hundred and fifty-five enlisted men, making an aggregate of one thousand four hundred and sixty-five actively engaged.

My loss in killed is one officer and sixteen enlisted men. Wounded, six officers and fifty-two enlisted men. Two were missing, making an aggregate loss of eighty-two men. See tabular statement herewith appended.

Our country, his family, and his friends have to mourn the loss of Major Acton, of the Fortieth Ohio. He was among the best officers in the service. It is a source of great satisfaction to

have been instrumental in accomplishing such magnificent and important results with so little loss, and I can only attribute it to the care of that Providence who spread the mantle of his protection over us; and the bold impetuosity of my brave men that bore down, and gave the enemy no time to rally their broken columns.

To the officers and men of General Geary's war-worn division, the heroes around whose brows cluster the unfading laurels of Gettysburgh, we of the Cumberland extend a soldier's greeting and congratulation; they were our companions in storming Lookout, and the best testimonial we can give them of our appreciation of their bravery and endurance, is that we thought their valor and conduct worthy of our most energetic emulation.

WALKER C. WHITAKER,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL HAZEN'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
FOURTH CORPS, IN CAMP, NEAR
KNOXVILLE, TENN., December 10, 1862.

A. A. G., Third Division, Fourth Corps, Present:

In obedience to orders, I have the honor to report as follows of the operations of my brigade, commencing with moving from camp at Chattanooga, November twenty-third, resulting in the rout of the enemy on Mission Ridge, and ending with our arrival at this point December seventh:

At twelve m., November twenty-third, I received orders to form my brigade near Fort Wood, and hold it in readiness to move in the direction of Mission Ridge (south-easterly) with the remainder of the division on a reconnaissance. The position assigned me was on the right of the front line. The brigade was formed in five battalions, as follows:

First Battalion: Colonel Aquilla Wiley, Forty-first Ohio volunteer infantry, commanding, was composed of the following regiments, namely, Forty-first Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel R. L. Kimberly, and Ninety-third Ohio, Major Wm. Birch.

Second Battalion: Colonel W. W. Berry, Fifth Kentucky volunteer infantry, commanding; of the Fifth Kentucky volunteer infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. Trainor, and Sixth Kentucky volunteer infantry, Major R. T. Whitaker.

Third Battalion: Lieutenant-Colonel E. B. Langdon, First Ohio volunteer infantry, commanding; of the First Ohio volunteer infantry, Major J. A. Stafford, and Twenty-third Kentucky volunteer infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel James C. Foy.

Fourth Battalion: Lieutenant-Colonel James Pickands, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio volunteer infantry, commanding; of the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio volunteer infantry, Major J. B. Hampson, and Sixth Indiana, Major C. D. Campbell.

Fifth Battalion: Sixth Ohio volunteer infantry, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Christopher, commanding. In all, two thousand two hundred and fifty-six effective officers and men.

The first and third battalions were deployed

in the front line, and the fourth and fifth were formed in double column in the second line.

The second battalion was on picket, and in position to be used as skirmishers. The entire battalion was deployed as such, and at the sound of the bugle, at two p.m., the entire brigade moved forward in exact order, and in two minutes the skirmish line was sharply engaged with that of the enemy, which gave ground after firing their pieces, and no considerable opposition was felt after till we reached their first line of rifle-pits, about one half-mile to the rear of their picket-line, where the pickets and their reserves endeavored to check our advance; but, pushing the first battalion, that being immediately in front of their principal force, the work, situated on a rocky hill, was carried in the most handsome manner, capturing nearly the entire regiment holding it, the Twenty-eighth Alabama infantry, with their colors.

It was not accomplished, however, without serious cost to the Forty-first and Ninety-third Ohio. Major Birch, leading the latter, fell here; also, eleven of his men killed and forty-eight wounded. The Forty-first Ohio lost eleven men killed and fifty-two wounded.

Colonel Wiley and Lieutenant-Colonel Kimberly, of the same regiment, each had horses killed under them, and Colonel Berry, commanding the skirmishers, was struck twice.

This position was actually carried at the point of the bayonet, the enemy being captured behind their work by the men leaping over it.

During the last half mile of this advance my right was entirely exposed, and suffered severely from an enfilading fire of the enemy.

The night of the twenty-third was employed in strengthening our position by works, and the twenty-fourth was passed without engaging the enemy.

At about eleven a.m., on the twenty-fifth, I was ordered to advance my skirmish-line sufficiently to develop the enemy's strength behind his main line of breastworks at the foot of Mission Ridge, about one half-mile in our front. This was handsomely done under the immediate command of Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher, Sixth Ohio infantry. In this advance, Major S. C. Erwine, Sixth Ohio infantry, was killed by a shell, and eight or ten others killed and wounded. At about three o'clock p.m., this day, I received orders to move forward with the remainder of the division and take possession of the enemy's works at the foot of Mission Ridge, taking cover behind them, and there to await further orders.

The One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio was on picket and used as skirmishers. The other formations of battalions were similar to that on the twenty-third instant; the Sixth Kentucky reporting to Colonel Christopher, and acting with the fifth battalion, and the Sixth Indiana, acting with the second; both lines were deployed; the third and fifth battalions forming the first, and the first and second the second line.

At the signal the brigade moved forward, and,

simultaneously, a fire from at least fifty pieces of artillery, from the crest of Mission Ridge, was poured upon us. We moved in good order, at a rapid step, under this appalling fire, to the enemy's works, which were situated about three hundred yards below, and toward Chattanooga, from the crest of the ridge, the enemy fleeing from these works at our approach. The command, on reaching the enemy's works at the foot of the hill, covered itself, as ordered, on the reverse side as best it could, but very imperfectly, being so near and so much below the crest of the ridge.

The musketry fire from the crest was now telling severely upon us, and the crest presenting its concavity toward us, we were completely enfladed by artillery from both flanks.

The position was a singular one, and can only be well understood by those who occupied it.

The command had executed its orders, and to remain there till new ones could be sent would be destruction: to fall back would not only be so, but would entail disgrace.

On commencing the advance, the thought of storming Mission Ridge had not entered the mind of any one, but now the necessity was apparent to every soldier of the command. Giving the men about five minutes to breathe, and receiving no orders, I gave the word forward, which was eagerly obeyed.

The forces of General Willich, on my left, had commenced the movement somewhat in my advance, and those of Major-General Sheridan, on my right, were a considerable distance in my rear. There were in my front the troops of General Breckinridge, forming the left of the enemy's centre.

Not much regard to lines could be observed, but the strong men, commanders, and color-bearers took the lead, in each case forming the apex of a triangular column of men. These advanced slowly, but confidently; no amount of fire from the crest checking them.

Lieutenant-Colonel Langdon, of the First Ohio, gaining a position where the conformation of the hill gave cover, till within three yards of the crest, formed several hundred men there, checking the head for that purpose; then giving the command, the column broke over the crest, the enemy fleeing. These were the first men of the entire army on the hill, and my command moving up with a shout, their entire front was handsomely carried.

The troops on my immediate left were still held in check, and those on my right not more than half-way up the hill, and were being successfully held back. Hurrying my men to the right and left along the crest, I was enabled to take the enemy in flank and reverse, and, by vigorously using the artillery captured there, I soon relieved my neighbors and carried the crest within a few hundred yards of Bragg's headquarters; he himself escaping by flight, being at one time near my right, encouraging the troops that had checked Sheridan's left.

The heroism of the entire command in this

engagement merits the highest praise of the country.

Colonel Aquila Wiley, Forty-first Ohio, commanding First battalion, was shot through the leg, making amputation necessary.

The loss to the service of this officer cannot be properly estimated. He was always prompt and thorough, and possessed capacity and knowledge of his duties that never left him at fault. I know no officer of equal efficiency in the volunteer service, and none whose past services entitle them to better reward. The services and losses of his battalion, composed of the Forty-first and Ninety-third Ohio infantry, also stand conspicuous.

Lieutenant-Colonel Langdon, First Ohio infantry, commanding Third battalion, was shot through the face just as he had reached the crest of the hill, and, after lying prostrate from the wound, again moved forward cheering his men.

The services of this officer, in first gaining the crest, should be rewarded by promotion to the grade of brigadier-general. He has previously commanded a brigade with efficiency.

Colonel Berry, Fifth Kentucky infantry, was again wounded, just as he had reached the crest at the head of his battalion, being the third received in these operations. He, however, did not leave the field. A like promotion, in his case, would be not only fitting but beneficial to the service.

On the fall of Colonel Wiley, Lieutenant-Colonel Kimberly, Forty-first Ohio, assumed command of the First battalion, and, through the remainder of the engagement, fought it with his usual rare ability.

Lieutenant-Colonels Christopher, Sixth Ohio infantry, and Pickands, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio, commanding battalions, rendered valuable and meritorious service.

I have also to mention Corporal G. A. Kramer, company I, Forty-first Ohio, for his gallantry, in turning upon the enemy the first gun on the ridge, which he discharged by firing his musket over the vent. The same man, alone, ordered and received the surrender of twenty men with the colors of the Twenty-eighth Alabama on the twenty-third instant.

Sergeant D. L. Sutphin, company D, Ninety-third Ohio, on reaching the crest, captured a stand of colors in the hands of its bearer.

Corporal Angelbeck, company I, Forty-first Ohio, seeing a caisson filled with ammunition already on fire with two wounded horses attached to it, cut them loose and ran the burning carriage down the hill before it exploded.

The colors of the First Ohio, the first on the hill, were carried, while ascending it, at different times, by the following men and officers:

Corporal John Emery, company I, wounded.

Corporal Wm. McLaughlin, company I, killed.

Captain Nicholas Trapp, wounded.

Corporal Thos. Bawler, company A, wounded.

Corporal Frederick Zimmerman.

Major Stafford.

The foregoing are but a few of the many in-

stances of heroism displayed on this occasion deserving especial mention:

Major William Birch, Ninety-third Ohio, and Major S. C. Erwine, Sixth Ohio infantry, who fell while leading their men, were soldiers of rare efficiency, and their loss will be severely felt by the service and lamented by their friends.

My entire staff, as has always been the case in the numerous battles in which they have been engaged, conducted themselves with the greatest bravery and usefulness. In summing up the operations of the twenty-third and twenty-fifth, I have to report the capture of three hundred and eighty-two prisoners, besides a large number of wounded, of two stands of colors, of eighteen pieces of artillery, with their appendages, six hundred and fifty stand of small arms, a considerable quantity of clothing, camp, and garrison equipage, and eleven loaded wagons. Forty-nine of the enemy, including one colonel, were buried by my parties.

Attention is called to reports of battalion commanders accompanying this paper.

My entire casualties are as follows:

	OFFICERS.		MEN.		MISSING.		Total.
	KILL.	W'd.	KILL.	W'd.	Of.	Men.	
Forty-first Ohio,	1	5	17	65	..	..	83
Fifth Kentucky,	2	6	8	46	..	..	62
First Ohio,	1	4	10	64	..	..	79
Sixth Ohio,	1	2	5	26	..	5	39
One Hundred and Twenty-Fourth Ohio, ..	1	3	5	18	..	2	29
Twenty-third Kentucky, ..	2	9	34	..	..	..	45
Sixth Indiana,	3	13	60	..	..	7	73
Ninety-third Ohio,	1	4	19	64	..	..	88
Sixth Kentucky, .....	..	1	..	24	..	..	25
Total,	7	30	86	399	..	7	529

On the morning of the twenty-eighth, we took up the march for this place, which was reached the evening of the seventh instant.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. B. HAZEN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, }
FOURTH CORPS, CHATTANOOGA, Nov. 23, 1863. }

SOLDIERS: Your General congratulates you upon the immortal deeds of the twenty-fifth. The enemy had fortified a position deemed impregnable by nature. You assaulted it; your colors were first on the heights. You hurled the enemy, terror-stricken by the heroic daring of your attack, from his stronghold, and eighteen pieces of artillery, two stands of colors, with numerous prisoners and small arms, are your trophies. Where can the enemy stand before your invincible ranks?

For your noble dead, a nation will weep; but let us, who knew them as worthy to stand with the noblest, remember that in a thousand battles a prouder death could not have fallen to their lot.

W. B. HAZEN,
Brigadier-General.

COLONEL BERRY'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH REGIMENT KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS }
INFANTRY, KNOXVILLE, December 8, 1863. }

CAPTAIN: I respectfully submit the following report of the operations of my command from

the twenty-third of November to the seventh instant, inclusive.

Being on picket in front of Chattanooga at two P.M., November twenty-third, I received orders to deploy my entire command, consisting of the Fifth and Sixth Kentucky volunteer infantry, as skirmishers. This done, the "Forward" was sounded, and the line advanced with great regularity. The enemy's pickets fell back rapidly on their reserves, which were strongly posted behind rifle-pits, on the crests of a series of knobs, some of which were timbered, others bare. At but one point along the line was the opposition strong enough to check the skirmish-line, and this was but momentary, as the Ninety-third and Forty-first Ohio regiments came up in fine order, and the whole line went over the works, capturing the principal portion of the enemy's forces in them—flags, guns, accoutrements, and all. In this affair, Captain J. P. Hurley, one of my best officers, fell mortally wounded. He died next day. The service could not have met with a heavier loss in the death of a single individual. Major Whitaker, Sixth Kentucky, held his portion of the line fully up to the works. We held the position thus taken till the afternoon of the twenty-fifth, when I received orders to consolidate the Fifth Kentucky regiment with the Sixth Indiana volunteers, and be prepared to advance on the enemy at once. The position assigned me in the brigade was on the left of the second line. There was to be an interval of four hundred yards between the lines. At the proper time I advanced, and reached the enemy's second line of works a few moments after the first line of battle had occupied them. This was the extent of my orders. But hearing Lieutenant-Colonel Langdon, commanding that portion of the first line in my front, order it forward, I advanced simultaneously. In a little while, the lines became mingled, the strong men of each regiment outstripping the weaker in climbing the steep acclivity, and thus the heights of Mission Ridge were carried, and eighteen pieces of artillery captured, with, I believe, the entire force of the enemy in our front. Again I have to regret the loss of a capital officer, Captain Wilson, killed half-way up the ridge. Young, earnest, and brave, his country and comrades will never forget the sacrifice there made.

The guns captured were immediately turned upon the enemy in General Sheridan's front. The rebel cannoners good-naturedly assisted in this artillery practice, which to us was novel business. Lieutenant-Colonel Treanor, Fifth Kentucky, and Major Campbell, Sixth Indiana, merit the highest commendation for the energy and coolness with which they organized a body of men from all the regiments, and threatened to cut off the enemy to our right, thus relieving General Sheridan from a most determined opposition. The officers and men of my command cannot be awarded too great honor for their heroic conduct in this, the most fiery ordeal of the war. The whole thing was more a matter of individuals than of organization, and consequent-

ly the glory is more personal than in any battle I know of. My loss was heavy, but were the dead only living, I should esteem the triumph cheaply purchased. The temporary absence, on account of wounds received in this battle, of Captain Huston, Lieutenants Zoller and Thomas, is a source of considerable embarrassment, as they are most valuable officers. My color-bearer, Corporal Murphy, was killed within a few feet of the summit, in advance of the entire brigade. I had no braver man in my command. Adjutant Johnston and Surgeon Miller have my thanks for the services rendered me, and I especially commend Sergeants Wolf and McDermont for their handsome behavior. You are respectfully referred to Major Campbell's report for those honorably mentioned in Sixth regiment Indiana volunteers.

We remained on Mission Ridge till the evening of the twenty-sixth, when we moved to Chattanooga, to prepare to set out for Knoxville, which point we reached, after ten days' marching, on the afternoon of the seventh instant.

Inclosed you will please find lists of the killed and wounded of the Sixth Indiana and Fifth and Sixth Kentucky infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM W. BERRY,
Colonel Fifth Kentucky Volunteers.

Captain CROWELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General Second Brigade, Third Division,
Fourth Army Corps.

LIUTENANT-COLONEL KIMBERLEY'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS FORTY-FIRST INFANTRY, OHIO VOL., }
IN CAMP NEAR KNOXVILLE, TENN., Dec. 8, 1863. }

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the battalion under my command, which includes the Forty-first and Ninety-third regiments infantry, Ohio volunteers, from the time of breaking camp at Chattanooga, November twenty-third, 1863, to the present date.

At the commencement of the operations, Colonel Aquila Wiley, Forty-first infantry, Ohio volunteers, was in command of the battalion; but the wounding of that officer, on the evening of the twenty-fifth, devolves upon me the duty of reporting the operations before I assumed command.

At noon of November twenty-third, the battalion prepared to move from its camp near Fort Wood, Chattanooga, upon a reconnoissance toward Missionary Ridge, and at two o'clock of that day marched in line of battle with the brigade upon the enemy's rifle-pits, a mile in advance of the Ridge. The position assigned this battalion was upon the right of the first line, its front being covered by the Fifth Kentucky infantry as skirmishers. The advance for eight hundred yards from Fort Wood was over open ground; beyond this was a forest, in the skirts of which the enemy's pickets were met, but gave way readily before the skirmishers. As the line advanced in support of the skirmishers, Colonel Wiley, seeing his right uncovered, sent two companies of the Forty-first regiment, under Major Willis-

ton, to act as flankers. Passing over a gentle crest, which had been occupied by the rebel pickets, and into the dense undergrowth of oak in the valley beyond, the enemy's resistance became suddenly obstinate. The skirmishers could advance no further, but the main line went steadily forward for two hundred yards without firing, though receiving a rapid musketry fire. A good line of rifle-pits on a considerable crest, a hundred yards to the front, was now distinctly visible, and in these pits the rebel pickets had been rallied. Colonel Wiley sent notice of this fact to his brigade commander, and received immediately an order to take the rifle-pits and hold the crest. Before the messenger bearing the order reached him, Colonel Wiley had opened fire and led his battalion forward to within fifty paces of the rifle-pits. Here he met a severe fire from the front and right flank. At the latter point, the enemy's line of works bent toward his front, and enabled him to pour upon Colonel Wiley's line an enflading fire. Near a fourth of the men were struck down here in advancing twenty-five or thirty paces, and the battalion was for a moment staggered by the withering musketry. It soon rallied, however, under the personal efforts of Colonel Wiley and his subordinates, and pressed forward over the rifle-pits. As soon as these were reached, the enemy's resistance ceased, and the men who occupied the pits generally surrendered, and were sent to the rear. A slight parapet for the defence of the position was at once constructed. The line to our right was also abandoned, almost immediately, and the battalion was left in quiet possession of the works, subject only to a cannonade of an hour from the enemy's batteries on Missionary Ridge.

During the twenty-fourth and until afternoon of the twenty-fifth, the battalion remained in the position above described. At two P.M., of the twenty-fifth, the brigade was formed to carry the enemy's works at the foot of Missionary Ridge. Colonel Wiley's battalion was assigned a position on the right of the second line. The battalions of this line were deployed, having to pass for three fourths of a mile under fire of the enemy's batteries on the Ridge, before coming upon the works at the foot. Scarcely was the line in motion before the enemy commenced a furious cannonade from the Ridge, which was continued uninterruptedly until his batteries fell into our hands. The works at the foot of the Ridge were carried by the skirmish-line, and the battalion moved up and covered itself behind them as well as was possible. While lying here, Colonel Wiley, who had incautiously exposed himself, was struck by a canister-shot, which shattered his leg. A few moments afterward, I heard the order from the brigade commander to assault the enemy's line at the summit of the Ridge, and the command of the battalion having devolved upon me, I at once ordered the men forward. Owing to the noise of the cannonade, and the fact that the men were lying flat upon their faces for cover, it was impossible to make

this command heard along the entire line. After advancing briskly about fifty paces, perceiving my men were not yet all up, I checked the movement for a moment to close up the line. The enemy's canister was thrown too thickly, however, to permit an instant's halt here, and at my command the men promptly commenced the ascent of the Ridge. This was very steep, and covered with stumps, logs, etc. The advance was made steadily, though of course slowly, and the nature of the ground prevented any attempt at the preservation of lines. When about two thirds of the ascent had been accomplished, I saw that the face of the hill where my battalion was moving was concave, and exposed to fire from the rifle-pits at the top, while a battery to the right enfiladed the line. To the left, fifty paces, the face of the hill was convex, and a part of the left battalion was moving up well covered. To take advantage of this, I closed to the left most of my men, and with the rest, who were now within thirty paces of the enemy's rifle-pits, opened a fire upon the battery to the right, which was throwing canister very rapidly. The fire of my men was very effective, the rebel gunners firing but two shots after we opened upon them, when they deserted their pieces and ran. Half a dozen men of the Forty-first regiment, who were farthest to the right, at once seized the battery, and, turning it upon the enemy, added materially to the panic which had now seized them. The party to my left, before alluded to as moving up the convex face of the hill, had entered the enemy's rifle-pits, and the portion of my battalion to the right of this was fast forming in them, when, going forward to look down the opposite slope, I discovered the enemy rallying just under the crest. Sending the colors of my regiment forward to the crest, the men were ordered to advance, when they dashed upon the enemy without waiting for command, and drove him entirely from the position. To the right, the enemy still held out, and my battalion, with others of the brigade, advanced along the ridge several hundred yards, when it was halted, and prepared to defend the place should the enemy attempt to retake it. No further fighting occurred, and the evening was spent in collecting the artillery which had been captured.

On the night of the twenty-sixth, the battalion returned to camp at Chattanooga, and on the twenty-eighth marched with the brigade for Knoxville, reaching its present camp on the seventh instant.

No praise is extravagant when applied to the officers and men whose bravery and zeal carried the enemy's works, under such heavy loss, on the twenty-third, and climbed the apparently impregnable heights of Missionary Ridge on the twenty-fifth.

I have particularly to thank Major Williston, Forty-first infantry, Ohio volunteers, and Captain Bowman, Ninety-third Ohio volunteer infantry, for efficient and gallant services, and, without exception, the subordinate officers of both regi-

ments for gallantry in action and faithful performance of duty at all times. Corporal G. A. Kramer, company I, Forty-first infantry, Ohio volunteers, deserves especial mention for turning the first gun on the enemy when the Ridge was carried, and for capturing the flag of the Twenty-eighth Alabama regiment. On the twenty-third, Sergeant D. L. Sutphin, Ninety-third Ohio volunteer infantry, took a rebel flag on the Ridge, making two taken by the battalion. It would be presumption in me to speak in commendation of Colonel Wiley, or to say more than that the loss to himself is less than the loss to the service. Major William Birch, Ninety-third Ohio volunteer infantry, a brave and faithful soldier, fell on the twenty-third, while leading his men to the assault.

The loss of the honored dead demands their country's mourning; but the manner of their death will be mentioned with just pride always.

The following is a statement of the casualties:

NINETY-THIRD OHIO.

DATE.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.		MISSING.		TOTAL.
	Off.	Men.	Off.	Men.	Off.	Men.	
November 23,	13	3	42	..	..	57
" 25,	8	2	19	..	..	29
Aggregate,	15	5	61	..	..	81

Number engaged November twenty-third—commissioned officers, 9; enlisted, 194. Total, 203.

Number engaged, November twenty-fifth—commissioned officers, 6; enlisted, 126. Total, 132.

FORTY-FIRST OHIO.

DATE.	KILLED.		WOUNDED.		MISSING.		TOTAL.
	Off.	Men.	Off.	Men.	Off.	Men.	
November 23, ..	..	10	3	47	..	..	60
" 25, ..	1	7	2	19	..	..	28
Aggregate, ...	1	17	5	66	..	..	88

Number engaged, November twenty-third—commissioned officers, 14; enlisted, 230. Total, 244.

Number engaged, November twenty-fifth—commissioned officers, 11; enlisted, 175. Total, 186.

Aggregate engaged, November twenty-third—commissioned, 23; enlisted, 424. Total, 447.

Aggregate engaged, November twenty-fifth—commissioned, 17; enlisted, 301. Total, 318.

Aggregate casualties, November twenty-third—killed, commissioned, —; enlisted, 22; wounded, commissioned, 6; enlisted, 89. Aggregate casualties, November twenty-fifth—killed, commissioned, 1; enlisted, 10; wounded, commissioned, 4; enlisted, 37. Total killed, 33; total wounded, 136.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. L. KIMBERLY,

Lieutenant-Colonel Forty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

To Captain JOHN CROWELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General Second Brigade, Third Division,
Fourth Army Corps.

MAJOR STAFFORD'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST REGIMENT OHIO VOLUNTEERS
INFANTRY, CAMP NEAR KNOXVILLE, DEC. 8, 1863. }

Captain John Crowell, Jr., A. A. G. Second Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps:

I have the honor to report the part taken by the First regiment Ohio volunteers in the engagements of the twenty-third, twenty-fourth, and twenty-fifth of November, near Chattanooga, Tennessee.

On the afternoon of the twenty-third, the regiment was consolidated with the Twenty-third Kentucky, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Langdon, of the First Ohio, and took its position, forming double column closed in mass, on the right and in rear of the front line. In this manner the regiment advanced until the line in front became hotly engaged with the enemy. At this moment I was ordered by Colonel Langdon to take two companies from the battalion and move to the right-oblique, for the purpose of protecting the flank. I did so, taking company B, First Ohio, and one company of the Twenty-third Kentucky, and pressed forward, taking possession of the enemy's line of breastworks on the right, being opposed only by a slim line of skirmishers. A few moments after we had occupied the enemy's works, they appeared upon our extreme right, advancing for the purpose, no doubt, of turning our flank. I deployed a line of skirmishers to cover the flank. At this moment Colonel Langdon came up with the balance of his command, drove the enemy back, and held the position. In this skirmish the regiment behaved nobly, losing one man killed and three wounded.

On the night of the twenty-third, the regiment was occupied in strengthening its position and doing picket-duty. Nothing worthy of note happened on the twenty-fourth. On the morning of the twenty-fifth, two companies of the regiment being on the skirmish-line were ordered to advance along with the balance of the skirmishers of the brigade. They advanced to within about three hundred yards of the enemy's works, under a sharp fire from their infantry and artillery. Soon after the two companies from the First rejoined their regiment, lines were then formed preparatory to an advance on the enemy's works. The First took position on the right in the front line deployed, the first line being under command of Colonel Langdon. About two o'clock the line advanced under a heavy fire from the enemy's artillery and infantry. Their first line of works was carried by storm, and, after a few minutes' rest, the men pressed steadily forward up Missionary Ridge. About two thirds the way up, Colonel Langdon fell severely wounded whilst bravely leading his men forward. The brave Captain Trapp fell about the same time, badly wounded. Still the men moved steadily on, under a terrible fire, to the crest of the hill, driving the enemy out of their works, taking a great number of prisoners and two pieces of artillery. The crest of the hill gained, our position became very critical, Hazen's brigade being at that time

the only one on the ridge, the enemy sweeping the ridge at every fire from his cannon on our right. Our men became considerably scattered in their advance up the ridge, and it was with a great deal of difficulty that a very great number of any one regiment could be gotten together. Hastily collecting about twenty men from my own regiment, the balance having inclined to the left and fighting nobly, and a few from other regiments, I moved to the right on the crest at a double-quick, driving the enemy away and capturing their first two pieces of artillery on our right. They retiring over the crest to the left and opening a flanking fire upon us again, I ordered a charge, and the enemy were driven from their new position. They now opened four pieces of artillery upon us about one hundred yards farther to the right, and also formed a line of infantry across the crest, for the purpose, no doubt, of driving us from the ridge. I now had fifteen men under Captain Hooker and about fifteen more from different regiments; they all seemed determined not to give a single inch, though they were opposed by four pieces of artillery and nearly a whole regiment of infantry. I gave the command "Forward," and all started at double-quick. It seemed incredible, nevertheless it is true, that our thirty men went at them with a right good will. The enemy broke and retreated in every direction, leaving their four pieces of artillery and a great number of prisoners in our hands. This last battery was captured immediately in front of General Sheridan's left regiment, they being about one half the way up the ridge. We followed the enemy up, and drove them from several pieces of artillery and caissons that they were trying to get off with. We also captured one cannon and caisson and one wagon on the opposite crest of the hill. I then returned and rejoined my battalion, now under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Foy, Twenty-third Kentucky.

The regiment behaved most nobly, both officers and men. They all took example from our noble Colonel, who fell before the action was over. They vied with each other in deeds of heroism. I would respectfully recommend to your favorable consideration Captains Trapp, Hooker, Jones, and Patterson; Lieutenants Leonard, Thomas, Varian, Groves, Ward, Kuhlman, and Young; also Doctor Barr. They are efficient officers, and deserve the highest encomiums for their noble conduct. Lieutenant Wollenhaupt, who was killed while gallantly urging his men forward, was a good officer and beloved by all. His loss is severely felt in the regiment.

The loss in the regiment was heavy—one officer and eleven men killed, four officers and sixty-two men wounded, making the loss in the regiment since the twenty-third as follows: Officers—killed, one; wounded, four; men—killed, eleven; wounded, sixty-five. Total, eighty-one.

Upon the march from Chattanooga to this place nothing worthy of note occurred.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. STAFFORD,
Major Commanding First Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

CINCINNATI "GAZETTE" ACCOUNT.

EVENTS OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER TWENTY-THIRD.

Although no soldiers were seen on Monday morning, scaling the acclivities of Mission Ridge, those of us who were in Chattanooga had not many hours to wait before we knew that, ere sundown, the ball was to be inaugurated, and the day made historical. The big guns, twenty, twenty-four, and thirty-two pounders, upon Fort Wood, Fort Negley, and a smaller work, began at an early hour to wake the echoes of the valley. From Moccasin Point, too, the music of Union cannon was frequently heard. The rebels replied from the top of Lookout, from their formidable line along the summit of Mission Ridge, and from their batteries at the foot of the same. A great deal of noise was made, although I could not ascertain that any body on our side was hurt. From the excellent practice of some of our own guns, however, I am not sure that the rebels escaped so easily. The truth is, the rebels had very little heavy artillery, worked inefficiently that which they had, and threw shot and shell from their smaller pieces, which, in almost every instance, fell short.

By eleven A.M., it was generally known that a reconnoissance in force was to be made of the enemy's position, although I feel perfectly certain that all the facts that could be ascertained by the reconnoissance were known to our leaders long ago. But the real object of the contemplated movement was to assail the enemy in the direction of his right centre, drive him from a line of rifle-pits midway between Fort Wood and Mission Ridge, and hold the knobs or series of knobs upon which the rifle-pits were dug. In case we did not succeed in effecting this object, it would do very well to call the affair a reconnoissance.

But those who knew the commanders selected for this work, (Wood and Sheridan,) and the temper of their troops, had little fear with regard to our success. It is not Wood's "style" to be defeated in any thing he undertakes, and Sheridan, who directly supported him, is one of the "men" of our army. The soldiers whom they command have often heretofore spoken for themselves, by means of their great deeds, but never with a louder voice than in the battle of Chattanooga.

General Howard's corps was formed in rear of line of battle as a reserve; and, at a given signal, the entire body moved forward into the plain open ground in front and to the right of Fort Wood. The day was bright and beautiful. The rays of the sun, reflected from ten thousand bayonets, dazzled the beholder's eyes; the men were dressed as if for a holiday; proud steeds, bearing gallant riders, galloped along the lines. Every eminence about the city was crowded with spectators, and, for the first time in my experience, I saw the soldiers of the Union marching to battle to the beat of the spirit-stirring drum. This was, indeed, the "pomp and circumstance" of war; and it is no wonder that the rebels

whom we afterward captured, declared they did not think we were going to make an attack upon them, but had our troops out for a review or dress-parade. I was glad to see this splendid pageant, for I think that, as a general thing, we are apt to under-estimate the moral effect of military display upon our soldiers. The masses of men are strongly moved by pomp and glittering symbols; and I am sure that even the man of giant intellect feels himself more a hero when in battle if he fights with shining banners waving above his head, and the sounds of martial music ringing in his ears. On the eventful day of which I write, I saw an exultant and lofty pride, a high and patriotic hope, a firm and deep resolve expressed in the countenance of each soldier, as I had never seen them expressed before; and no one could doubt, as he looked upon them, that they would go that day wherever they were bidden, even should they be compelled to pass through surges of vindictive fire.

After the troops had moved out into position, they remained in full view of the entire rebel army for half an hour before they received orders to advance against the enemy's lines. Just below the eminence on which stands Fort Wood is open ground, through which runs the Western and Atlanta Railroad, and just upon the other side of the latter could be plainly seen the rebel pickets. Singular to say, these last were leaning on their muskets, and quietly watching the spectacle presented by our magnificent battalions. Thinking it was a review, they did not dream of danger, and were only awakened from their fancied security by the rapid advance of our skirmishers, and the moving forward of our entire line in their support.

It was nearly two o'clock when the advance began, and a dozen shots from our skirmishers served to scatter the enemy's pickets, who fled hastily through a strip of not very dense timber lying between the open ground and some secondary eminences, upon which was the first line of rebel rifle-pits.

The reconnoissance was now fairly begun, and two brigades of General Wood's division, Hazen on the right and Willich on the left, moved rapidly into the woods. General Samuel Beatty's brigade marched still further to the left and a little to the rear, forming, with Sheridan's fine division, a second line of battle, which was at any moment ready to support the first. General Howard's corps, drawn up in order to the right of Fort Wood, and in rear of Sheridan, might be considered a third line.

Upon a knob near the centre of Sheridan's position, was placed a battery, which, together with the heavy artillery in Fort Wood, kept up a galling fire upon the enemy, and occasionally called forth replies from his guns on Mission Ridge, as well as from a battery which he had at the foot of the same. His missiles, however, did but little damage.

Hindman's old division occupied the enemy's first line of rifle-pits, and from these a heavy fire of musketry was poured upon our men, as they

entered the strip of woods. Willich and Hazen, however, continued steadily to advance, nor was their progress checked until they had ascended the slope of the hills, hurled the rebels from their rifle-pits, and planted the American flag upon the summit of the ridge. The position was, however, hotly contested by the enemy, and some of our men were shot down at the very foot of the intrenchments.

Meantime Sam Beatty's brigade had moved as the left of Wood's division, and, after Hazen and Willich had carried the heights in front of them, became sharply engaged with the enemy's skirmishers who obstinately contended for the low ground lying north-east of the hills we had carried. Through this low ground, indeed, a rude continuation of the line of rifle-pits upon the hill extended to a little stream called Citico Creek. Sheridan had also moved up on the right of General Wood, driving the rebel pickets before him and occupied that portion of their first line which lay in front of his division.

At three o'clock, General Howard's corps was put in motion. Wheeling to the left, it passed Fort Wood, between that work and the railroad, and took position upon the left of General Granger's corps, (Wood and Sheridan;) and while Carl Schurz's division relieved Sam Beatty, Steinwehr's halted in the open ground and waited for orders.

At this point, I, with hundreds of others, was gazing upon the spectacle below from the battlements of Fort Wood. Generals Thomas, Granger, and Reynolds were there, watching every movement of the troops, with looks of intelligence and earnestness. Wood and Sheridan were at the head of their respective divisions. General Howard was also on the parapet of Fort Wood, and, standing a little apart from the rest, was gazing fixedly upon his corps below. He seemed really absorbed in reverie, and motionless as a marble statue. Not feeling absolutely certain as to which of the two divisions of the famous Eleventh corps it was which was then taking position upon Granger's right, I approached General Howard to inquire. Twice I spoke to him, but he did not hear. I touched him upon the elbow. "General," I said, "which of your divisions is nearest General Granger's left?" He turned sharply round, as if suddenly waked from sleep, and asked me what I had said. I repeated my question. He answered politely, and immediately added: "My line yonder does not suit me exactly; I must go and rectify it." He started off, and in a few minutes afterward Steinwehr was moving around to the left of Schurz, his skirmishers were driving the enemy's pickets before them, and dislodging such rebels as defended this part of their first line of works. Fifteen minutes afterward the rebels had abandoned the whole of their advance line; the battery at the foot of Mission Ridge was hastening up to the summit; nothing remained to them west of the ridge, except their rifle-pits at the foot; and thirty thousand men of the Union army were in line of battle, a full mile in advance of the outposts which at noon

that day were occupied by the enemy. A grand artillery duel, in which Fort Wood vied with the rebel cannon upon Missionary Ridge, continued until nightfall, when all the tumult ceased, and we had time to count our losses and gains.

One hundred men of the Union army had been killed and wounded. Among the former was Major Wm. Burch, of the Ninety-third Ohio, who is spoken of by those who knew him best as an efficient officer and gallant gentleman. Captain W. W. Munn, of the Forty-first Ohio, was also numbered amongst our dead. These two regiments, with the Fifth Kentucky, whose colonel was slightly wounded, suffered more than any others.

The rebels had, perhaps, lost as many as we in killed and wounded, and, besides these, a hundred and fifty prisoners, among whom eight commissioned officers were left in our hands. One hundred and seventeen of the captives belonged to the Twenty-eighth Alabama. A number of deserters came into our lines, even during the progress of the fight; and not one of the prisoners manifested the least chagrin or disappointment at having been taken.

Granger had not fallen short of expectations based upon his conduct at Chickamauga; Sheridan had sustained his excellent reputation; Howard had done well; brave old Willich had won the confidence of his new brigade; and Wood had exhibited, in a highly favorable light, his great and striking abilities.

The result of this passage at arms cannot be measured by the casualties or the prisoners. The enemy had been driven from his first line of intrenchments; his prestige was gone; his demoralization was begun; while, on the other hand, a wonderful confidence was diffused throughout our army, and the men lay down upon their arms, longing for the renewal of the combat, and for the coming day.

EVENTS OF TUESDAY, NOVEMBER TWENTY-FOURTH.

I have stated that, according to the original plan of battle, General Hooker's entire force was to cross from Lookout valley to the north side of the Tennessee, move up between Stringer's Ridge and the river, to a point opposite Chattanooga, and there remain, to act with Granger or Sherman, as occasion might require.

But afterward it was determined to have his forces, (except Geary's,) which now included General Osterhaus's division, recross to the Chattanooga side, in order to make a grand attack upon Lookout Mountain, in conjunction with the troops left in Lookout valley. In pursuance of this plan, Howard's corps and Osterhaus's division crossed the river upon the pontoon-bridge, on Sunday evening, in full view of the rebels, who could be seen diligently signalling the fact from their station upon the top of Lookout Mountain, to Bragg's headquarters upon the summit of Mission Ridge. The Eleventh corps, Howard's, took such part in Monday's combat as I have related; the other portion of Hooker's force was posted upon the right of our line, ready for the

assault upon Lookout Mountain, which was to come off to-day.

Sherman was up. Pontoon-boats, one hundred and ten in number, had been safely lodged in the North-Chickamauga; twenty more were concealed in a ravine near Caldwell's Ford, just below the mouth of the South-Chickamauga; numerous wagon-loads of lumber for bridging were in the same vicinity. The Fifteenth army corps, Major-General Frank Blair commanding, was well massed behind the hills; the division of Jeff. C. Davis, of the Fourteenth corps, was prepared to support it, and all things were in readiness for crossing the river.

It was two o'clock on the morning of the twenty-fourth of November, when the fleet of boats carrying a brigade of Morgan L. Smith's division, pushed carefully out of the Chickamauga, and dropped quietly down the Tennessee. So perfectly was the thing managed, so exquisite were the arrangements for silence and secrecy, that even our own pickets along the bank of the river did not know when the boats passed. Before daylight they had reached their destination; and the soldiers, jumping on shore, formed as soon as possible, and, advancing rapidly, captured the rebel pickets, who were sleeping unconsciously by their fires.

No sooner was this accomplished, than our boys, who had landed, fell to intrenching themselves with the industry of beavers, while the boats began to take over other troops, and workmen carried vigorously forward the building of the pontoon-bridge.

Just after daylight, I was over to the left of our line, upon the north side of the river, to witness the crossing. As I passed along the river, behind Stringer's Ridge, I saw that the tents of Sherman's men were nearly all deserted, only a few invalids, sutlers' clerks, and teamsters being left in the camps. Passing on, I finally came to a point where, from the road descending the ridge, you can catch a glimpse of some open ground in the vicinity of Caldwell's Ford. Here a spectacle of surpassing beauty met my eyes.

Two score of boats were plying back and forth across the somewhat swollen river, each one carrying, from the northern to the southern shore, from a dozen to twenty soldiers. The splendid pontoon-bridge already stretched half-way across, and the pioneers were just commencing work upon its southern end. Fifty-six pieces of artillery, some brass and glittering, some iron and sombre, were ranged along the shore and upon the sides of the hills, to protect the crossing; while ten thousand soldiers, constituting a splendid army, with music, banners, horses, and equipments, were massed upon the level ground by the river, ready and anxious to go over. While I was gazing at those already there, the fine brigade commanded by General John Beatty marched in column across the ridge, and entered the plain below. About the same time, Colonel Daniel McCook's and General Morgan's brigades could be seen advancing to the rendezvous down the river, from the Chickamauga, near which

they had been stationed, to protect the pontoon fleet while it lay in that creek. The whole scene was calculated to impress the beholder with a sense of beauty and power, and make him feel that, this time at least, the Union army would be irresistible. General Sherman himself superintended the landing, as he did all the subsequent operations of his troops.

A quarter of a mile down the river from Caldwell's Ford, rises a high hill, the highest in that vicinity; and on the summit of this, was one of our signal-stations. By a series of tacks, now this way, now that, I urged my horse half-way up, fastened him there, and climbed on foot to the top. All the region around Chattanooga was visible from this eminence, and looking from it, one might get some idea of the immensity, the grandeur, the complication, and, at the same time, the simplicity, of the operations going on below. Those operations had for their theatre the whole country, from Wauhatchie, in Lookout valley, to the mouth of the North-Chickamauga, a distance of twelve miles! And one master-mind, with subordinates at once able and intelligent, was overseeing and directing the whole.

While I was on this hill, it began to rain gently; a thick mist overspread Lookout, rolled in immense columns up the river, and gradually filled the entire basin of Chattanooga. The last object upon which my sight rested was Sherman's men still advancing toward the north end of Mission Ridge, without interruption, and extending their lines gradually to the right, until at last they came into communication with the left wing of General Howard's corps. The last sounds I heard were the crash of musketry and thunder of artillery in the direction of Lookout Mountain, which told that General Hooker had assailed the position from which the enemy had so long insolently menaced our army. As I descended the hill, I could scarcely repress an emotion of terror as the sound of battle toward the right became more and more awful and continuous, until it seemed as if some tremendous torrent had sapped the foundations of Lookout, and the mountain itself was crumbling into ruin. Our soldiers were storming Lookout.

Let me trace the facts connected with Hooker's great exploit, as briefly and succinctly as possible.

When General Hooker, with Howard's corps, Osterhaus's division, and a part of Hugh Ewing's, crossed the river by the pontoon-bridges opposite Chattanooga, on Sunday evening, it was in pursuance of the bold design to mass his forces upon our right, carry the rebel line of rifle-pits between Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge, sever the enemy on Lookout Mountain from all support, and then, advancing boldly up one side of the mountain, while Geary scaled the other, plant the Stars and Stripes triumphantly upon its summit.

General Howard's corps was sent to our left, as I have described.

It was half-past seven in the morning when Geary's division, (part of the Twelfth corps.)

supported by Whitaker's brigade of Stanley's (temporarily Cruft's) division of the Fourteenth corps, left its position near Wauhatchie, crossed Lookout Creek, and began to work down its right bank. Whitaker's brigade had, I believe, marched nearly all night the night before, from the neighborhood of Shell Mound, in order to be present at this attack.

Almost from the moment our forces crossed the creek, their advance was stubbornly resisted. But Church's Michigan battery from Fort Negley, Naylor's Tenth Indiana from Moccasin Point, and the Eighth Wisconsin from the banks of Chattanooga Creek, played upon the rebels with such good effect, that, although not much hurt, they became confused and frightened, and Geary slowly and steadily pushed forward. Forward and upward! for he now began to ascend the slope, and never rested until he had reached a point so high that Hooker could see the flashes of his musketry from the other side. Then Osterhaus and part of Ewing suddenly crossed Chattanooga Creek, and advancing in line of battle, carried the rebel rifle-pits near the foot of the mountain, swept like a whirlwind up the eastern slope, dislodged the rebels wherever they attempted to make a stand, and finally shook hands with Geary just underneath the mighty mass of rocks which crowns the summit of Lookout. The united hosts now moved on together, crushed the battalions of the enemy as they attempted to make one more stand, and at midnight finished the contest by capturing or dispersing the last band of rebels to be found anywhere upon the sides of the mountain.

That night, in front of General Thomas's headquarters in Chattanooga, I stood watching the combat going on, away up there upon that mighty wall of limestone; and the long line of fires which marked the course of our intrenchments; the shouts of the combatants yelling defiance at each other; the fierce jets of flame from the muzzles of a thousand muskets; the spluttering sound of the discharges, muffled by distance; the great brow of the mountain looming dark and awful through the night; the single signal-light upon the extreme crest, which, waving to and fro, revealed to the rebel leader on Mission Ridge the tale of disaster and woe—all these together formed one of the scenes, in that wonderful three days' drama, which will linger for ever in my memory, haunting even my dreams. The battle that night upon Lookout Mountain! Seen from Chattanooga, it was the realization of olden traditions; and supernatural armies contended in the air!

But after the noise of combat had ceased, after nearly all (save the faithful sentinel and the wounded writhing in pain) had sunk to slumber, another scene occurred which even he whose weary fingers trace these records at the midnight hour dare not omit.

After Hooker's troops had ascended the slope of the mountain, and were still engaged with the enemy, General Carlin's brigade, of Johnson's

division, came to their support. This was at half-past five p.m.

Two days previous to the commencement of the battle, Colonel B. F. Scribner, of the Thirty-eighth Indiana, arrived at Chattanooga. I need not speak particularly of him here. The story of his deeds at Perryville, at Stone River, and at Chickamauga, (commanding a brigade in the last two battles,) is familiar to his countrymen. His regiment now forms a part of General Carlin's brigade, and the latter, with a nice appreciation of real merit which does him honor, immediately upon Colonel Scribner's arrival, requested him to take command of the right wing of his brigade. Scribner consented, and played well his part, both in the night combat on the mountain, and in the battle of the succeeding day.

Far upon the mountain toward the city is a white frame house—a prominent and noted object. To this, after the struggle of Tuesday and Tuesday night, our wounded were conveyed. But there were no surgeons to wait upon them. Colonel Scribner heard of their condition. His noble nature was moved. The toils of the day were disregarded. He entered the hospital, and with a faithful few to assist, he labored until far into the small hours of night, like an angel of mercy, in soothing the pains of the sufferers, alleviating, as far as it was possible, their agony, and binding their bleeding wounds.

In my varied experience thus far, I have known no incident of the war more touching, more worthy of remembrance, and more honorable to human nature, than this of a brave man who had led his troops unflinchingly through a half-dozen battles, forgetting his own somewhat feeble health, entering the house of anguish, standing over the wounded, and with the tenderness of a woman ministering to their wants. The nation may hereafter shower honors on his head for his heroism on the field of battle; but the recording angel, who notes alike the good and bad actions of all, will place upon the credit side of his account no worthier deeds than those kind attentions bestowed upon the wounded in the silent watches of that Tuesday night!

The rebels lost in this engagement two hundred killed and wounded, two pieces of artillery, and one thousand three hundred prisoners. Our losses all told could scarcely amount to three hundred men.

But before we have done with Thursday's story, we must return to the left.

At seven a.m., General Howard ordered Colonel Orland Smith, commanding a brigade in the second division of his corps, to send a regiment to the extreme left of his (Howard's) line, to drive a body of rebel sharpshooters from some rifle-pits, whence they annoyed our lines considerably. The Seventy-third Ohio was selected to execute the command. Forming line and throwing out skirmishers, this excellent command at once charged the enemy upon the double-quick, with fixed bayonets, and drove them half a mile, taking more than thirty prisoners. While this move-

ment was going on, Wheeler's Independent Kentucky battery shelled the rebels from the north side of the river with apparently good effect, and Captain Bridges's splendid Chicago battery, placed on the knob taken the day before by Willich's men, kept the enemy's attention occupied by a furious shelling of Mission Ridge.

This movement, finished at half-past ten A.M., put Howard's left in communication with Sherman's right, as I have already mentioned.

General Sherman's forces now continued to advance slowly over the fields toward the ridge. The Western or Atlanta Railroad was crossed, but no enemy appeared. A belt of timber near the foot of the range concealed no foe; and at last, making a bold push, the Sixth Iowa and Forty-sixth Ohio, belonging to General J. M. Corse's brigade, reached the summit of the ridge, followed by the rest of the brigade, and immediately commenced throwing up intrenchments. The eminence is just north, and within musket-shot of Tunnel Hill. The rebels opened a fire from the latter, which was replied to by our men. Little damage was done, however; but when night came the eyes of the soldiers in other corps sparkled brightly when they learned that the numerous fires upon the north side of Mission Ridge marked the bivouac of Sherman's men.

EVENTS OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER TWENTY-FIFTH.

Wednesday morning came, and as soon as the sun's rays were warm enough to disperse the mists from the mountains, all eyes were turned toward the summit of Lookout. A wild and deafening cheer ran along our lines. The banner of beauty and of glory was floating from the very crest of the mountain — from that gigantic pile of rock whence rebel cannon had so long been hurling missiles of death toward the city. The enemy on Lookout had not been able to rally after his disastrous defeat of the day before. He had fled during the night; and the disjointed fragments of his force, belonging to Stevenson's division, were moved around to the right of his line in order to withstand the storm which it was perceived would soon burst from our left.

Captain John Wilson, Eighth Kentucky, had the honor of being the first to plant the flag upon the now deserted rebel citadel.

Thus had Hooker and the brave men under him again established their claim to the gratitude and admiration of their countrymen.

But still grander events were hurrying onward, and leaving the Eighth Kentucky upon the summit of the mountain, "Fighting Joe" descended early in the morning, crossed Chattanooga Creek, and joined Johnson's division upon the right of our position.

Hugh Ewing's division had previously left its position upon the mountain, and passing over to the left, had joined General Sherman, forming upon his right. Thus was completed our immense line of battle, extending from the Knoxville road on the right to the north end of Mission Ridge upon the left, a distance of about six miles! Osterhaus's division was on the extreme

right; then Geary's; then Johnson's; then Sheridan's; then Wood's; then Baird's; then Schurz's; then Steinwehr's; then Ewing's; then John E. Smith's, with Morgan L. Smith upon the extreme left. Whitaker's and Grose's brigades fought with Hooker; Jeff. C. Davis was in reserve on the extreme left; and Howard's two divisions might also be considered as a reserve. The enemy's line of battle coincided with the line of Mission Ridge, he occupying all of it (with lines of rifle-pits at the foot) except the portion from which he had been dislodged by Sherman.

Early in the morning, I took position upon the knob held by Willich's brigade of Wood's division, known as Bald Knob, from which the entire battle-field could be distinctly seen.

The morning was raw and cold, but the sun shone brilliantly from a cloudless sky. The prospect was beautiful in the extreme. The entire valley was before you, surrounded by walls of everlasting adamant, and watered by the finest river on the continent. Toward the north, you looked across the low ground through which ran the railroads; feasted your eyes upon the winding Tennessee, glittering like silver in the sunlight; then looked beyond until the view was bounded by the giant Cumberlands.

Westward you beheld the town of Chattanooga, the nearer portion hidden, however, by the frowning battlements of Fort Wood, from whose guns ever and anon a puff of smoke burst forth, a thundering explosion shook the earth, and a screaming, shrieking missile went tearing through the air, bent, like a destroying angel, upon the work of death.

Beyond Chattanooga, in the same direction, the winding river, never for a mile, apparently, pursuing the same course, again met the eye, tending southward to pass between Moccasin Point and Lookout Mountain; northward again, skirting between Stringer's Ridge and a low range in Lookout Valley, dividing itself into two great arms to embrace the beautiful William's Island, and then sweeping away majestically to the north-west around the point of Raccoon Mountain.

South-west the point of the Lookout itself, always the most prominent feature of this landscape, rose grandly in the sunlight, while east and south the view was bounded by Mission Ridge, on which were ranged the legions with which Bragg expected to stay the march of loyalty and uphold the cause of treason.

Breckinridge's corps was on the left of the enemy's line. Hardee occupied the centre, and part of Buckner's corps, with the Georgia State troops and other fragmentary bodies, held the right. Bragg's headquarters, a small house on Mission Ridge, in a south-east direction, was plainly visible, and served as a mark for many an ambitious artillerist that day. Singularly enough, too, as if to attract special attention, the enemy's largest cannon were placed in battery near this house.

Let us glance around now, and see who occupy

this little knob from which we are gazing upon the animated scene we have described. Since Napoleon stood in the midst of his marshals, on that eventful morning when the sun of Austerlitz broke from behind the eastern walls of the world, scarcely had a more distinguished group of personages been collected together than that which I there beheld.

There was General Smith, Chief of the Engineer Department, a useful, industrious, scientific man, concealing, under a somewhat repellent exterior, a generous, kindly nature. There was Hunter, without command, but assisting by counsel—Hunter, honest, patriotic, conscientious, bold. There was Meigs, too, smooth, plausible, discreet, and wise. There was the keen, talented, energetic, capable Wood. Willich, brave, unselfish, and true—an old veteran, animated by the hopes and ardor of youth. Gordon Granger, brave, able, sensible, rough. Reynolds, in whom courtesy and courage, gallantry and prudence, firmness and moderation, wisdom and enthusiasm, are all combined. Thomas, cold, stern, earnest, unbending, dignified, erect.

And there too was the king among his compeers, the "giant among giants," a man whose placid countenance, which apparently no care could disturb, was lighted up by a piercing eye, whose gaze nothing could escape—a mild, quiet, unassuming man—the solid, sound, subtle, persevering, comprehensive Grant.

Such was the stage—such were the actors.

The battle began upon the extreme left, Sherman, about ten A.M., making an attack upon Tunnel Hill, a point in Mission Ridge just south of the one we had occupied the night before, and separated from it by a small ravine. General Corse's brigade and Colonel Jones's, supported by Colonel Loomis's brigade to the rear and right, advanced to the assault, fought gallantly for a time, fully developed the enemy's position, and then fell back to their intrenchments.

An hour after, the attack was resumed, General Matthes and General Giles A. Smith's brigades, of John E. Smith's division, reinforced afterward by Ranne's brigade, stepped gallantly from behind their works, and marched as if on parade up the hill, on the side of which was a large cleared field, until, despite a plunging fire from the enemy's artillery upon the crest, they entered the timbered portion near the summit; were met by showers of stones and rifle-balls, as well as by a storm of grape; but still refused to retire, and lay down within a hundred yards of the muzzles of the rebel cannon!

General Howard's troops also became engaged here, and though at times somewhat roughly handled, behaved in a manner highly honorable to themselves and the noble men who led them.

General Baird's division of the Fourteenth corps, was at this time marching by the flank, in front of Fort Wood, for the purpose of taking position between General Wood's division and Howard's left. This movement of his, plainly perceived by the enemy, fully impressed them with the conviction that our grand assault was to be made

upon their right, and instantly a massive column of their forces began to move northward along the crest of the ridge. It was a splendid spectacle, as regiment after regiment, brigade after brigade, filed off toward our left; and it was well for Sherman's brave men that they could not see these battalions, for they impressed each beholder with an idea of almost resistless power.

Suddenly the storm burst upon Matthes's brigade and the left of Howard. The fierce flames from thirty pieces of artillery leaped athwart and across the ravine which separated the two hills, and a flash of lightning from ten thousand muskets blinded the eyes of our men. They rose from the ground and returned the fire; they even endeavored to advance, but, against such overwhelming odds, to persevere in either was annihilation; General Matthes was wounded and disabled; a score of officers were shot down; files of our soldiers were swept away at each discharge; and at last, unable longer to endure this useless slaughter, they broke and fled down the hill. For a moment the heart of the beholder was filled with anguish as he saw them hastening in wild confusion back across the field over which they had so gallantly advanced; but he felt reassured when he saw that the moment they had got beyond the fire of musketry, and while still in full range of the enemy's cannon, they re-formed their ranks and were ready for another combat! But their work for the day was over.

And now came the great crisis of the battle.

The men who held in their hands the destinies of the army, had marked from their position on Bald Knob the movement of the rebel legions toward the left, and in an instant perceived their advantage. In the face of three such leaders as Baird, Wood, and Sheridan, Bragg was repeating the old fatal error which lost the allied armies Austerlitz, and the Union Chickamauga—he was weakening his centre and making a flank movement in the presence of his enemy.

In an instant Granger and Palmer hurled Wood and Sheridan down the slope of the ridge upon which they had been posted, and Baird across the lower ground to the left. Through the woods concealing the rebel rifle-pits they charged, and burst like a torrent into and over the same, scattering the terrified rebels who occupied them like thistle-down or chaff.

Here, according to original orders, our lines should have halted; but the men were no longer controllable. Baird had carried the rifle-pits in front of his position, and the shout of triumph rousing the blood to a very frenzy of enthusiasm, rang all along the line. Cheering each other forward, the three divisions began to climb the ridge,

A fiery mass
Of living valor rolling on the foe!

The whole Ridge blazed with artillery. Direct, plunging, and cross fire, from a hundred pieces of cannon, was hurled upon that glorious band of heroes scaling the ridge, and when they were

half-way up, a storm of musket-balls was flung into their very faces.

In reply to the rebel cannon upon the Ridge, Fort Wood, Fort Negley, and all our batteries that could be placed in position, opened their sublime music.

The storm of war was now abroad with supernatural power, and as each successive volley burst from the cloud of smoke which overspread the contending hosts, it seemed that ten thousand mighty echoes wakened from their slumbers, went groaning and growling around the mountains, as if resolved to shake them from their bases, then rolled away down the valleys, growing fainter and fainter, until extinguished by echoes of succeeding volleys, as the distant roar of the cataract is drowned in the nearer thunders of the cloud.

And still the Union troops pressed on, scaling unwaveringly the sides of Mission Ridge. The blood of their comrades renders their footsteps slippery; the toil of the ascent almost takes away their breath; the rebel musketry and artillery mow down their thinned ranks—but still they press on! Not once do they even seem to waver. The color-bearers press ahead, and plant their flags far in advance of the troops; and at last, O moment of supremest triumph! they reach the crest, and rush like an avalanche upon the astonished foe. Whole regiments throw down their arms and surrender, the rebel artillerymen are bayoneted by their guns, and the cannon which had a moment before been thundering on the Union ranks, are now turned about, pouring death and terror into the midst of the mass of miserable fugitives who are rushing down the eastern slope of the ridge.

Almost simultaneously with this immortal charge, Hooker threw his forces through a gap in the ridge upon the Rossville road, and hurled them upon the left flank of the enemy, while Johnson charged this portion of their line in front. Already demoralized by the spectacle upon their right, they offered but a feeble resistance, were captured by hundreds, or ran away like frightened sheep.

One fierce effort was made by the rebel leaders to retrieve the day. The left wing of General J. B. Turchin's brigade of Baird's division, had taken possession of a small work constructed by the enemy on that portion of Mission Ridge nearly opposite Fort Wood. Before he could arrange his regiments inside, the rebels, gathering up all the yet unrouted fragments of such force as they had upon the centre, charged Turchin with a determined fury excelling any thing they had displayed upon that part of the field during the day. But the heroic old Russian who had for two long years overthrown both rebels and their sympathizers, in every field where he had met them, was not to be conquered now, while flushed with his crowning victory. His left wing stood firm as a rock against the overwhelming numbers assailing it. The remainder of the brigade was hurried to the rescue upon the double-quick; the rebel fortifications, manned by Union soldiers,

blazed like a volcano in the face of the foe. In vain the enemy's officers bravely stepped in front of their men, waved their swords, and urged them to the charge. With their comrades falling by scores around them, they could not be induced to advance one foot nearer that citadel of death; and at length, seeing the day irretrievably lost, they wavered, staggered, yielded slowly, and drew off sullenly in the direction of Tunnel Hill. With the exception of this last position, the whole of Mission Ridge was now in our hands.

It was near sundown when General T. J. Wood, whose conduct all through the three days' battle, marked him as one of the ablest leaders of the national armies, rode along the lines of his superb division. Loud shouts of enthusiasm everywhere greeted his appearance, until at last his feelings, no longer controllable, broke forth in a speech!

"Brave men!" said he, "you were ordered to go forward and take the rebel rifle-pits at the foot of these hills; you did so; and then, by the Eternal! without orders, you pushed forward and took all the enemy's works on top! Here is a fine chance for having you all court-martialled! and I myself will appear as the principal witness against you, unless you promise me one thing."

"What is it? what is it?" laughingly inquired his men.

"It is," resumed the General, "that as you are now in possession of these works, you will continue, against all opposition of Bragg, Johnston, Jeff Davis, and the devil, steadfastly to hold them!"

At the conclusion of this speech, the enthusiasm of the soldiers knew no bounds; they left the ranks and crowded around their General: "We promise! we promise!" they cried, and amid such exclamations as "Of course we'll hold them!" "Let any one try to take them from us!" "Bully for you!" "Three cheers for old Wood!" the gallant officer rode off the field.

As the reports from the different portions of the army came in, it is impossible to conceive the joy that filled the hearts of all. Shout answered shout from every hill-top; cheer echoed cheer; until at last, the whole basin of Chattanooga, with the surrounding mountains, seemed filled with one mighty throb of exultation; and the sun went down, gilding with his last beams the scene of as grand a triumph as had ever yet blessed the Union arms.

EVENTS OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER TWENTY-SIXTH.

CHATTANOOGA, Nov. 27.

Early yesterday morning, I mounted my horse, and rode out to Mission Ridge. The joy of victory still lighted up the countenances of those I met, and officers and soldiers of the different corps were congratulating each other upon the brilliant success of the previous day.

But it was not all triumph now. A mournful procession of ambulances and men on foot with stretchers, bore back toward Chattanooga the bleeding forms of the wounded, as well as the remains of those who had heard their last call to

battle, and would never carry sword or musket more. All through the woods between Bald Knob and Mission Ridge, and over the open ground at the foot of the latter, sad sights drew tears, even from eyes unaccustomed to weeping.

At one place a father was walking beside the stretcher on which was borne the torn and mangled yet still breathing body of his son.

At the foot of a tree, a strong man was bending, heart-broken, over the lifeless form of his brother.

A fragment of a shell had driven the barrel of a musket, in a soldier's hand, with such force against his face, that the head was nearly severed in twain.

A rebel officer was lying prone on his face in one of the rifle-pits, still grasping in his hand the sword, which, I afterward learned, he had bravely flourished in the very faces of our men, as they burst with resistless valor over the rebel works. I thought as I looked at him, that, as a tribute to his courage, he should be buried as he lay, under the works he had so well defended, with his sword still in his hand.

On the ridge the corpses lay strewed around more thickly, and all along the line occupied by Wood and Baird and Sheridan, the eye could not gaze in any direction without beholding the stiff, cold forms of the dead.

The expression upon the faces of our own men who had fallen here, was most touching and remarkable, for not all the pains of dissolution had been able to drive from their features the smile of victory, or the placid look of contentment which always rests upon the countenance of him who feels his work well done. Could those near and dear to the brave men who fell at Chattanooga, have gazed upon their faces the next morning, I am sure it would have mitigated, for all time to come, their emotions of grief. For it was plain as the sun at noonday, that these men had died, not only without mental agony, but that their last earthly feeling was one of calm contentment or triumphant joy. True this was death—but it was death without its hideousness—death robbed of all its terrors—death whose grandeur made it preferable to life.

On the summit of the ridge the captured artillery was huddled together in groups, and here, in spite of all my stoicism, I saw another spectacle, of a different nature, which affected me to tears. Numbers of soldiers were standing around the pieces, peering into their huge throats with intense curiosity, passing their hands over every portion even of the carriage-wheels, patting the guns as a child pats the head of a dog, and smiling in each other's faces! As I gazed upon those men, it seemed to me as if I were carried back to another age, and saw before me the sacrifices, the strength, the spirit, and the glories of the American Revolution. God bless the soldiers whose deepest and most solemn joy springs from the overthrow of their country's enemies!

I endeavored, with all my power, to ascertain what regiment had first planted its flag upon the crest of the Ridge. It was impossible to do so,

and I predict now, that it will never be known. A dozen different regiments lay claim to the honor; and each one has, no doubt, witnesses among the spectators, who honestly testify to the validity of its claim; for it was impossible for any one man to mark all parts of the line at once, and each naturally supposed that the flag he first saw on the crest, was actually the first placed there.

As I was riding out to the Ridge, a group of soldiers were standing near the road. As I passed, they remarked to each other, "There goes a correspondent," and then called out to me: "Don't forget to speak well of the First Ohio boys!"

I will not; although their actions the day before spoke for them more loudly than can the pen of the historian. But this is what I shall say:

The First Ohio and Twenty-third Kentucky had been consolidated before the battle, under command of Colonel Langdon, of the former. Did I not know, from the causes I have mentioned, how easily one or a hundred spectators could have been deceived in the matter, I should assert, with the utmost positiveness, that the flag of these consolidated regiments was the first that floated over Mission Ridge.

But whatever difference of opinion there may be with regard to the particular regiment to which this honor should be assigned, the illustrious rivals can well afford to be generous to each other; for all agree that five minutes did not elapse from the time our first soldier stood upon the top of the ridge, until a line of Union banners was floating all along the crest.

Let all, in these honorable rivalries, imitate the noble example of the Seventy-sixth Ohio and Thirty-eighth Indiana. These regiments were over to the right on Wednesday, the former on the extreme right of Osterhaus's division, the latter on the right of Johnson's. As Osterhaus swept round upon the left flank of the enemy—Johnson at the same time attacking them in front—the lines met, and nearly five hundred rebels, inclosed between the Seventy-sixth Ohio and the Thirty-eighth Indiana, threw down their arms. Nobody could decide to which regiment they surrendered, and a contest commenced which should crown both with immortal honor; for each claimed the prisoners, not for itself, but for the other.

General Sherman's men did not make quite the same progress on the left as the other portions of our army; but let no one decide, on that account, that they did not fight as bravely. Their bold attack upon Tunnel Hill drew upon them the concentrated might of half the rebel army, and, although some of them gave way in confusion, it was simply because they were assailed by overwhelming numbers. This was particularly the case with General John E. Smith's division.

But they need not even this explanation at my hands. That the courage of the men and the ability of the officers who bore the American

flag in triumph at Raymond, at Jackson, at Champion Hill, and at Vicksburgh, is no longer a matter of question.

Tunnel Hill had been abandoned by the rebels in the night; and when I left the summit of the Ridge about noon, the right and left wings of our army were advancing, while the centre still held its position. No enemy was visible, but columns of smoke rising from various points told that the enemy was burning the bridges over the Chickamauga, and such of his stores as he could not carry away. Sherman was throwing a shell, occasionally, into some old rebel camps, which came in sight as he advanced. "No use beating those bushes," said old Willich, after closely inspecting these camps through his field-glass; "the bird has flown."

Estimates of the losses in the last great contest have already been given by telegram. I shall not repeat them here.

In the entire three days' operations, I think our own loss will reach six hundred killed, three thousand wounded, and four hundred prisoners. It cannot, certainly, exceed this; it may fall considerably below.

The rebel loss will not fall short of five hundred killed, two thousand five hundred wounded, five thousand prisoners, seven thousand stands of small arms, twenty stands of colors, and forty pieces of artillery. WILLIAM S. FURAY.

RICHMOND "DESPATCH" ACCOUNT.

ARMY OF TENNESSEE, MISSION RIDGE, NOV. 23, nine P.M.

General Grant has made an important move upon the military chess-board to-day, and one that is likely to exert an important influence upon military operations in this quarter. At an early hour this morning, when the fog had lifted from the valley below, it was discovered that the Federal Commander was massing a heavy force on his left, and opposite to our right. As the morning advanced, this force grew denser and larger, until it covered all the slopes this side of Cemetery Fort, which is near the river above, and the last work the enemy has on his left. At twelve M., these masses deployed into two lines of battle, with heavy reserves. This movement completed, the guns of the fort opened at two P.M., when the heavy lines of the Federals advanced rapidly against our pickets, and drove them in, after a sharp resistance on their part. By three o'clock, the enemy had gained Indian Hill, an eminence which stands about midway between Cemetery Fort and Mission Ridge, being between his left wing and our right. He advanced upon no other part of our lines, and rested after gaining possession of the hill.

In the mean time, Major Robertson brought up a few guns of his reserve artillery, and, with other batteries posted on Mission Ridge to the right, opened upon the enemy, with what effect is not known. We only know that he maintained his new position, notwithstanding our fire. No report has been received of our casualties beyond a surmise in official quarters, that they will reach from one to two hundred in killed and

wounded. Only our pickets were engaged, the enemy not coming within range of our line of battle.

When this movement was going on, it was observed that the enemy threw a considerable column up the river further to our right, as if he intended to overlap our line, and compel us to stretch it out to a length that would render it very long and very weak. Can it be that he means to threaten our dépôt of supplies at Chickamauga Station, and at the same time to draw us away from Lookout Mountain? The idea that Grant desires to advance his lines in order to get more room and a further supply of firewood, as has been suggested, will not bear the test of reason. A movement on so large a scale looks to ulterior objects, and is intended to initiate operations upon a broad and comprehensive scale.

The first result of such a movement will be to compel General Bragg to weaken his forces on Lookout Mountain, (his left,) to reinforce his right, which is comparatively weak. Indeed, orders to this effect have already been given, and are now being executed. It will never do to let the enemy turn our right, and get possession of our dépôt at Chickamauga.

General Bragg, therefore, must choose between Lookout and Chickamauga. The demonstration to-day was intended, doubtless, to force him to make his election between the two. If he decide to hold Chickamauga, then he must yield the mountain, and throw his army between the enemy's encroaching left wing and the railroad. If he gives the preference to Lookout, then the railroad and his dépôt of supplies must go.

The natural effect of the affair to-day, as has already been intimated, will be to force General Bragg to weaken his left, in order to strengthen his right wing, now threatened by a formidable and largely superior force. This, I doubt not, was one of the objects of the demonstration. I look, therefore, for an assault upon Lookout to-morrow, when it will be less able to resist an attack than it was to-day. Our artillery on the mountain will be of no assistance after the enemy shall have reached the foot of the mountain, it being impossible to depress the guns sufficiently. The importance of the mountain ceased with the loss of Lookout Valley. The possession of the valley reduces the wagon transportation of the enemy to two or three miles at farthest, and gives him the use of the river besides. The voluntary abandonment of the mountain, therefore, should occasion no regret, since its longer retention is not only of slight importance, but will be attended with much difficulty, on account of the great length of our line.

MISSION RIDGE, November 24, midnight.

Well, the enemy has assaulted Lookout Mountain to-day, sure enough, as was intimated in my letter of last night he probably would do. Having accomplished a part of the object of his demonstration yesterday, to wit, the transfer of a portion of our forces on the mountain to the ex-

treme right, he attacked the mountain with a confidence which the sequel will show was not misplaced. The great rise in the Tennessee had carried away his pontoon-bridges the night before, but his positions were so well taken, and had been so strongly fortified, that he did not hesitate to make the assault. He opened at eleven o'clock with his batteries in Lookout valley, directing his fire against our lines along the western side and northern face of the mountain. Our own batteries on the mountain could take no part in the engagement, owing to a dense fog which enveloped Lookout Point and the crest above. At half-past twelve o'clock, the infantry became engaged, and the battle was then fully joined.

Very few details have been received—too few, indeed, for me to attempt to enter into particulars. The impression prevails in well-informed circles that the affair has not been well conducted by the confederate officers in command on the mountain. Our forces had been much weakened the night before by the withdrawal of Walker's division, which was sent to the right, leaving only Stevenson's and Cheatham's divisions behind, both under command of General Stevenson. General Cheatham arrived on the ground late in the afternoon, having just returned to the army. Up to the time of his return, his division was under the command of General Jackson, the senior Brigadier in the division. It was thought that these two divisions would have been sufficient to hold the position against a largely superior force; but not so. The confederates were steadily pushed back from the moment the infantry opened fire until late in the evening, when General Breckinridge went to the assistance of Stevenson with a brigade. The Federals, who had driven the confederates slowly around the north face of the mountain to Craven's house, and thence around almost to the road which leads to the top, were, in their turn, forced back after night some four or five hundred yards. The fight continued until ten p.m., and even now I can hear an occasional shot while I write.

The troops and guns on the mountain were brought down safely, only a few commissary stores being left behind. We lost a considerable number of prisoners, nevertheless, early in the day, and on the western slope of the mountain, the enemy, it is alleged, having got in the rear of Walthall's brigade, under cover of the prevailing fog. One account says that Walthall lost from five hundred to six hundred prisoners, including nearly the whole of one regiment, the Thirty-fourth Mississippi. It is not improbable that our loss has been exaggerated somewhat.

Orders have been given to evacuate the mountain, and for the whole army to retire across the Chickamauga, in the direction of the station of that name. The loss of Lookout valley and Brown's Ferry removed all doubt as to the ability of General Grant to subside his army at Chattanooga this winter, and rendered the long-

er possession of Lookout Mountain of comparatively little importance, and, now that the mountain has passed into his hands, there is no reason left why we should longer remain in the mud and water around Chattanooga. Besides, General Grant has been throwing a heavy force up the river, and crossing it over in the boats we neglected to burn, all this afternoon. A portion of this force consists of heavy cavalry, which have been landed above the mouth of the Chickamauga.

Some infantry had also been landed on the east side of that stream—the remainder, and much more numerous body, on the west side—all up the Tennessee and some distance above our right wing. This movement greatly endangers the dépôt and railroad, and furnishes an additional reason for withdrawing across the Chickamauga. Another danger, and a still more serious one, is the probability that Grant will turn our right and get between the main army and Longstreet at Knoxville. It is now well ascertained that Sheridan has not gone to the relief of Burnside, as was fully believed a few days ago; but the whole Federal army is here marshalling for our destruction. Perhaps Grant has concluded that he could best succor Burnside by forcing Bragg to retire.

I have just heard that our communications with Knoxville have been cut, probably by the Federal cavalry that crossed the river above this afternoon, and that the dépôt buildings at Joynes's Station, on the Chattanooga and East-Tennessee road, have been burnt.

November 25—8 A.M.

Finding that he could not withdraw his army in time, General Bragg has given orders to mass his whole available force on the right. A battle may be expected to-day. The situation is critical.

CHICKAMAUGA, November 25—Midnight.

The confederates have sustained to-day the most ignominious defeat of the whole war—a defeat for which there is but little excuse or palliation. For the first time during our struggle for national independence, our defeat is chargeable to the troops themselves, and not to the blunders or incompetency of their leaders. It is difficult to realize how a defeat so complete could have occurred on ground so favorable, notwithstanding the great disparity in the forces of the two hostile armies. The ground was more in our favor than it was at Fredericksburgh, where General Longstreet is said to have estimated that Lee's army was equal to three hundred thousand men. And yet we gained the battle of Fredericksburgh, and lost that of Missionary Ridge.

But let us take up the painful narrative at the beginning, and see how this great misfortune, if not this grievous disgrace, has befallen the confederate arms.

Lookout Mountain was evacuated last night, it being no longer important to us after the loss of Lookout or Will's valley, and no longer tenable against such an overwhelming force as General Grant had concentrated around Chattanooga.

General Bragg abandoned, also, the whole of Chattanooga valley, and the trenches and breastworks running along the foot of Missionary Ridge and across the valley to the base of Lookout, and moved his troops up to the top of the ridge. It was found necessary to extend his right well up toward the Chickamauga, near its mouth, in consequence of the heavy forces which the enemy had thrown up the river in that direction. The Tennessee and Missionary Ridge approach nearer to each other as one goes up, or rather down, the valley, the width of which, at some points, does not exceed one fourth of a mile. Across this valley, now almost an open plain, varying from a fourth of a mile to two miles in width, the Federals advanced to the assault, their ranks exposed to an artillery fire from the ridge, while in the plain, and to the infantry fire when they attempted the ascent of the hill or mountain.

The only objection that can be urged against our line was its length and weakness, the latter being the result of the former, and the former the result of circumstances beyond our control, it being necessary for us to guard the passes in the ridge, and to conform to the length of the line presented by the enemy. The ridge varies in height from four to six hundred feet, and is crossed by several roads leading out from Chattanooga. The western side, next to the enemy, was steep and rugged, and, in some places, almost bare, the timber having been cut away for firewood. Our pickets occupied the breastworks below, while the infantry and artillery were distributed along the crest of the ridge from McFarlan's Gap almost to the mouth of the Chickamauga, a distance of six miles or more. In addition to the natural strength of the position, we had thrown up breastworks along the ridge wherever the ascent was easy.

The Federal army was marshalled under Grant, Thomas, Hooker, and Sherman, and did not number less than eighty-five thousand veteran troops. The confederate army, under Bragg, Hardee, and Breckinridge, did not number half so many. Longstreet's Virginia divisions, and other troops, had been sent to East-Tennessee. Had these been present, with their steady leader at the head of them, we should have won a victory quite as complete as our defeat has been. As it was, we ought to have won the day, and should have done so if our men had done as well as usual. Possibly a mistake was committed when Longstreet was sent away, and possibly it would have been better not to have accepted battle to-day, but to have retired last night. General Bragg thought, however, that there was not time, after the loss of Lookout, to get his army safely over the Chickamauga last night, and that it would be better, occupying so strong a position, to fight it out. But what could he expect from a battle where the odds were so much against him? Not only did Grant have three to one in numbers, but the geographical configuration of the ground, in manœuvring an army, was as favorable as he could desire. Nature had provided an ample

protection for his flanks and rear, and rendered his front almost impregnable. He possessed the additional advantage of being able to manœuvre his army upon the chord of a semi-circle, while Bragg could move only upon the arc.

But let us proceed with the battle, the strangest, most singular, and unsatisfactory conflict in which our arms have been engaged.

Grant deployed his immense masses in two heavy lines of battle, and sometimes in three, supported by large reserve forces. The spectacle was magnificent as viewed from the crest of Missionary Ridge. He advanced first against our right wing, about ten o'clock, where he encountered that superb soldier, Lieutenant-General Hardee, who commanded on the right, while Major-General Breckinridge commanded on the left. Hardee's command embraced Cleburne's, Walker's, (commanded by General Gist, General Walker being absent,) Cheatham's, and Stevenson's divisions. Breckinridge's embraced his old division, commanded by Brigadier-General Lewis, Stewart's, part of Buckner's and Hindman's, commanded by Patton Anderson. The enemy's first assault upon Hardee was repulsed with great slaughter, as was his second, though made with double lines, supported with heavy reserves. The wave of battle, like the wave of the sea when it dashes against a rock-bound coast, beat and hissed, and struggled in vain; for the brave men who guarded our right were resolved never to yield one foot to the hated invaders. The odds against which they contended were fearful; for while the enemy advanced in two and even three massive lines, their own army consisted of only one long and weak line, without supports.

Yet they not only repulsed every attack, but captured seven flags, about three hundred prisoners, and remained masters of the ground until night, when they were ordered to retire, carrying off all their guns, losing no prisoners, and but a small percentage of killed and wounded. The whole command behaved well, and especially that model soldier, Major-General Cleburne, a true son of the Emerald Isle, and his heroic division. General Hardee saved the army from a disastrous rout, and added fresh laurels to his brow.

The attack on the left wing was not made until about noon. Here as on the right, the enemy was repulsed, but he was obstinate and fought with great ardor and confidence, returning to the charge again and again in the handsomest style, until one of our brigades, near the centre, said to be Reynolds's, gave way, and the Federal flag was planted on Missionary Ridge. The enemy was not slow in availing himself of the great advantages of his new position. In a few minutes he turned upon our flanks and poured into them a terrible enfilading fire, which soon threw the confederates on his right and left into confusion. Under this confusion the gap in our lines grew wider and wider and wider, and the wider it grew the faster the multitudinous foe rushed into the yawning chasm. The confusion extended until it finally assumed the form of a panic. Seeing

the enemy in possession of a portion of the heights, the men hastily concluded that the day was gone, and that they had best save themselves.

Just at this time the alarm was increased by an artillery battery, which rushed down the hill to the river for a fresh supply of ammunition; the men, however, supposed they were flying from the field, and that all was lost. Nearly the whole left wing eventually became involved and gave way, a portion of it retiring under orders, but the greater part in unmitigated rout.

General Bragg did all he could to rally the fugitives and re-form the broken line. He exposed himself in the most unguarded manner, and at one time it looked as if he certainly would be killed. His staff-officers were also conspicuous in their efforts to restore our line. They and their chief were the last to leave the ridge.

The day was lost. Hardee still maintained his ground; but no success of the right wing could restore the left to its original position. All men—even the bravest—are subject to error and confusion; but to-day, some of the confederates did not fight with their accustomed courage. Possibly the contrast between the heavy masses of the Federals, as they rolled across the valley and up the mountain ridge, and their own long and attenuated line, was not of a character to encourage them.

Our casualties are small—very small—too small, indeed, to be recorded along with so complete and humiliating a defeat. Included among our losses are some of our best guns—perhaps as many as thirty or forty. The infantry supports, in some instances, fled so precipitately that there was no time left to remove the guns. There were but few roads down the mountain by which they could retreat, and this occasioned further loss. All the artillery behaved well. The men in Cobb's battery stood their ground after their supports had fled, and though they lost their guns, they fought them to the last; and when they could use them no longer, on account of the steepness of the descent, they hurled hand-grenades at the foe as he crawled up the mountain beneath the muzzles of the guns.

The enemy's loss must have exceeded ours ten to one. Our dead and some of the wounded were left on the field.

But it is late and bitter cold, and I must close. We cross the Chickamauga to-night, and then proceed to Dalton. I write under the greatest possible disadvantages. SALLUST.

Doc. 15.

MOVEMENTS ON THE RAPIDAN.

NEW-YORK TRIBUNE ACCOUNT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS, }
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, December 13, 1863.

At half-past six, on the morning of November twenty-sixth, (Thanksgiving,) the Second corps, Major-General G. K. Warren, left its camp on

Mountain Run and marched to Germania Ford, with a battery of four four and a half-inch guns and one battery of six twenty-pounder Parrott guns from the reserve artillery, with three hundred cavalry, under the command of Captain Schwartz, of the Fourth New-York cavalry, and a pontoon train, under the command of Captain Mendell of the Engineers corps. The head of this column reached the steep embankments at Germania Ford, at half-past eight A.M. Here a thick growth of almost impenetrable woods was met, and considerable time was occupied in felling trees, cutting out roads, and placing the artillery in position. All this was done with the greatest rapidity, and in the face of the enemy's pickets on the opposite bank of the Rapidan. By great exertions, all the necessary preliminaries were completed by eleven o'clock A.M., the men working with a vigor which indicated that their hearts were inspired with hopes of success.

Major-General Meade arrived at this juncture, and ordered a cessation of further operations till General French, Third corps, was heard from.

At half-past one, orders were received by General Warren to move forward. Upon the advance guard of the Second corps making its appearance, the rebel cavalry pickets fled in hot haste, and Captain Schwartz, with his cavalry, at once forded the river, and marched some three miles, followed by General Caldwell's First division, Second corps, two brigades of which forded the stream. This force was crossed in this way simply to guard against any sudden surprise movement of the enemy, as well as to protect the crossing of the main body of our troops. The ford was a difficult one to cross, and many of the troops were up to their necks in icy water, so that their rations were saturated, and it required almost superhuman exertions to keep their muskets from being immersed. The artillery and ambulances experienced great difficulty in crossing the ford.

Captain Mendell, of the Engineer corps, who had charge of the laying of the pontoon-bridge, was delayed over an hour by finding that there was not a sufficient number of boats to span the stream. He finally succeeded in constructing a temporary trestle which answered every purpose. This inexcusable blunder in not sending enough boats to meet any contingency, occurred both at Culpeper and Germania Fords, and caused dangerous delays. Captain Mendell was not responsible for this carelessness, and, in justice to him, it is but fair to say that to his industry and ingenuity the safe crossing of our entire army was indebted.

As soon as the infantry and artillery crossed the river, they were marched out on the plank-road, about two and a half miles, and encamped for the night on Flat Run. At daybreak on the twenty-seventh, the Second corps moved out on the plank-road, and marched to the old macadamized turnpike. From this point, the Second corps, with General Terry's division of the Sixth corps, marched rapidly toward Old Verdiers-

ville, which was the point to be reached. It was expected that the Third corps, General French, would join the Second at Robertson's Tavern, but owing to General French having lost the road, this part of the programme was not carried out. General Hayes led the advance with his division, followed by General Webb's, then General Caldwell's division. At Robertson's Tavern, General Hayes met a large body of rebels and drove them back. General Webb happened to be near at hand, and at once deploying his forces to the right of the road, drove them back in confusion toward Raccoon Ford. It was in this spirited encounter that Lieutenant-Colonel Hesser, a gallant officer, fell mortally wounded. About this time, half-past eleven A.M., our skirmishers ascertained that the rebels were concealed in the thick woods, and were shrewdly extending their skirmishers to such an extent, that nearly all of the Second corps was required to check them.

At this time, rebel deserters and prisoners informed General Warren, that Johnston's rebel division was between him and Raccoon Ford, and that he was confronting Rhodes's rebel division.

General Meade was at once informed of this, and also that General Warren had received no tidings from General French on his right, and General Sykes on his left. General Warren notified General Meade that he was ready and willing to begin the attack, if he so desired, by advancing the centre, which was so weak as to be in a critical condition, and wholly unfit to cope with the superior forces of the enemy. It must be borne in mind that both wings of our army were then separated four or five miles from General Warren. General Meade instructed General Warren to wait until the right and left were heard from. Soon after, the roar of artillery was heard, and just then news came of the position of the left wing. The rapid cannonading came from General Gregg's cavalry division, who were engaging the enemy briskly on the plank-road. Heavy firing was heard shortly after at Morton's Ford, where General Custer's cavalry were skirmishing with Stuart's cavalry. During all this time, while General Warren was awaiting further orders and information, the enemy were artfully changing their lines, endeavoring to turn General Warren's right flank. While manoeuvring our forces, Lieutenant-Colonel Josselyn, commanding the Fifteenth Massachusetts volunteers, was seriously wounded, and fell into the hands of the enemy. This determination on the part of the rebels, induced General Warren to make a feint movement, as though about to offer battle for a general engagement. To do this, it was necessary to advance his line of skirmishers. He was entirely successful in deluding the wily foe, for, in the language of the F. F. V.'s, he fought "right smart" along the front of the Second corps. Colonel Carroll's brigade, composed of Western troops, conducted themselves in a manner that cannot be too highly praised. Colonel Carroll evinced considerable skill by draw-

ing the enemy to his line of battle down the turnpike, where large numbers of Gordon's brigade, belonging to Early's division, were captured. Colonel Carroll had a miraculous escape from instant death, his clothing having ten or twelve bullet-holes in it. Colonel Lockwood, of the same brigade, had his uniform pierced in several places by Minié balls.

In the afternoon, General Meade ascertained that General French had participated in an engagement, and the enemy had massed a force strong enough to successfully resist him. The exact position of the Third corps, at this time, still continued an uncertainty, although it was known to be four or five miles distant. At sundown General Warren ventured to advance his line of skirmishers, with a strong support. The enemy made a stubborn resistance, and retreated inch by inch, disputing his claim to the soil. Owing to the almost impenetrable woods, it was an impossibility to preserve a perfect line of battle, beside affording a subtle foe concealment, and an excellent opportunity to construct formidable earthworks in addition to those already there.

General Warren evinced his thorough military knowledge by using sufficient military caution in advancing so as to deceive the vigilant enemy, and thereby deter him from hurling his overwhelmingly strong numbers upon our lines. General Warren continued to maintain his position, although no other corps had formed a junction with him.

The First corps, General Newton, which had been ordered from the left in the afternoon, reached the rear of General Warren's command half an hour before dark, and, at daylight on the twenty-eighth, they were in line of battle on his left, a little south of the turnpike.

The Sixth corps, General Sedgwick, moved up and took position to the right of the Second corps, at daylight. At sunrise, the First, Second, and Sixth corps proceeded in line of battle simultaneously, but, to their great chagrin, they found the fleet-footed enemy had decamped during the night. By constant and rapid marching, our advance overtook their retreating rear-guard, and shortly after discovered the main body of the rebel army in a strong position on the west bank of Mine Run, which is about one and three quarter miles from Robertson's Tavern.

Quite a number of deserters were picked up by our advance, and from them we learned that Hill's corps (rebel) had advanced from Orange Court-House down the plank-road, and there united with Ewell's corps, thereby concentrating the whole of Lee's army in a position naturally strong, and with formidable intrenchments to protect him.

To add to our numerous disadvantages, a heavy rain-storm set in early in the forenoon, accompanied with a thick fog, that foiled all our attempts, for a time, to continue a close inspection of the enemy's works and movements. Determined not to be balked by unpropitious weather, General Warren made a minute and personal recon-

noissance of the enemy's fortifications, hoping thereby to discover some unprotected point where an attack might be made with some promise of success, but he failed to detect a single unguarded position. While making his perilous tour of observation along our front picket-lines, General Warren had twenty men killed and wounded.

A laughable incident occurred on this reconnoissance which is worth relating; and as it is too good to be omitted, I give it place in this review. One of our infantry skirmishers approached a secesh house, where quite a quantity of poultry were perambulating in a defiant and careless, yet to a hungry soldier, inviting manner. The wearied and half-famished "skirmisher" immediately commenced the practice of barn-yard strategy, deploying first to the left, then to the right, and in fact in every direction, regardless of all military rule, bent only upon dealing the death-blow to a good-sized turkey, which was strutting its hour upon the stage of life. He finally managed to turn the left flank of his noisy fugitive, and having captured the entire right wing, he was in the act of carrying off his prisoner, when the rebel sharp-shooters caught a glimpse of him, and instantly opened a galling fire upon him. The leaden shower was more unpalatable and harder to digest than the defunct "gobbler," and the dish of Minié-balls was a warmer feast than the Yankee cared to indulge in, so he deemed it best to retire. He was in the act of doing this, when a tremendous volley accelerated his pace to such a degree that he dropped the coveted prize, and betook himself to a place of safety. Just then General Warren rode along, and seeing the soldier drop the fowl, he calmly dismounted, and, throwing the turkey over his saddle, rode quietly along, bearing off his valuable prize, while the enemy's bullets whistled tunes of the most discordant sound about his ears. This act caused considerable merriment among his troops, who revered the General for his bravery, which they have often witnessed on bloody fields. This, I believe, is the first time on record that a Major-General has been known to indulge in a foraging expedition.

As soon as our entire army had been properly posted, ready for an aggressive moment, General Warren solicited the privilege of taking his corps and making a lively demonstration on the right wing of the rebel army, for the purpose of ascertaining, while he threatened, where the most feasible point of attack was. He requested that in case he should not be successful in discovering a favorable position to assault, to march around as if attempting to get in their rear, so as to compel the enemy to change his front. This plan was mutually agreed upon, and General H. D. Terry's Third division, Sixth corps, one of the strongest and best fighting divisions in the army of the Potomac, was attached to the Second corps, with three hundred cavalry, in order to enable General Warren to carry on more extensive operations in case of an engagement with superior force.

It was the intention of General Warren to

make an important and quick movement, and to facilitate this he left half of his artillery, as well as half of his ambulance and ammunition trains, behind. Considerable time was required to issue extra rations, these being necessary, as it was expected to have a long and tedious movement, which made it essential that the troops should be kept in the best condition, ready for any emergency which might arise. Time was likewise exhausted in assigning the surplus trains to proper guards, in relieving the picket-lines on our front; and the night being dark and stormy, and our route lying through dense woods filled with tangled underbrush, General Warren, under the circumstances, wisely deemed it useless and imprudent to proceed further till daylight.

On the twenty-ninth, at daylight, General Warren marched rapidly toward the plank-road, a distance of eight miles, where he met General Gregg's cavalry outposts. Here General Warren and General Gregg scanned closely the position of the enemy. Just in the rear of the rebel videttes, General Gregg pointed out what he supposed to be a long line of intrenchments, but which afterward proved to be the embankment of the unfinished railroad projected several years since to run between Fredericksburgh and Gordonsville. General Warren forthwith ordered up General Caldwell's division, effecting his movements without the knowledge of the enemy, and deployed the Irish brigade to the right and Colonel Miles's brigade to the left of the plank-road. Captain Schwartz, with his three hundred cavalry, was also formed on the same road, with a battery in his rear for support; the balance of the division was ordered to march close up, ready for any contingency, while the whole column would follow on. Every thing being then in readiness, no time was squandered, and the order was given to advance. It was then noon-time, and Brigadier-General Prince, on General Warren's right, was notified of this movement. The whole column then pressed on, and soon caught up with the retreating rebels, whom they drove three miles. Colonel Miles's brigade reaped new honors on this occasion, and deserve honorable mention for the cheerfulness with which they endured the privations on this rapid and most fatiguing march.

Considerable time was spent in bringing up the three divisions in the rear preparatory to the grand assault, and by the time they arrived, staff-officers from General Gregg brought news that the enemy had cut his forces in two, and he was sadly in need of reinforcements. General Warren at once sent word to General H. D. Terry, commanding Third division, Sixth corps, to render all necessary aid to General Gregg, and, if the enemy continued to press him so that he should need the whole division, to give it for his support. General Terry sent General Shaler's brigade to relieve General Gregg, but its services were not required when it arrived there.

During all this time, Colonel Miles's brigade remained on the extreme left, closing around the railroad to the enemy's right, being two miles

from our main force. General Caldwell held the railroad to the plank road, and was obliged to call upon General Webb for assistance, the rebels having pushed their line of skirmishers between him and General Prince. General Webb's division had previously supplied one brigade to General Caldwell, which took position on the right of the corps in front.

General Warren, in order to take his position in rear of Colonel Miles, was obliged to use troops from the rear of the column to support him. The constant changes of the enemy on our front, who were making desperate attempts to get in our rear, used up the last hour of daylight, and entirely thwarted General Warren's well-laid plan to assault the right or advance his left.

Another serious drawback to our progress was the ignorance of the surrounding country, which had to be thoroughly explored before any kind of a movement could be made. Roads had to be made for the safe passage of our artillery between the Catharpin and plank roads, which was no easy task, when we consider that miry streams, dense woods, and the unfinished railroad were the obstacles that impeded our advance. While this undertaking was in progress, the rebel commander, having discovered our intentions, opened upon our lines with artillery, at the same time changing his troops from the left of his line to protect and strengthen his right, which General Warren threatened. During this movement, General Warren lost fifty men, killed and wounded. It was now dark, and General Warren at once reported to army headquarters in person. Upon arriving there, he learned that it was determined to make a general assault at daylight next day, November thirtieth.

General French, commanding Third corps, had regarded an assault in his front not practicable. General Wright thought he could force the rebel line and hold a position on our right, and he soon reported his force in line of battle, ready for the aggressive movement. The weakness of the enemy on our left was fully admitted by General Warren, and in his official report of the late campaign, to the War Department, he states this fact in the plainest terms.

General Meade, after holding a consultation with General Warren's senior officers, concluded to increase his (General Warren's) command by the addition of two divisions of the Third corps, and it was decided that he should attack the enemy at eight o'clock the next morning, on the left, while our right was to participate an hour later. General Warren spent the night, which was a bitter cold one, in his saddle, arranging his troops for the grand assault on the morrow, and as the first rays of morning appeared in the east, he had finished his arduous task.

The following was the exact disposition of General Warren's entire force. The front line extended a mile in length, and the troops were formed in two and three lines, while great care had been taken to post strong supports at the proper points, to guard against the disastrous results that would ensue from an attack of superior

numbers. General H. D. Terry, commanding Third division, Sixth corps, was stationed along the Catharpin road, to hold the left flank and act as reserve. General Hayes, commanding Third division, Second corps, extended his troops in two lines to the right, reaching the railroad. General Webb, commanding Second division, Second corps, joined General Hayes's forces, uniting with General Prince, commanding Second division, Third corps, which was also formed in two lines. General Carr, Third division, Third corps, next followed, in two parallel lines, with a strong reserve reaching to the plank road. Then came General Caldwell's troops, First division, Second corps, acting as a reserve and support to General Warren's right flank.

At daybreak every thing was in readiness for the struggle, but a careful examination by General Warren revealed the important fact that the enemy's lines had changed entirely during the night. Large accessions had been made to their ranks, and every available position that could be used with advantage by our foe bristled with artillery and infantry. The formidable breastworks, epaulements, and abattis were finished and strengthened.

A run of eight minutes would be required for our lines to close up the distance between them and those of the enemy, during which our entire advancing lines would be subject to every description of fire. With the number of troops at his disposal, the tremendous odds pitted against him, and the imminent peril in which the entire army would be placed in case of a defeat at that point, after mature and most careful deliberation, General Warren deemed it imprudent to attack the rebels' immediate front, and he so reported to General Meade. Any movement on the part of General Warren to outflank the enemy with the limited force under his command, separated as he was four miles from the right wing, risked his troops to the chances of a sudden attack by the rebels, which, with their choice position and overwhelmingly strong numbers, would no doubt have resulted in a disastrous defeat, and appearances indicated such a design on their part. Such an exposure and infeasible undertaking was not warranted, and no military principle would justify him in attempting so rash a movement.

The above is the opinion of veteran military tacticians, regular and volunteer, and claims the consideration of those at home in civil pursuits who "condemn what they do not comprehend." Three things only could be done that day, namely, expose his command to this attack from overwhelming numbers in their selected and fortified strongholds, assault where he then was, or rejoin the right wing.

There was a plan under consideration to bring the entire army to the position occupied by General Warren's forces, and march the body toward the left — the enemy's right; but to carry this out would necessitate a complete abandonment of our base. It was the opinion of General Warren that this plan was more feasible and much less hazardous than an attack in front.

We remained quiet the rest of the day and the first day of December, during which time the rebels continued, like sensible leaders, to strengthen and enlarge their fortifications, improving the leisure and security afforded them by our inactivity at all points. Our whole army fell back from their position on the night of December first. We began to retire just after dark, and on the morning of December second, in pursuance of orders from army headquarters, our troops recrossed the Rapidan, the infantry and artillery crossing at Culpeper and Germania Fords, and the principal part of the cavalry at Ely's Ford.

The Second corps, General Warren, lost in killed, wounded, and missing, two hundred and eighty-nine men, being engaged on the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, and twenty-ninth of November. General H. D. Terry, Third division, Sixth corps, lost about twenty men.

It was most unfortunate that General French, of the Third corps, lost his road on the twenty-seventh of November, thereby causing so great a delay in uniting with the forces of General Warren. Another misfortune was the failure of a certain general to relieve the pickets at the proper hour, which aided in frustrating the plans of the campaign.

The above lengthy review of our recent movements on the Rapidan is a correct one, my information having been derived from personal observations at the front during the campaign, and the details are from official reports, with full explanations from various staff-officers of the different corps and divisions participating in the operations. I have taken considerable pains to secure entire accuracy, and after submitting this account to the close examination of officers high in command, they have pronounced it authentic.

RICHMOND "DISPATCH" ACCOUNT.

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, NOV. 23, 1863.

The enemy have at last undertaken an advance, in good faith, I suppose, and the result has been a collision about eighteen miles below here, on the turnpike and plank road leading to Fredericksburgh. The enemy began his forward movement on Wednesday last. He started on this campaign with eight days' rations, which, according to computation, will give out on Wednesday next. The enemy have their force largely strengthened by the return of the troops sent to New-York to enforce the draft, and those sent to Pennsylvania to influence the elections, besides those drawn from the fortifications at Washington.

As early as Wednesday last it was evident that there was some move on hand with the Yankee army. On Thursday morning, demonstrations were made at Morton's, Sommerville, and Raccoon Fords; but these were merely to divert our attention while their forces effected crossings almost unopposed (for we had only cavalry pickets at the lower fords) at Jack's, Germania, and Ely's Fords. So soon as the enemy had crossed his whole force, he turned the heads of his columns up the river toward Orange Court-House.

The true purpose of the enemy was developed on Thursday evening, at which time they commenced to cross the river, and by Friday morning they had thrown over their whole army at the points designated. On Friday morning a good part of our army, which had been lying around Orange Court-House, moved down the plank road, and it all at once became evident that a battle would be fought somewhere between Orange Court-House and Fredericksburgh, and most probably in the vicinity of the Chancellorsville battle-ground. On Friday, about ten o'clock, skirmishers from Johnson's division, which was the head of Ewell's column, came up with the enemy, who were advancing up the road leading from the Fredericksburgh turnpike to Raccoon Ford, about a mile below Bartley's Mill, in Spotsylvania County, some eighteen miles below Orange Court-House, and some twenty-two miles above Fredericksburgh, and about twelve miles above the Chancellorsville battle-ground. The Louisiana brigade, under General Halford, first became engaged, and afterward the whole division of General E. Johnson, consisting of the Stonewall brigade, under General Walker, General G. H. Stuart's brigade, and General G. M. Jones's brigade, took part in the battle.

The force of the enemy engaged consisted of French's and Birney's corps. Skirmishing began about ten o'clock in the morning, and was kept up quite briskly until about three in the evening, when the whole line of this division became engaged, and from this time until night there was quite a severe and brisk fight. During the fight we drove the enemy, who were the attacking party, back full a mile, capturing a few prisoners. The fight was altogether an infantry affair. Little or no artillery was brought into action on our side—we could get but two pieces into position. The enemy, it is said, fired only twice with their artillery. Our loss will be fully five hundred in killed and wounded. Early's and Rodes's divisions also had lines of skirmishers out, which were slightly engaged, but the principal fighting was done by Johnson. It is also said that Heth's division, of Hill's corps, was engaged for a while in skirmishing on another part of the line, but with trifling damage. Of the loss of the enemy I am not advised, but I am now disposed to doubt if it was as heavy as our own. They fought, I am told, quite well, and fired more accurately than usual. There was no fighting to-day, save some slight skirmishing.

Our line of battle reaches from the Rapidan across some six or seven miles, at a line running at right angles with the river. Our army faced down the plank road toward Fredericksburgh, and the enemy's line was formed facing up the plank road, with its back toward Fredericksburgh. Among the casualties on our side are Lieutenant-Colonel Walton, Twenty-third Virginia, killed; General J. M. Jones, slightly wounded in head; Lieutenant-Colonel Coleston, Second Virginia, leg amputated; Major Terry, Fourth Virginia, slightly wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, First North-Carolina, slightly

wounded; Colonel Nelligan, First Louisiana, severely wounded in the shoulder; Captain Merrick, General Halford's staff, severely in the face. The color-bearer of the First Louisiana was killed. I could not learn his name, but he is the same who was captured at Gettysburgh, and put his colors under his shirt and thus saved them, and afterward escaped. The country where the fighting occurred is densely wooded, and similar in every respect to the country about Chancellorsville, it being, indeed, but a continuation of that description of country.

During the fight General Ed. Johnson had a horse shot under him, and General Stuart was slightly wounded, but soon resumed command.

There was also some cavalry fighting at the upper fords on Friday, but it did not amount, I think, to much. The wounded began to arrive here yesterday evening, and were being sent off all night last night to Gordonsville, where they will be properly cared for, it being impossible to provide for them here.

You have, of course, heard of General Rosser capturing seventy wagons near Wilderness Tavern, fifteen miles above Fredericksburgh and five above Chancellorsville, in rear of the enemy's lines. He destroyed fifty, brought off twenty, besides one hundred and fifty mules and the same number of prisoners.

SUNDAY MORNING, NOV. 29—11 A.M.

There was a little skirmishing yesterday, but it did not amount to any thing. Both armies are in line of battle. The rain yesterday doubtless interfered with the fighting. It is cloudy this morning, but not raining. There has been no cannonading, but parties from the front gave it as their opinion that a battle will occur to-day or to-morrow.

Lieutenant-General Ewell, who has been absent from the army for two weeks or more, passed Orange Court-House this morning, on his way to the army to resume the command of his corps.

Doc. 16.

GENERAL MAGRUDER'S ADDRESS.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TEXAS, NEW-MEXICO, }
AND ARIZONA, HOUSTON, NOV. 27, 1863. }

TO THE PLANTERS OF THE COAST COUNTIES: The Commanding General announces to the citizens of Texas, that a formidable invasion is attempted by the coast. Early in the month, General Banks took possession of the Lower Rio Grande, and on the eighteenth a force occupied Aransas and Corpus Christi Passes, capturing the small garrison there stationed. Despatches to the twenty-third, from Colonel Bradfute, commanding at Saluria, have been received, stating that a large force, supported by numerous ships, was advancing on that place, which, by this time, may have fallen. It becomes the grave duty of the Commanding General to state to the inhabitants of the counties contiguous to the coast

what their duty to the country, as well as their own interest, demands at this crisis. The utter disregard of all social rights, as well as the distinct proclamation of President Lincoln, so ruthlessly carried out by his minions, leave no room for hope, even to the most credulous, to save their property, and especially their negroes, even by the base submission of men who should prefer death to dishonor. Should hopes be held out to the people of Texas that they will be exceptions to the rule so vigorously enforced in her sister States in localities where the enemy are in possession of temporary power, and should even the property of some, deceived into an oath of allegiance by the treacherous promises of our enemy, be for a time respected, such hopes will prove deceitful—such respect a snare. The playing of the ravenous cat with the harmless mouse is not more deceitful or fatal. Therefore, noble Texans, depend alone upon yourselves and your faithful rifles, and trust not the enemy and his faithless promises. This is your interest. Besides, the Commanding General has certain information that the enemy has brought with him from five thousand to ten thousand muskets, with which to arm the slaves against their masters. This it is the interest of the country, the interest of the State, the interest of humanity, and the duty of the Commanding General to prevent. Therefore, he calls upon the citizens of Texas living in the counties bordering upon the navigable portions of the streams, and within fifty miles of the coast, to remove their able-bodied male slaves at once, at any cost and at all hazards, further into the interior, else he will be forced to drive them before him with his cavalry, in haste and without regard to their well-being, but in the solemn performance of an imperious duty. He conceives it even better for their interest that all but the old and decrepid should be at once removed, as well as jewels, plate, linen, and other valuables, and particularly wagons, horses, mules, and vehicles of every kind; for if the negroes and this description of property are saved, the enemy can do but little harm to the land and its improvements. Lose them, and your lands become comparatively worthless, whilst your homes will become the abodes of your slaves. The enemy even has no power to prevent this, for our success is his ruin. Like the car of Juggernaut, his progress is onward, and must crush whatever it meets with. Be, then, true to yourselves, and Roman in your virtue. Sacrifice, if necessary, in value, one half of your negroes and all of your crops, to save the other half. The law does not permit the Commanding General to leave any thing that will benefit the enemy within his grasp. He must, therefore, destroy what will benefit the foe. Save him this painful necessity, and remove your negroes beyond the reach of the enemy without a moment's delay. This appeal is made to all those who reside in counties within fifty miles of the coast, from Corpus Christi and Galveston, inclusive. Should any other portion of the coast or counties still more interior re-

quire this sacrifice at the hands of the planters, timely notice will be given of the same.

J. B. MAGRUDER.

Major-General Commanding District of Texas, New-Mexico, and Arizona.

Doc. 17.

REDUCTION OF FORT ESPERANZA, TEX.

REPORT OF MAJOR-GENERAL WASHBURN.

HEADQUARTERS, PASS CAVALLO EXPEDITION, }
FORT ESPERANZA, TEXAS, December 4, 1868. }

Major G. Norman Leiber Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I herewith inclose reports of Brigadier-General T. E. G. Ransom, commanding brigade Second division, and Colonel H. D. Washburn, commanding First brigade First division Thirteenth army corps, detailing the action of their respective brigades in the reduction of this Fort.

I refer to these reports, as containing most of the details pertaining to the expedition, and for the names of such persons as deserve specially to be honorably mentioned. On the twenty-first ultimo, I arrived at Aransas Pass with the Thirty-third Illinois, and part of the Eighteenth Indiana, on board steamer Clinton. On the twenty-second ultimo, I received the order of Major-General Banks to take command of an expedition up the coast, for the purpose of capturing this fort. On the same day, I proceeded to St. Joseph's Island, and landed the troops and stores on board the Clinton by twelve m., on the twenty-third ultimo. I pushed forward, same day, to head of St. Joseph's Island, eighteen miles distant, having previously sent General Ransom in the advance, with instructions to bridge, if possible, the Pass between St. Joseph's and Matagorda Island. On arriving at this Pass, (called Cedar Bayou,) I discovered that to bridge would be impossible. With a width of nearly three hundred yards, a strong current, and exposed to the terrible winds that here prevail, I saw that our only chance to get over was to ferry. Fearing that such would prove the case, I brought along, on my wagons, four yawl-boats. By lashing together, I was able to take over my troops, wagons, and artillery. My horses and mules were swum across. On the twenty-fourth, a terrific norther sprung up, rendering it impossible to cross the Pass; but on the following morning, the gale having subsided, the force commenced to cross, and by midnight were all over, and the rear went into camp about eight miles up the coast, at three a.m. On the twenty-sixth, marched over twenty miles, and encamped ten miles from the fort; and on the twenty-seventh, at eleven a.m., came within range of the guns of the fort. Spent the rest of the day reconnoitring the position, the gunboats, which were to coöperate, not having come up. I soon discovered that the fort was a large and complete work, mounting heavy guns, and that all approaches were well guarded. The country around was a level plain, and their outworks,

which were of a most complete character, extended across from the gulf to a bayou connecting with the back-bay. On the night after our arrival, a fierce norther sprung up, causing my men to suffer greatly, and rendering the prosecution of operations exceedingly disagreeable. The norther continued for two days, rendering it impossible for the gunboats to render us any assistance. I applied for launches, with which I intended to land troops on Bayucos Island, and cut off their communications with the main, but the gale prevented their being furnished until too late. The force within the fort was from seven to eight hundred, all of whom escaped under cover of night, except six belonging to their rear-guard. The rebels left one man on the ground killed. If they had any wounded, they took them away. We lost one killed and two wounded. Lieutenant Fifer, a gallant young officer of the Thirty-third Illinois, was severely wounded in the breast. We captured ten guns, ranging from twenty-four to one hundred and twenty-eight pounders. The fort was bomb-proof and cased with railroad iron, and surrounded with a wide and deep moat, filled with water. Five magazines were blown up, containing forty-two thousand pounds of powder.

For a more particular description of the fort, and the captures therein, I refer to the report of Captain Baker, Engineer. We also captured a small fort on Bayucos Island, with one twenty-four pounder field-gun. I cannot express, in too strong language, my admiration of the conduct of the officers and men engaged in this expedition. We left the foot of St. Joseph's Island without transportation of any kind, except twelve wagons, which were used for transporting supplies. With this small train, I had to supply two thousand eight hundred men, together with animals belonging to the train, and horses for two batteries, nearly sixty miles from my base of supply. The weather, much of the time, was very inclement, water very bad, and fuel scarce; but I never heard a complaint or murmur of any kind. The troops accompanying me were as follows, namely: Eighth Indiana infantry, commanded by Major Kinney; Eighteenth Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles; Thirty-third Illinois, Colonel C. E. Lippincott; Ninety-ninth Illinois, Colonel Bailey; and Seventh Michigan battery, Lieutenant Stillman, composing First brigade; Twenty-third Iowa, Colonel Glasgow, of the Second brigade, First division, Thirteenth army corps—all commanded by Colonel H. D. Washburn: and the Thirty-fourth Iowa, Lieutenant-Colonel Dungan; Thirteenth Maine, Colonel Dyer; Fifteenth Maine, Colonel Hazeltine; and Foust's Missouri battery, of the Second brigade, Second division, Thirteenth army corps, commanded by Brigadier-General Ransom.

It affords me great pleasure to state that the conduct of Brigadier-General Ransom and Colonel H. D. Washburn, commanding brigades, was most prompt, gallant, and efficient, and deserves the highest praise. The navy has shown every disposition to coöperate in the most prompt

manner; and to Captain Strong, of the Monongahela, commanding the fleet, and Captain Lamson, of the Granite City, I am under many obligations. Their failure to take part in the attack on the fort was attributable solely to the gale which at the time prevailed.

Respectfully yours,

C. C. WASHBURN,
Major-General.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL RANSOM'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION, }
FORT ESPERANZA, TEXAS, December 8, 1862.

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, on the twenty-second ultimo, in obedience to the order of Major-General C. C. Washburn, I moved my command (consisting of the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Maine, and Thirty-fourth Iowa infantry, and battery F, First Missouri artillery) from Aransas Pass, eight miles up St. Joseph Island, and encamped at a ranch for the night. Moved on the next morning, and reached Cedar Bayou about noon, twenty-third ultimo, when my advance-guard of mounted infantry, under command of Captain C. S. Hsley, Fifteenth Maine, had a slight skirmish with a scouting-party of the enemy, in which Major Charles Hill, commanding the rebel party, was killed, and Sergeant James Sanders, company F, Fifteenth Maine, was slightly wounded. I halted at this place, and commenced the construction of a ferry across Cedar Bayou.

On the twenty-fifth ultimo, I ferried my command across Cedar Bayou, and encamped about seven miles up Matagorda Island, where I was joined by Colonel Washburn's brigade about midnight.

On the twenty-sixth, I marched my command about twenty miles up the island, and encamped at a ranch about ten miles from this point. On the morning of the twenty-seventh, I advanced my brigade, under the direction of General Washburn, up the middle of the island, while Colonel Washburn moved his brigade in a parallel line up the gulf beach. About eleven A.M., we met the advanced pickets of the enemy, and drove them into his works. After reconnoitring and ascertaining the location of the works and main fort of the enemy, I placed my command in an advanced position, indicated by General Washburn, on the left of our line and under cover of a slight rise of ground. This afternoon and the following day were occupied in reconnoitring the approaches to the enemy's work, and was attended with occasional skirmishing and sharp-shooting on both sides, and occasional artillery shots from the enemy.

On the night of the twenty-eighth, I threw up an earthwork in advance of my left, and on the opposite side of a salt lagoon, which intervened between my position and the chief work of the enemy, where I placed Captain Foust's battery, supported by the Thirty-fourth Iowa infantry, and opened fire on the fort at daylight on the twenty-ninth, continuing at intervals all day. In the mean time, the Seventh Michigan battery, of Colonel Washburn's brigade, had been advanced

under cover of the sand-hills on the beach, and opened upon the fort from the right of our line. No casualties occurred in my command.

During the night of the twenty-ninth ultimo, the enemy evacuated their works and retired, setting fire to their magazines and stores. The whole of the troops of my command acquitted themselves creditably, and bore the hardships of the severe "norther," of the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth, on short rations, with a cheerfulness scarcely to be expected from troops most of whom had never experienced a field campaign.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. E. G. RANSOM,
Brigadier-General Volunteers.

Major W. H. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General Coast Expedition.
Official Copy.

CHAS. P. STONE,
B. G. Chief of Staff.

REPORT OF COLONEL H. D. WASHBURN.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, }
THIRTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
SALUBRIA, TEXAS, December 8, 1862.

MAJOR: I beg leave to submit the following report of the part taken by the First brigade, First division, Thirteenth army corps, in the reduction of Fort Esperanza, on Matagorda Island:

At midnight, November twenty-fifth, I had succeeded, after much difficulty, in getting the whole of my force across Cedar Bayou upon the island, and marched immediately to join General Ransom, some eight miles in advance. After a few hours' rest we moved up the island, making a very hard march through the sand of twenty-three miles; camped for the night, and moved in the morning for this place. My brigade, by your order, moving along the beach, about twelve o'clock we had advanced to the lighthouse, and in close proximity to the enemy's works. The main portion of the command was halted, and, by your order, I proceeded with one company from each of my regiments, under the command of Captain Ira Uloore, Thirty-third Illinois, a most excellent officer, supported by the Thirty-third regiment Illinois infantry, to reconnoitre and endeavor to find the strength and position of the enemy. Moving cautiously up the beach, we soon drove in the enemy's pickets, and our advance was safely lodged in a range of sand-hills within three hundred yards of the outer work of the enemy—a heavy earth-work, extending from the bay to a lagoon running from the bay on the mainland side of the island. The work was regularly laid out, about fifteen feet in thickness, and from ten to fifteen feet in height. The enemy now opened upon us, from Fort Esperanza, with his one hundred and twenty-eight pounder, and twenty-fours, throwing shells, but with little or no effect. Having found out the position and apparent strength of the enemy, by your order I withdrew my advance.

During the night a heavy "norther" coming on, we were unable to do much the twenty-eighth. The night of the twenty-eighth, Captain McAllister, of the Eighth Indiana, and Captain

Hull, of the Ninety-ninth Illinois, both of whom had had considerable experience in that line in the rear of Vicksburgh, with a fatigue-party from each of the regiments in the brigade, under cover of the darkness, dug a rifle-pit from the sand-hills on the beach, (occupied by us on the first day,) and running parallel with the enemy's works, two hundred and ten yards in length, sufficient to cover a regiment.

Sergeant Goodlander, of company F, Eighth Indiana, with a small detail from the different regiments, was ordered to move at early dawn in advance of our rifle-pit and endeavor to gain a position on the outer edge of the enemy's works. The Eighth Indiana was also moved out and ordered to lie down in the open prairie, in order to take advantage of any lodgment our advance might make. Captain Hull, of the Ninety-ninth, volunteered and accompanied the advance. The morning was bitterly cold, and our men suffered severely. Our advance moved up slowly, and cautiously took position on the outside of the work; the inside being controlled by the enemy in the sand-hills between the work and the main fort. Driving in a small picket force on the inside, (the force for protection of the works having been driven by the weather to the sand-hills,) they endeavored to rally and drive our men back, but in vain. The Eighth Indiana was immediately sent forward in small detachments, to avoid the fire of the heavy guns of the fort, and gained a safe footing in our rifle-pit and on the enemy's work. Finding ourselves more successful than I had dared to hope, I returned to the main portion of my brigade, and immediately sent forward Colonel Lippincott, with his regiment, to the front, with instructions to take command of the force in front, and to advance as fast as prudence would allow, and to get, if possible, a position where our artillery might be made effective. Colonel Lippincott moved promptly with his command, and I soon had the pleasure of hearing from him, that he had secured a good position for our artillery. Adjutant W. W. Zener, of the Eighteenth Indiana, now on my staff, was ordered to bring up two pieces of the First Michigan battery, under command of Lieutenant Stillman, which he accomplished with despatch. The pieces were brought up, and placed in battery under a heavy fire from the fort, fortunately not very accurate, and we soon had the pleasure of seeing our shells dropping in the enemy's stronghold and driving them from their guns. Colonel Lippincott had very judiciously disposed of the two regiments, and had, previously to the arrival of the artillery, advanced several companies into the sand-hills in our front, driving back the enemy nearer to his main work. I also ordered possession to be taken of an old work several hundred yards in our front, and to the left and rear of the fort, which was gallantly done by Captain McAllister, Eighth Indiana, with his company. This enabled us to move our advance on the right nearer the fort. In the mean time, I had ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Charles, Eighteenth Indiana, to move his regi-

ment to the support of the Eighth and Thirty-third, in doing which he passed under a heavy fire of the fort, but, fortunately for him, the enemy threw nothing but solid shot, which, from their size, were easily avoided, and he gained his position with the loss of but one man. Night coming on, found four companies of the Eighth Indiana, five companies of the Thirty-third, in the sand-hills near the fort, (seven hundred and twenty-five yards, as shown by measurement;) two companies of the Eighth Indiana held the old work to our front; the balance of three regiments held the outside of the new work. The men, although the night was raw and cold, remained upon the field and in their position. A fatigue party was detailed from the reserve regiments, and proceeded to move the four pieces of the Seventh Michigan battery to the work occupied by our troops, and, by filling the ditch, placed them in a fine position. I also ordered a portion of the Eighteenth Indiana, under Captain Loues, to reinforce Captain McAllister, as I believed that to be an important point.

The Ninety-ninth Illinois and Twenty-third Iowa, who were held in reserve, were to move at daylight to our position, while a general advance of the whole brigade was to take place. These arrangements were hardly completed, when, about half-past twelve o'clock, an explosion of gunpowder in the fort warned us that the enemy were on the move. I immediately ordered an advance of the skirmishers, and found that the enemy had fled, leaving behind him his stores and ammunition, and the personal baggage of the officers. They had, however, piled a large quantity of cotton around the different magazines, after having scattered gunpowder around in different places.

The advance pushed on to the ferry, but were too late; the enemy had cut the rope, allowing the floating bridge to swing around upon the shore. They had also attempted to destroy it by piling cotton upon it and firing it, but our men were too close, and put out the fire. Six of the eight men left by the enemy to fire the trains were captured. At daylight I moved a small force across to McHenry Island, and took possession of a small earthwork, containing one twenty-four pounder gun, considerable ammunition, and some garrison equipage. In Fort Esperanza we found one one hundred and twenty-eight pounder columbiad, and seven twenty-four pounder siege guns. Two of the magazines were saved, and considerable camp and garrison equipage was in the fort, but, owing to the danger from explosion, we failed to save it. My total loss was one man killed and ten wounded; among the latter, Lieutenant George N. Fifer, Acting Aid-de-Camp, a gallant and brave officer, who fell severely wounded during our first reconnaissance. My officers and men behaved gallantly, showing that they had lost none of that coolness and bravery evinced by them upon the battle-fields of Pea Ridge, Fredericktown, Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, Vicksburgh, and Jackson.

Colonel Lippincott, of the Thirty-third Illinois, rendered me great assistance in the advance upon the enemy's works, and displayed both courage and judgment.

Major Kinney, of the Eighth Indiana, though but lately promoted to the position, proved by his courage and coolness that he was well worthy of the same.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles, of the Eighteenth Indiana volunteers, brought his regiment, in fine style and good order, through a heavy fire from the fort, to the support of the two advance regiments.

Colonel Bailey, of the Ninety-ninth Illinois, and Colonel Glasgow, of the Twenty-third Iowa, who were held in reserve, were both anxious to be moved to the front, and more by accident than any thing else were thrown into the reserve. Both regiments had already established their reputation as veterans, in the well-fought fields of Mississippi. I was greatly indebted to Captain McAllister, Eighth Indiana, and Captain Hull, Ninety-ninth Illinois, for their assistance in the digging and laying out of their rifle-pit and placing of the battery.

Lieutenant Stillman, commanding Seventh Michigan battery, rendered very efficient aid in discomfiting the enemy; two guns of his battery were worked right under the fire of the guns of the fort. My own staff discharged their duties with fidelity, courage, and ability. They are as follows: Major J. H. Elliott, Thirty-third Illinois, Inspector and Chief of Staff; Captain S. H. Dunbar, Eighth Indiana, A. A. General; Captain John Reuss, Eighth Indiana, A. A. C. S.; Lieutenant and Adjutant W. W. Zener, Eighteenth Indiana, A. D. C. and P. M.; Lieutenant G. H. Fifer, Thirty-third Illinois, A. D. C.; Lieutenant J. G. Seaver, Ninety-ninth Illinois, Ord. Officer; Major Lillie, Ninety-ninth Illinois, Senior Surgeon, was detailed on Operating Board. I would, also, make especial mention of Sergeant John Goodlander, of company F, Eighth Indiana, and private Addison Hollenbeck, company K, Eighteenth Indiana, who were the first to mount the enemy's works the morning of the twenty-ninth.

In mentioning the above, I would not have it understood that any of my officers or men failed to do their duty, and their whole duty.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. D. WASHBURN,

Col. Com'g First Brigade, First Div., Thirteenth Army Corps.
Official Copy.

CHAS. P. STONE,

B. G. Chief of Staff.

Doc. 18.

THE CAPTURE OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

GENERAL GEARY'S CONGRATULATORY ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWELFTH ARMY CORPS, }
WAHATCHIE, TENN., Dec. 3, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 79.

A most important era in the present contest for national existence has just been passed; bat-

tles, culminating in grandest success, fought and won, and the part taken by the troops of this division in the engagements by which it has been marked, having reflected so much honor upon themselves as individuals, and upon the command to which they are attached, the General commanding cannot refrain from alluding to these services in terms which shall convey, in some measure, his warm appreciation of their valor, their patriotism, and their noble endurance of severe hardships, while engaged in the arduous campaign.

With heartfelt pride he reverts to their prowess in the assaults which made them the heroes of Lookout Mountain on the twenty-fourth ult., and to their gallant conduct upon Missionary Ridge on the twenty-fifth, Pea Vine Creek on the twenty-sixth, and at Ringgold, upon Taylor's Ridge, on the twenty-seventh.

The conquest of Lookout Mountain will, associated with the emblematic "White Star" of the conquerors, stand out as prominently in history as do the beetling cliffs of that Titanic eminence upon the horizon.

For these services he tenders them his heartfelt thanks; for their endurance, his sympathy; for their bereavement in the loss of so many gallant officers, and so many brave and noble men, his condolence. In all the division death could not have selected braver spirits, nobler hearts, than those who have laid their lives a sacrifice upon their country's altar in the recent engagements with the rebel forces.

He assures them that their gallant conduct has gained for them the high esteem and appreciation of the commanding generals.

It behooves us to remember prayerfully that the hand of the Omnipotent Architect of the Universe is visible in our great victories, and that He who holds in his hands the destinies of nations has, in his goodness, answered the humble petitions, for success to crown our arms, which ascended from anxious hearts to his heavenly throne.

By command of

Brigadier-General JNO. W. GEARY.

THOS. H. ELLIOTT,

Captain and A. A. General.

Doc. 19.

THE SIEGE OF KNOXVILLE, TENN.

KNOXVILLE, Monday, Nov. 16.

THE excitement consequent on the desperate dash of Forrest and Wheeler's cavalry upon General Sanders, on Saturday, and their approach to within two miles of Knoxville, together with the news of Longstreet's advance upon Burnside below, has somewhat subsided. The panic last night among the citizens can only be compared to the celebrated siege of Cincinnati, and, in fact, the gathering of Major McDowell's corps of paymasters, the hurried packing of ambulances and wagons, and preparations for burning a few maiden millions of greenbacks, and the presence

of the doughty Major, were all somewhat suggestive of that eventful period in the history of your usually bustling, business city, when some two or three thousand ragged rebels frightened the entire commonwealth of Ohio nearly out of all propriety. The comparison, however, ceases with the suggestion, since our fears were not altogether groundless.

With the exaggerated relations of stragglers and runaways, growing from bad to worse, as passed around among the hosts of anxious and terror-stricken gossips, was joined the sullen boom of artillery, hour after hour, even into the night, ringing in our ears. The consciousness that a desperate foe was in fierce contest with our gallant boys within two miles of us; rumors of disaster below, toward Loudon, where our chief, with his veterans of the Ninth army corps, alone interposed between us and the malignant foe, resolved upon our destruction; and the hourly arrival of dead and wounded, were all circumstances but ill calculated to allay the fears of the timid or encourage the bold. The danger is still imminent, but the first nervous excitement having abated, we are beginning to look at the conditions and their results, probable and possible.

Our situation having at no time since "the occupation" been a bed of roses, we have been gradually attaining a state to look very calmly at the ugliest position which the fates and furies may have assigned us. While thus taking a physiognomical view of the facts, nothing is more apparent than the intention of the rebels to crowd us out of a situation which we have been at a vast trouble and expense to get into, or the alternative of an indefinite residence in some Dixie prison. To accomplish this, the rebels are straining every nerve and exhausting every available means for one last, mighty, decisive effort. If they succeed, they gain vast resources in time and supplies for recuperation. If they fail, they are lost for any other campaign in middle Dixie. The exhaustion and demoralization of the rebellion in this region will be irretrievable. Their plans are excellent, and thus far well executed, but it is the belief of well-informed military people that their means will prove insufficient. Still, our chief reliance is upon Grant. Burnside can probably take care of himself, but Bragg is an insurmountable rock ahead of the profitable occupation of East-Tennessee, and the destinies of Bragg remain with Grant. Our situation just now, though perilous and gloomy enough, is by no means hopeless. Almost surrounded by enemies active and vigilant, if we cannot extricate ourselves in a very few days, our animals will perish of starvation. In this aspect of affairs, it is not the cue of the rebels to precipitate matters, but on the other hand the time required to starve us will bring an issue between Grant and Bragg, which, if favorable to us, will terminate in the utter demolition of the rebels in our front.

The forces which crossed the Little Tennessee on Friday night and attacked our advance at Mayesville on Saturday, were the brigades of Wheeler and Forrest, estimated at five thousand cavalry

and mounted infantry. Yesterday afternoon they were in line of battle, and skirmishing with Sanders till dark. Colonel Adams, with the First Kentucky and Forty-fifth Ohio, distinguished himself by the most gallant and daring conduct throughout, and to-day followed the retreating rebels five miles.

The punishment and flight of the First Kentucky on Saturday was caused by a mean artifice on the part of the rebels. They had captured the Eleventh Kentucky in the morning, and stripping them completely, were arrayed in their uniform. Seeing them at the edge of a wood, and mistaking them for the Eleventh, Adams pushed a charge quite into the body of the rebel forces, and just as the First Kentucky had raised their caps to cheer their friends, as they supposed, the miscreants opened a terrific fire upon them. Indignant, surprised, and surrounded, there was nothing left but speed, and the wonder is how so many escaped. Adams, who, by the way, has always been the brains and right hand of Woolford's cavalry, declares that he will never believe another rebel, will take no more prisoners, and intends to fight against treason in this war and the next, and the one after that indefinitely. He rallied his boys, made a speech to them, and upon their return to the field nearly monopolized the fighting. Twenty-five men of the First Kentucky were killed and wounded. Among the number are Captain G. W. Drye, wounded; Lieutenant Phil. Roberts, wounded; Captain Kelly, killed; Lieutenant Cann, missing; Lieutenant Peyton, missing. Of the Forty-fifth Ohio, ninety-one were killed, wounded, and missing, among whom are Captain Jennings, wounded; Captain Ayler, wounded; Lieutenant Macbeth, wounded; Lieutenant Wiltshire, wounded; Lieutenant Mears, wounded.

The conduct of the rebels was barbarous in the extreme. All prisoners, dead, and wounded were stripped. Four dead bodies of the Forty-fifth were found quite naked. One wounded officer, while unconscious, was aroused by efforts to cut off his finger, to obtain a gold ring. He was stripped to his shirt and drawers. Such is the venomous malignity of these desperadoes, who term themselves Southern chivalry, that bodies are mutilated, prisoners are outraged, and all are robbed.

In Burnside's front, Longstreet is pressing, and skirmishing has been constant for the last three days. The train of White's division was burned, by order of General Burnside, to-day, and a section of Benjamin's battery was captured, making the third we have lost in the last ten days, namely, Laws's, Phillips's, and Benjamin's. The two armies are seventeen miles from Knoxville, Burnside slowly falling back. If he can hold the rebels without severe loss or decisive action for a few days longer, our reinforcements from Grant will reach Longstreet's rear, and that active rebel leader will take to the mountains, or to Camp Chase. Forrest and Wheeler have fallen back, it is supposed, to make an attempt to cross the river elsewhere, and get in our rear.

We shall probably be apprised of his movements, in that event, soon enough. In General Willcox's front above, all appears to be quiet to-day. We have endeavored to telegraph, as the line is open, but have been informed that the General will take charge of that duty, and telegraph what he wishes to be made public. Of course, that proposition admits of no argument, however much we might be inclined to regard with jealous eyes an opposition correspondent with such unusual facilities.

Monday, November 16, P.M.—Rumors reached us last evening that a battle was being fought at Campbell's Station, twelve miles from Knoxville, on the Lenoir road. Longstreet's army, variously estimated to number from ten thousand to twenty thousand strong, after crossing the river, pressed *en masse* on the slowly retiring columns of General Burnside, who received them in line of battle in a good position at the point named. The enemy, who evidently expected to march without impediment into Knoxville, made a most confident and determined attack. They underestimated the value of the veteran soldiers of the Ninth army corps, and the obstinate courage of White's veteran boys, and were handsomely repulsed, with terrible loss. In vain they manoeuvred, and made charge after charge. They were met at every point.*

Skirmishing was kept up vigorously all day, and night fell upon the hotly contested field, leaving us still in position. General Burnside had gained a day of time, and during the night fell back to Knoxville slowly and in good order. Our loss is three hundred killed, wounded, and missing. The list of wounded is embodied in the hospital report, inclosed.

The behavior of our troops was worthy of all praise. The gallantry of the Michigan, Illinois, and Kentucky regiments being especially noteworthy. The Thirteenth Kentucky was at one time surrounded, and cut their way out, suffering fearfully in killed and wounded. The One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois was exposed throughout, and won the admiration of all. Their loss, as was that of the Eighth Michigan, Twentieth Michigan, and Seventeenth Michigan, was severe.

Active preparations are now making for the defence of Knoxville. Retreat is not even thought of. In fact, General Burnside has issued an order to that effect. Captain Poe, Chief Engineer on General Burnside's staff, is at work on the fortifications. Rifle-pits and breastworks are springing up around the soon to be beleaguered city. Forests are being cleared, the sluices and creeks on the north are being dammed up, and the plain in front will soon to be breast-deep in water. Captain Poe is every inch the soldier, and there is a general feeling pervading the army, and people that our defences could scarce be in abler or wiser hands. His calm deportment, systematic vigor, and quiet earnestness inspire every one with confidence. We miss the practical common-sense of Gilbert, and the soldierly

experience of Hartsuff at this crisis; nevertheless, there is no want of confidence or cheerful courage manifest anywhere, unless among the sutlers and timid Union people, who see a rebel in every shadow. The rebel population are jubilant, and are making preparations to receive their friends to-morrow, and have already planned the programme for us when the stars and bars shall float over the city. We shall see.

I rode around the lines to-night, and am impressed with the feeling that, were our numbers only equal to the spirit and courage of our men, no emergency could endanger Knoxville; but alas! our defences are as yet incomplete, and our lines are fearfully thin. If the rebels come on with the much boasted dash of the veterans of the Potomac, and assault, our lines may be broken, and the contemplation of the famous hospitalities, or rather infamous inhospitalities, of Libby, or Castle Thunder, may not be altogether out of order.

Tuesday, November 17.—The storm is upon us. Longstreet's legions are investing Knoxville. Our boys are skirmishing already with their lines on the Lenoir road. General Sanders, with the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois, Forty-fifth Ohio, Eighth Michigan, and Twelfth Kentucky, are in front. The sharp crack of musketry is heard, growing more and more frequent, and the affair is getting serious. The town is filled with rumors of coming rebels. Vaughn, it is said, has crossed the river below, and will attack our positions on the south bank. A. P. Hill is marching with two corps from Virginia, and Pegram, Forrest, and Wheeler are crossing the Watauga toward the Gap, to cut off our retreat and supplies.

In the mean time, as an offset, our forage-trains are bringing in corn and hay from eight miles south of the river, and the telegraph north is still working. We are anxious, of course, to know what Longstreet's intentions are. Doubtless, the coöperation of the Virginia forces was one part of his plans; but in this he will probably be disappointed, as the advance of General Meade will, doubtless, render the assistance of General Hill's, or any other Virginia troops impossible. General Willcox, at Bull's Gap, reports no such or similar force in his front. Ten, or even twenty thousand rebels cannot take Knoxville, nor is that number sufficient to lay effectual blockade and siege. Many think that Longstreet, having blundered into East-Tennessee after the bait set by Burnside, will, upon discovering his mistake, make a feint upon Knoxville, while endeavoring to march into Kentucky, or escape to Virginia. Of course, this is all conjecture. The only sure thing now is, that he is actually in our front, and we are in a state of siege, call it by what name we please. If, as is currently reported and believed, Burnside permitted Longstreet to cross the river, and drove him on to Knoxville by order of General Grant—thus, on the eve of a battle with Bragg, detaching twenty thousand men—we may rest confident that the hero of Vicksburg will not permit the manoeuvre to go

* See page 129 ante.

profitless, or fail to follow up the strategy in his usually prompt and effective fashion. We can hold our own until he is ready. This week will decide Longstreet's destiny and ours. We do not permit ourselves to doubt.

Captain Poe is performing prodigies of industry, with marvellous skill. Rifle-pits appear as if by magic. Every house-top of the vast semicircle around Knoxville, from Temperance Hill to Rebel Point and College Hill, is frowning with cannon and bristling with bayonets. It will be difficult for the rebels to gain a position near the city, unless on the right or left. All is quiet to-night. The immense basin formed by the surrounding hills is alive with animal life. Our vast trains, cattle, herds, hogs, and horses cover the valleys and hill-sides in inconceivable numbers. Standing on Temperance Hill, and looking toward the town, the innumerable campfires, like myriads of fiery stars, the piteous shrieks of a thousand famishing mules, the distant murmur of the bands of music, the hum of the camps, intermingled with the occasional sharp crash of musketry in front, make one pause and gaze upon the weird reality as upon some horrible phantasm, some fanciful horror conjured up here in the middle of the nineteenth century, as a terrible reproach to the boasted ages of progress and civilization. One can scarcely realize that those thousands of forms shivering around the scant fires in the chill mist are men, who have left comfortable homes, domestic joys, and useful duties of life, and have exposed themselves to all the vicissitudes and hardships of savages. That, over beyond our furthestmost lines of fires, lie other thousands in a similar condition of discomfort, and that these, on the morrow, will use their God-given powers of courage, endurance, and intellect, to slaughter each other. Alas! that new commandment, "that ye love one another," has not been much practised by man, although professedly the life-guidance of civilized nations for eighteen hundred years. Society is a fearful tyrant, and its decrees are despotic; its differences of opinion are decided by war, revolutions are the reërrangement, renovation, and reërganization of dilapidated social institutions. When we outgrow or tire of them, the old-time irrepressible conflict between servile and free labor could scarce be settled, probably, but by the sword, and we can only hope that, when the tempest has passed over, coming generations may rest in the peaceful atmosphere of justice, and the new command possibly possess some significance to a regenerated race. To-morrow will be an eventful day. We do not desire it; we do not avoid it; we do not seek it; we do not dread it. We await it with strong hopes and determined wills, to do our duty.

Wednesday, November 18.—A busy, glorious, sad day has passed. We are proud of the gallant deeds of our brave boys. To have belonged to the command of Sanders during this day's fight will be fame enough for one short life. The

One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois, Forty-fifth Ohio, Third Michigan, and Twelfth Kentucky have borne their country's cause alone, and nobly and grievously have they suffered. Early this morning, the angry crash of musketry was heard on our left, in front of Cottage Hill and Rebel Point, on the west side of the town. The pallid faces of women, the anxious looks of non-combatants, and the busy bustle of orderlies riding to and fro, gave token that the conflict was beginning in earnest. Heavy skirmishing commenced along our left. General Sanders, with part of Wolford's brigade of his division, was in front. The fire was unceasing for three hours. The ambulances, about ten o'clock, commenced their unhappy work, and were observed busily plying to and fro on the Lenoir road. Wounded men were seen walking and riding in, their numbers increasing hourly. At eleven o'clock, General Ferrero, in command of the earthworks at Rebel Point, opened his cannon upon Armstrong's house, behind which the enemy were discovered planting a battery. The enemy were baffled. Our boys made a charge, and were repulsed. The conflict raged hotter and more intense. A general officer, said to be General Warfield, headed an impetuous charge upon our line of skirmishers, and riding up to our boys, demanded the instant surrender of the "d—d Yankees," and fell pierced by a score of balls. Again our boys advanced, and were beaten back by overwhelming odds. Man after man was carried to the rear. The leaden hail poured in increasing torrents upon them. No respect was had to circumstance or condition. The rebel sharp-shooters were untiring and vigilant. Of two men, carrying a wounded comrade, one was killed, the other wounded, and the wounded man again shot by these miscreants. Balls whistled over the fort into the hospital. Nothing was sacred or secure. Sanders was ubiquitous; his gallantry and daring became infectious. Each man of his command emulated his comrade in deeds of bravery. These men, for four days and nights, had stood in the front at Campbell's, and now here, without sleep and almost without food, yet hour after hour unrelieved. They stood up like heroes, every man of them, and amid that hell of shot, gave blow for blow and shout for shout. The old mountain wolf, Colonel Wolford, with his grim and stolid courage, was there. Colonel Bond, at the head of his glorious regiment, the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois, with his smiling, earnest face, was where the conflict raged the fiercest, encouraging his men, if possible, to deeds of still greater daring; and Captain Taylor, with the fragments of the Forty-fifth Ohio, was there with his gallant boys. It was sublime. The skirmish grew almost to the dignity of a battle. Foiled at all points, the enemy vindictively hurled upon our wearied and battle-torn lines fresh and overwhelming numbers. And here, at about four P.M., the gallant Sanders fell, it is thought mortally wounded. Courage and physical en-

duration could do no more, and our brave boys fell back, surrendering the hill in front of our left to the enemy.

It was a sore necessity, but they still held the front. The calm, pitying moon looked down that night on the hostile armies bivouacked within sound of each other's voices. The din of conflict had ceased; the groans of the dying and shrieks of the wounded had died away with the echo of the artillery, reverberating amid the hills surrounding the beleaguered city. Heaven's eyes seemed to gaze through the countless stars in sorrowful reproach alike upon the glory and grief of that sad scene. The pride and pomp of military achievement bowed their heads mournfully before the inhumanity of war. I was at the hospital during the afternoon. Ambulance after ambulance drove up, and deposited its bloody and mangled human contents. Abundant surgical attendance, the sympathies of comrades, and the kindest of colored female nurses were there. Every thing that skill and attention could do was done; but no human sympathy can replace the mother, sister, or wife. No kindness can allay the anguish of a mangled and lost limb. One poor fellow, Captain Lee, of the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois, had his upper jaw shot away, and his legs torn to fragments, yet lived twelve hours. As I carefully cut the pants and boot from another whose leg had been fractured terribly by a Minie ball, he bore the agony manfully. He asked if the leg could be saved. I told him I feared not. "Well," said he, after a pause, "I can afford one leg for my country—take it off!" During a moment's cessation of torture, his eyes brightened, and he triumphantly exclaimed: "An't the One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois a bully regiment?" In the evening afterward, I recognized his leg amid a pile of amputated limbs. He had subscribed so much for his country.

One, a boy scarce fifteen, was brought in by two men. He was crying piteously. I questioned him as to his hurt, but could get nothing but sobs. I examined him, and found no wound. I learned afterward that a shell had burst close to his head, killing his comrade, but missing him. The concussion had probably ruptured the tympanum, and frightened him.

The female contrabands have proved themselves most excellent and faithful nurses—kind, willing, skilful, and indefatigable. It is noteworthy.

We are still in the dark as to the rebel positions, numbers, or intentions. We are besieged, but by no means blockaded yet. Our forage trains scour on the south of the river. The telegraph is still in operation, and communications are open with Willcox at Bull's Gap. Some dread an assault to-morrow. I do not. The rebels have secured no positions for batteries, and evidently are not in force sufficient to invest the town. Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing would not exceed one hundred. Our dead were, unfortunately, left on the field when we fell back. The enemy must, from the nature of the contest,

have suffered more than we. The loss of General Sanders is a sad blow to his new command, who were much attached to him. It is hoped that his wound will not prove fatal, though very severe.

Thursday, November 19.—Alas! poor Sanders is gone. The saddest episode of the campaign was his midnight burial. To-night the pale moon never lighted up a more sorrowful group than surrounded his lone grave. The uncovered heads, the bronzed features, and manly faces of the generals, officers, and comrades, as they gathered around to pay the last tribute to one whom they had loved in life and honored in death, were a painful comment on war. Sad hearts were there, and tender regrets for the untimely fate of the gallant soldier, the genial gentleman, the warm friend, and the glorious fellow; but alas! no woman's tears were there to hallow his martial grave. No mother's prayer, no loving woman's sob, no sister's tears, to soften the pathway of the young General into the great unknown. He died a soldier's death, and found a soldier's grave. The dirge of the military band, the random firing of the enemy, the touching ritual of the Episcopal Church, read by Mr. Hume, there in the pale moonlight, served as the requiem of one who gave himself to his country.

General William P. Sanders was but twenty-eight years of age, a native of Kentucky, and a graduate of West-Point in 1856. When the war broke out he was First Lieutenant of dragoons. He was appointed Captain in the Sixth regulars, and distinguished himself in the Maryland and Peninsula campaigns. In 1863, he was appointed to the colonelcy of the Fifth Kentucky cavalry, but was retained by the Commanding General for special staff duties, and never joined the regiment. All are familiar with his achievements in the Morgan, Cluke, and Scott raids, as well as his own into East-Tennessee. He received his promotion to the rank of Brigadier and immediate assignment to a cavalry division only three weeks ago. He was skilful, daring, and vigilant; an able officer, a true patriot, and an accomplished soldier. As such he will be remembered and regretted by his contemporaries. He was conscious, and contemplated death as fearlessly as he had waged the battle of life. Bidding farewell to his friends, his last words were affectionate remembrances to his mother. He received the rite of baptism, and was buried with the ceremonies of the Episcopal Church. The gallant brigade, who so nobly withstood the brunt of yesterday, was relieved by Gilbert's brigade, which had bivouacked in the streets as a reserve for two days. In the afternoon, they were replaced by the Seventeenth Michigan, and Eighth Michigan cavalry at two o'clock. The enemy suddenly opened fire on our front with a twenty-pounder. One shell passed over General Burnside's headquarters clear into the river. Six shells landed in the town, but did not explode. No damage was done. The rebel sharpshooters rendered the hills about Fort Sanders, on our left, unsafe for

lookers-on. At one thousand yards distance, one man was killed in the lawn of the Asylum Hospital, and another wounded, by these fellows. Skirmishing was light to-day. We are beginning to wonder what the enemy intends to do. During the night they have erected works on our left, and moved skirmishers to the front.

Captain Poe is still indefatigable, and our position is regarded as a very strong one, and impregnable to any force likely to be in our front. Rumors of reinforcements from Grant, under Sherman, reach us to-day, and inspire us with the hope that we may not only escape the toils set for us, but be able in turn to entrap the besiegers whose impudence is sublime. The erection of works and extension of their lines evince an intention to stay with us, and, as usual in such cases, a man on a white horse is seen riding along their lines. This mysterious rider, on a phantom horse, appears to be a favorite dodge of the rebels, since all correspondents east and west always observed it on similar occasions.

Friday, November 20.—Colonel Pleasant, with a battalion of cavalry, scouted the road east to Boyd's Ferry and Conner's Ford, traversing the roads between, and reports no rebels for six miles up the river. Farmers have come in from Marysville, and our forage trains go back and forth unmolested for miles on the south of the river, and no enemy is known to be there.

Skirmishing was light all day again. We wonder what the rebels mean. Some think they are making a feint upon us and are getting out toward Virginia. A train of some hundreds of wagons passed in that direction this morning.

This evening, the Seventeenth Michigan made a charge upon a house whence their sharpshooters had annoyed them all day, and the rebels fled *en masse* before them. Our boys removed some half-dozen wounded men from the house, and fired it. Upon returning to their old position, their comrades greeted them with shouts, and the band of the Forty-fourth struck up Yankee Doodle; whereupon the rebels, fancying our entire army was about to advance, opened a storm of shell upon us. Some thirty shell fell harmless into the town, but three or four exploded. Deserters, who have come in to-day, report Longstreet's intention to starve us out. We are believed now to be subsisting on corn and mule, at half-rations, and ten days is thought to be the time required for famine to accomplish its work. If they could see us baking flap-jacks and sipping Lincoln coffee, or take a perspective of our hogs and cattle-herds, they would be disabused of that idea presently. Pork is abundant, and already the more sensitive of us are growing ashamed to look one of these animals in the face.

Seven houses concealing rebels were burned to-day, and the amount of destitution and suffering consequent upon thus increasing the numbers of houseless wretches is appalling. Women and children wander about the city in absolute poverty and despair. The hotels are all in use for hospitals. Stores and vacant rooms are ev-

erywhere filled up with people or used by our army as storehouses for forage, etc. We are just beginning to realize the very small amount of humor to be gleaned from a siege when one happens to be on the wrong side of it.

To be sure we have enjoyed it but four days, but even in that short time it has grown tiresome. The suspense adds chiefly to the tedium, for could we only know what the rebels intend, and what they are likely to do with us in case the very worst that we permit ourselves to imagine should occur to us, it would be some relief. But whatever their power or intentions for mischief, they act just as if they intended to capture us by siege, assault, or starvation. We do not contemplate either event as very probable. They will scarcely be able to take us by assault, and their numbers must be first trebled before they can effectually blockade us.

In the mean time, all ears are anxiously turned toward Grant, expecting hourly to hear the sound of friendly cannon. Amid all our anxiety, we never lose our confidence in the ability and will of our Government to save us, and Tennessee with us. Old U. S. Grant, as its exponent in the field, has promised, and we propose to fight to the last man, or starve to the final mule, with our faith unmoved. We believe that the Government recognizes, as well as the rebels, the vast magnitude and importance of this, almost their last desperate stake, the loss of which will be fatal to them and of inestimable importance to us. In a military aspect, the loss of this army will, of course, not be irremediable; but still is by no means a military necessity, and we confidently trust will not be so regarded. We await the issue between Grant and Bragg quite confidently.

Saturday, November 21.—There is nothing to chronicle to-day. Instead of an attack, daylight dawned upon thousands of poor soldiers drenched in the trenches. A heavy rain commenced at two o'clock, and continued, without intermission, all day. The ditches were full, the streets and creeks were full, and the moats in front were overflowing with water. Some blundering booby of an officer, officiously anxious to do something, had observed the mill-race, left open by Captain Poe to waste the water when his ponds should overflow, and ordered it to be dammed up. The consequence was, the washing out of a part of the main dam, and some difficult muddy work for the soldiers to-day in repairing it. An occasional shot from the rebel sharpshooters, and random firing along the lines on the front and left, comprise the military achievements to-day. Rain and mud monopolized the entire interest, and all who from any cause were unable, supposing they knew enough to "come in out of the rain," must have been very unhappy. If it were possible to add somewhat to the dreary misery and restless monotony of an army besieged within the confined limits of a wretched, unhealthy, unhandsome, uninteresting town, with a confident enemy lying in sight waiting for them to surrender, the fates and fu-

ries hit it exactly, to-day, when the rain was added to overflow the measure of our discomforts.

Being still alive, however, and as yet practically unacquainted with the traditional horrors of Libby Prison, we have no right to complain. Nevertheless, we "are not happy."

Sunday, November 22.—Another quiet day has passed. Prayers were held in one or two of the churches, and, altogether, it has been a solemn day. Certainly the circumstances by which we are surrounded, are sufficiently well calculated to furnish material for serious reflection to any who may be so disposed. The rain has ceased. Slight skirmishing on our front and left has been kept up all day. The mud scarcely permits more important movements, if any were intended. An occasional shot from the twenty-pounders in our front, replied to by Benjamin's battery, sums up the battle news. The enemy's shell seldom burst, and have as yet done no damage. A courier came through this evening from the Gap, bringing to General Burnside news of the safety of General Willcox and his command, and also the welcome intelligence of the advance movement of General Grant. It inspires us with hope of present relief and probable ability to bring condign retribution upon the daring and impudent foe, who have so boldly threatened an inglorious terminus to the grand army of occupation. We await, as we must, with what patience we can. We are somewhat powerless to mould circumstances to such shapes as we would, just now; so we submit to necessity, call it inexorable fate, and are resigned. We retire every night in anticipation of an assault in the morning; and each day drags its weary, monotonous length along, only more dull and dreary than the last. At one time it is reported that Longstreet has gone to Tazewell, on his way to Kentucky, having previously gobbled Willcox and the Gap on his road. Then, that he has built pontoons and is crossing eight miles below town, with the intent to march on to our works on the south bank, and thence shell each individual house in Knoxville seriatim, or until his supposed thirst for Yankee blood is in some degree sated. Anon we learn that his whole force, except a few remaining to scare our pickets, is *en route* for Virginia, or crossing the river to join Bragg, who, being whipped, is falling back on Dalton. Whatever portion, if any, of these rumors may prove to be true, it is certain that the camps of a division, at least, are visible with a glass from the cupola of the college, situated on our left, other camps on our right, and a certain big gun occasionally warns us of its continued presence in our front. Pickets are easily found by any enterprising individual who may possess a curiosity to explore that peculiarly vigilant arm of the service by showing himself beyond our lines. Their sharpshooters have not permitted us to doubt their presence for a moment, day or night. A little girl was killed to-day in her garden, and the streets in the west end are not safe a moment during the day from random shots. They are extending their works

on our left, and, masked by a wood, are believed to be erecting works and planting batteries. True, all these known things may be done by a comparatively small force, and we are inclined to believe are, but still the doubt and suspense grow eminently disagreeable.

Monday, Nov. 23.—General Shackleford made a reconnoissance in force with cavalry, last night, to Boyd's Ferry and Connor's Ford, on our right, and found no enemy along the river. Hearing that a raft had been prepared to send down the river with a view to break up our pontoon, he sent a party to destroy it, but it had gone. It came down upon the bridge during the night, but Captain Poe, who does nothing by halves, and is never caught napping, had not forgotten the probability of such a contingency, and the chains placed there across the river for the purpose arrested the progress of the raft, which made very good firewood for us to-day. The pontoon was uninjured. Captain Poe completed a fort on the south bank to-day, and Colonel Cameron made quite a jubilee over the raising of a large flag-staff, surmounted by the Stars and Stripes. General Hascall made a patriotic speech. The boys shouted and cheered, and the affair seemed quite a small Fourth of July. Skirmishing to-day along the left was light, and there was more on the right. Toward evening, skirmishing in front became quite sharp, and about six o'clock the rebels made a dash upon our lines and forced our pickets to fall back. The rebels were probably inspired to this sudden *emete* by the sight of some twenty of our wagons loading coal near the dépôt. Our wagoners, true to the instincts of their class, of course, fled as usual and deserted their teams. Our pickets, however, rallied in time to save them, and Hoxie, the Railroad Superintendent, finally got the cowardly mule-drivers back and the teams away. The most disastrous and lamentable result of the temporary panic was the destruction of some fifteen or twenty houses fired by our men. The pickets had received orders to fire the buildings if compelled to fall back, and it became necessary to uncover concealed rebels. In this case the retreat of our pickets was but momentary. Our lines were immediately advanced, and neither real nor prospective necessity was manifest for such an act of wanton and unmitigated vandalism.

Nearly all the buildings on the plain below the city are destroyed. The splendid round-house of the Georgia Railroad, the arsenal, machine-shop, Humphreys' hotel, dwellings, etc., etc., of incalculable mischief to our own interest, and of no possible injury to the enemy. Such conduct can excite no emotion but disgust and indignation. Nothing is sacred; destruction rides on the wind, and pillage and carnage go hand in hand. It is safe to assert that East-Tennessee has been more vitally damaged since the *entrée* of our army, than by the rebel occupation during the war. This is an unpleasant charge to make, but I can prove what I say; and as it is a state of things for which some one is responsible, and not altogether irremediable, it should be ventilat-

ed. The scene presented by the lurid glare of a score of burning buildings at once, lighting up the whole horizon, was as beautiful as it was horrible, and only lacked a Nero fiddling from the court-house to render the analogy complete of another similar scene of old, equally terrible, wanton, and useless. Of property, a few more thousands destroyed, a few more families cast homeless and destitute upon the world, naked and starving. What of it? Some booby officer misunderstood the order, perhaps. Of course it is to be regretted; but where there is so much suffering, we have no room for minor sympathies. The domestic drama hides its diminished head before the magnificent horrors of military tragedy. It is war; that is all about it. Who has time to think of justice, mercy, right, honor, charity, or even honesty, amid the turmoil of war? All namby-pamby virtues have lost their savor. The attainments of peace become flat before the pungent excitements of war.

Tuesday, Nov. 24. — Skirmishing commenced early and briskly on our left front this morning. The rebs had gained a hill and thrown up rifle-pits near the round-house during the night. The Forty-eighth Pennsylvania and Twenty-first Massachusetts, during the morning, charged the pits, and driving the rebs out at the point of the bayonet, covered the trenches and returned to their own, with a loss of two killed and four wounded. On our left, for some hours, the fire of the sharp-shooters was quite hot from a house above and the rebel trenches. The Second Michigan charged there also in the most gallant manner, and drove the rebs back; a fierce and bloody engagement ensued, with great loss on both sides, our boys remaining in possession of the works, which they obliterated and fell back. The loss of the Second Michigan was ninety killed, wounded, and missing. Deserters and prisoners bring in the most exaggerated accounts of the numbers and intentions of the enemy, which we sift a little, and believe as much as we please of what is left. Rumors reach us, through rebel sources, that Bragg is not succeeding so well as they wish. We devoutly hope their sources of information will prove to be as correct as they usually are. We begin to doubt the rebel intention to attack us here at all. We have at no time doubted our ability to hold our own, however. The starvation business is very slow, and it will be many weeks ere we come to mule diet. Rations of hard bread were issued to the men to-day for the first time since we came in, and I understand there is considerable store on hand. We have also plenty of corn, beef, and pork. Citizens suffer more than the army. No farmers come in, and, of course, no markets. The sutlers closed their stores and packed their goods on the first intimation of danger. We begin almost to wish that the enemy would do something to break the monotony of which we grow weary, and there is talk of going out to find them if they persist much longer in their course of energetic inactivity. Captain Poe's "fortified conveniences," as an Irish sergeant denominated them

while explaining the rifle-pits to me, this morning inspire us with marvellous confidence; misplaced, however, by the poor sergeant, who received a ball in the face while peering between the logs on the breastworks in search of rebels. The poor fellow recognized me in the hospital, and complained bitterly of a headache. The ball entered at the inner canthus of the left eye, and was lodged somewhere about the ethmoid bone. A headache was not to be wondered at. At night, belligerent activity ceases. Our pickets suspend all animosities, and fraternize in the most cordial manner. In accordance with compacts, they come together and exchange their respective experiences of moving accidents by flood and field. The Ninth corps and Longstreet's men are old opponents of Potomac memory, and have abundant mutual reminiscences of interest to exchange. At daylight, however, returning to their posts, the exhibition of a head or hand of either side is but an invitation to a hostile bullet.

General Manson, in command of the Thirty-fifth corps, and General Hascall, are indefatigable. One cannot ride along the lines any hour, day or night, without meeting one or the other. Manson's excellent *bonhomie* has an inspiring influence on the men; while the serious air and confident ways of Hascall invigorate as a tonic would. The Tennesseans are under command of our sprightly, gallant Colonel Casement, of the One Hundred and Third. Behind breastworks they may be relied upon. The Colonel has faith, and is confident, vigilant, and industrious. The destinies of our left are in the hands of Casement and his new men. On the south bank of the Holston, Colonel Cameron's brigade has charge of our interests, aided by Wolford's brigade. Altogether, we feel quite confident to look after our own safety until Bragg and Grant have arranged their little affairs. I hope every thing from the results of that.

Wednesday, Nov. 25. — Skirmishing in our front very light; it was ascertained that the rebs had crossed in considerable force to the south bank of the river, and threatened to take position on a hill from which they could enfilade our left lines. Cameron sent the Twenty-fourth Kentucky to feel of them, and a sharp contest ensued for the possession of the hill. The Twenty-fourth Kentucky were unable to hold the ground. The One Hundred and Third Ohio and Sixty-fifth Illinois, sent to reinforce them, finally drove the enemy from the coveted position. Our loss in this affair was sixty killed and wounded. Matters are now assuming an interesting outlook. Old scout Reynolds came in this evening from Kingston, bringing confirmation of Bragg's defeat and the assurance of present aid from Grant. Sherman is said to be at Cleveland, Generals Fry and Willcox at Bean's Station, and considerable force at Wytheville — from all of which, if true, Longstreet's position will not prove to be an easy one. His chief care will now be to effect his escape by the North-Carolina mountains as the only road left open to him.

ORDERS BY GENERAL BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO, KNOXVILLE, }
TENN., NOV. 25, 1862.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 82.

In accordance with the proclamation of the President of the United States, Thursday, the twenty-sixth instant, will, so far as military operations will permit, be observed by this army as a day of thanksgiving for the countless blessings vouchsafed the country, and the fruitful successes granted to our arms during the past year.

Especially has this army cause for thankfulness for the divine protection which has so signally shielded us; and let us with grateful hearts offer our prayers for its continuance, assured of the purity of our cause, and with a firm reliance on the God of battles.

By command of Major-General BURNSIDE.
LEWIS RICHMOND, A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO, }
IN THE FIELD, NOV. 24, 1862.

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 81.

The Commanding General has the sad duty of announcing to this army the death of one of the bravest of their number, Brigadier-General W. P. Sanders.

A life rendered illustrious by a long record of gallantry and devotion to his country has closed while in the heroic and unflinching performance of duty.

Distinguished always for his self-possession and daring in the field, and in his private life eminent for his genial and unselfish nature and the sterling qualities of his character, he has left, both as a man and a soldier, an untarnished name.

In memory of the honored dead, the fort, in front of which he received his fatal wound, will be known hereafter as Fort Sanders.

By command of Major-General BURNSIDE.
LEWIS RICHMOND, A. A. G.

Monday, November 30.—The long, tedious, and painful suspense is over. We no longer doubt the intentions of Longstreet. After thirteen days of menace and siege, he gathered his forces, and struck the mighty blow that was to have broken our lines, demolished our defences, and captured Knoxville. It was an utter and disastrous failure. In justice to our enemy, it is conceded by all, that more desperate valor, daring gallantry, or obstinate courage has not been recorded during the war. They contended against the impossible. The men who opposed them were as brave, as well trained on the same bloody fields of Virginia as they, and having as large a stake, had the advantages of an impregnable position. The enterprise was a bold one, the play masterly, and the attempt vigorous. Success would have given the enemy possession of the key to all our works on the west side of the town, not the town itself. But Fort Sanders lost, our position in Knoxville would be more precarious. But they failed. We do not know if Longstreet has done his worst; but it is evi-

dent that he expected to have exploited a brilliant and decisive *coup de guerre*. He was thirteen days deciding upon it. He waited until reinforced by the forces of General Jones, Mudwall Jackson, Carter, and Cerro Gordo Williams. He selected three brigades of picked regiments, and determined upon a night attack, always the most dangerous and bloody, but if successful, the most decisive. It is evident that he played a tremendous odds to insure success, and every man in those doomed brigades advanced to the storming of Fort Sanders with that confident courage that usually commands it.

To resist him, were part of the Seventy-ninth New-York in the front, four companies of the One Hundredth Pennsylvania on the right, and four companies of the Second Michigan on the left. No part of the fort is complete. One bastion on the north-west angle, and parapet on the west side only, are up. Temporary traverses were made by cotton-bales, and also two salients, from which guns could sweep the ditches on the north and west. Spirited skirmishing commenced, on the right of the position, at ten o'clock P.M. Saturday. The vigor and persistence of it evidently foreshadowed something more serious behind, and such became the feeling of all the immense audience within our lines, who listened to the continuous and unceasing crash of musketry hour after hour, to one, two, and three o'clock A.M. Many an anxious heart, that night, beat high with hope and fear for their rebel friends without, and many a tearful and timid prayer went up to the God of battles, for the safety of friends within. All felt that an eventful moment was at hand for weal or woe, in the destinies of East-Tennessee and her brave defenders.

The enemy dashed upon the left of our position several times, as if in confident bravado, and finally drove our skirmishers from the advanced rifle-pits, and occupied them about daylight, Sunday morning. Our men rallied, and as determinedly regained them, driving the rebels back in turn. Suddenly an avalanche of men were hurled upon the disputed rifle-pits, our skirmishers were forced back, covered by our guns from the fort, by our retreating men. Two storming brigades were enabled to approach within one hundred yards of the bastion. It was their intention, probably, to draw out our boys, and then attempt to return with them, and enter the works. In this they were foiled. Our skirmishers fell in on the left, and the rebel storming-party advanced directly upon the bastion. Then ensued a scene of carnage and horror, which has but few parallels in the annals of warfare. Balaklava was scarcely more terrible. Stunned for a moment by the torrent of canister and lead poured upon them by Buckley's First Rhode Island battery and our line of musketry, on they came. Again and again, the deadly missiles shattered their torn and mangled columns. Their march was over dead and wounded comrades, yet still they faltered not; but onward, still onward. Whole ranks stum-

bled over wires stretched from stump to stump, and fell among the dead and dying; yet still over their prostrate bodies marched the doomed heroes of that forlorn hope.

At last the ditch was reached, and the slaughter became butchery, as if on a wager of death against mortality. Benjamin's guns on the salient swept the ditch, as the tornado would the corn. The earth was sated with blood. Men waded in blood, and struggled up the scarp, and, slipping in blood, fell back to join their mangled predecessors in the gory mud below. The shouts of the foiled and infuriate rebels, the groans of the dying, and shrieks of the wounded, arose above the din of the cannon. Benjamin lighted shell, and threw them over the parapet, and artillerymen followed his example. One rebel climbed the parapet, and planted the flag of the Thirteenth Mississippi regiment on the summit; but the rebel shout that greeted its appearance had scarce left the lips that framed it, than man and flag were in the ditch together, pierced by a dozen balls. Another rebel repeated the feat, and rejoined his comrade. A third essayed to bear off the flag, and was cloven with an ax. One man entered an embrasure, and was blown to fragments; two more were cut down in another; but not one entered the fort. The three veteran regiments of the Ninth army corps stood up to the work before them unflinching and glorious to a man. The heroes of a dozen campaigns, from the Potomac to Vicksburg, they found themselves, for the third time, arrayed for trial of courage and endurance with the flower of the Southern army—the picked men of Longstreet's boasted veterans; and saw the sun rise, on that chill Sunday morning in November, on an entire brigade annihilated, and two more severely punished. Even the dead outnumbered us, for not more than three hundred of our force participated in the defence of Fort Sanders. Benjamin, of the Third United States artillery, and Buckley, of the First Rhode battery, were foremost in acts of daring and gallantry. General Ferrero, who has never left the fort since Longstreet's appearance before it, to whose skill and foresight much of the admirable dispositions for defence were due, was in command, and right nobly he has earned his star. His coolness, energy, and skill are subjects of universal encomiums.

The dead and wounded were left on the field, and the ghastly horrors were rendered sickening by the vain cries of hundreds for water and help. In full view from the embrasures, the ground was covered with dead, wounded, and dying. Forty-eight were heaped up in the ditch before the bastion; thirteen in another place, almost within reach of those who, though late their foes, would have willingly heeded their anguished shrieks for water; yet none dare go to their assistance. The humanity of General Burnside was not proof against so direct an appeal, and he at once sent in a flag of truce, offering an armistice until five o'clock P.M., for the pur-

pose of burying their dead, and caring for their wounded.

Our own loss was but four killed, and eleven wounded. Some pickets have been cut off, and skirmishers captured, raising our loss to forty-five in all. Before Fort Sanders, south of the river, however, the Twenty-seventh Kentucky having abandoned the rifle-pits, the enemy, of course, entered them, and enfilading the line, killed, wounded, and captured some fifty. Colonel Cameron pushed forward other troops, and reoccupied the works without further mischief. Our entire loss during the night and day is within one hundred. The rebels removed their dead and wounded, and the occasion was improved to exchange the wounded of other occasions. Among ours, I note the gallant Major Byington, of the Second Michigan, who was wounded in the charge of his regiment upon the rebel works on Tuesday last. His wounds are severe, but not mortal. He speaks highly of the kindness of the rebel surgeons. Among the rebel officers killed was Colonel McElroy, of the Thirteenth Mississippi. His lieutenant, John O'Brian, a brother of Mrs. Parson Brownlow, is our prisoner. The rebels were posted on the fight between Grant and Bragg, and have two stories concerning it. As one of them agrees with ours, we believe that. As Longstreet has now tried the siege plan and the assault, and failed in both, we can conceive no further necessity for his longer residence in East-Tennessee, and if he be not gone to-morrow, we shall be unable to account for it.

November 30—A.M.—It has been comparatively quiet this morning. A few shots have been exchanged between the batteries and an occasional one along the skirmish line.

The enemy exhibits no indication of a renewal of the attack.

The total number of prisoners taken yesterday is two hundred and thirty-four.

December 1—A.M.—Still quiet. The enemy show no signs of another attack.

The weather is clear but cold, with severe frosts at night.

The following order, congratulatory to our troops for the victory of Sunday last, was addressed to them this morning, and was received with enthusiastic cheering all around the line:

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS—NO. 33.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO, }
IN THE FIELD, November 30, 1863.

The brilliant events of the twenty-ninth instant, so successful to our arms, seem to present a fitting occasion for the Commanding General to thank this army for their conduct through the severe experiences of the past seventeen days, to assure them of the important bearing it has had on the campaign in the West, and to give them the news of the great victory gained by General Grant, toward which their fortitude and their bravery have in a high degree contributed.

In every fight in which they have been engaged,

and recently in those near Knoxville, at Loudon, at Campbell's Station, and, finally, around the defences on both sides of the river, while on the march, and in cold and in hunger, they have everywhere shown a spirit which has given to the army of the Ohio a name second to none.

By holding in check a powerful body of the enemy, they have seriously weakened the rebel army under Bragg, which has been completely defeated by General Grant, and, at the latest accounts, was in full retreat for Dalton, closely pursued by him, with the loss of six thousand prisoners, fifty-two pieces of artillery, and twelve stands of colors.

For this great and practical result, toward which the army of the Ohio has done so much, the Commanding General congratulates them, and with the fullest reliance on their patience and courage in the dangers they may yet have to meet, looks forward with confidence, under the blessing of Almighty God, to a successful close of the campaign.

By command of Major-General BURNSIDE.
LEWIS RICHMOND, A. A. G.

CAPTAIN MONTGOMERY'S REPORT.

FORT SANDERS, KNOXVILLE, TENN., Dec. 5, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of this regiment, under my command, since the fourteenth ultimo:

At that date, my command was stationed at Lenoir's Station, on duty at headquarters Ninth army corps. About eight o'clock A.M., I received orders to strike camp and hold myself in readiness to move at a moment's notice. This order was promptly carried out, and, having formed line and stacked arms, waited for further developments. During the early part of the day, the camp of the corps headquarters was struck, and the wagons packed, numerous other calls made on my men to load forage and other Government property on the cars, besides furnishing several guards. My command was thus occupied till early on the morning of the sixteenth, when, at early dawn, I received orders to move and support a section of the Third United States artillery, under command of Lieutenant Bartlett. The roads impassable, and the horses worn out, great physical exertion was required on the part of the men to keep the section in motion. Beyond this, nothing occurred worthy of notice till reaching Campbell's Station, when I was ordered by General Burnside, in person, to take up position under cover, and support a section of Benjamin's battery. I had a good opportunity for doing so, in a defile, between two fences. While in this position, I was called on by order of General Potter, to detail a commissioned officer and twenty men, to take in charge some prisoners; and a like detail, to cover the road leading to Knoxville, to arrest and detain all stragglers from their commands; and another, of eighteen men, to assist in working the guns of Buckley's battery. I had thus under one hundred men available for fighting duty, should my command have been called into active contact with the en-

emy. Here I remained till the last gun had passed, and then followed in the march to Knoxville, reaching there about midnight, and encamped on the ground formerly occupied by General Potter's headquarters. On the morning of the seventeenth, I detailed, by order of General Potter, one captain, one lieutenant, and thirty men, to patrol the city, and arrest and turn over to their respective division provost-marshals all stragglers from the Ninth army corps; the balance of the command was under orders to move at any moment. About two o'clock P.M., I reported, with my command, to headquarters Ninth army corps, in Knoxville, and remained there till next morning, when I was ordered to report to the First brigade, First division, which I immediately did, and was assigned to duty in Fort Sanders, since which my command has constituted the major portion of the garrison.

I detailed, daily, two commissioned officers and forty-five men as a grand reserve for the skirmishers in front of the works. This party were posted on the crest of the hill, about five hundred yards in front of the work, with instructions to hold the position at all hazards, should the enemy attempt to carry it. No casualties occurred while on this duty, and the position was maintained till about half-past eleven o'clock on the night of the twenty-eighth, when the enemy advanced and drove in the skirmishers. Such was the impetuosity of his advance, that he had almost gained the crest occupied by the reserve before they could fire a shot, and they were thus compelled to fall back, only, however, for about fifty yards. Having gained the position which the reserve was thus compelled to relinquish, the enemy was contented for the night; and at five o'clock next morning, (the twenty-ninth,) I sent out, as usual, the detail to relieve the reserve, with the instructions, which I received from General Ferrero, that the position lost on the previous night was to be retaken at all hazards. This was accomplished; but no sooner so, than the enemy again made a demonstration, and, from the velocity of his advance, it was evident he meant to storm; nor was this impression incorrect. It is proper here to state, that my command only consisted of one hundred and forty-four muskets, and, at the time the enemy made the assault, there were not more than fifty men in the fort. The reserve, which had been relieved, together with the party who relieved them, were soon, however, on hand, and in position in the front. The enemy steadily advanced, and quickly crowded on the ramparts and in the ditch. The fire from the artillery was rendered useless, the enemy having got within range, so that it was left to infantry entirely to defend the fort.

Now it was that the often tried mettle of the Highlanders was put to its severest test. Never were men more cool or determined. Officers and men alike were fully alive to the position they were placed in, and how much depended on their action. So fierce was the attack, that no less than three stands of colors were planted on the

salient of the north-west bastion, the point assailed. Two of these were blown into the ditch by our fire; the other, that of the Fifty-first Georgia regiment, was heroically captured by First Sergeant Francis W. Judge, company K, who, on seeing it, sprang on the ramparts, and seizing it and its bearer, brought them into the fort. From both flanks of the bastion a terrific and deadly fire was poured into the enemy's ranks, and hundreds fell wounded, others to rise no more. The enemy was repulsed and driven from the work, hundreds of prisoners were taken, and hundreds killed and wounded; the carnage was fearful, and cannot be described; the eye dimmed and the heart sickened at the sight.

Every man had forty rounds of ammunition when the assault was made, and I furnished them with twenty additional rounds each while the action was in progress; there could not have been less than fifty rounds per man consumed. Besides the stands of colors captured on the ramparts, my command is entitled to be credited with a large share of the captured arms and accoutrements, with a large number of prisoners.

The casualties were few, wonderfully few, and must be accounted for by the cool and careful manner in which the officers and men moved themselves. Had the officers been less careful, and allowed the men to expose themselves unnecessarily, the consequences might have been fearful. It is pleasing, and it affords me unminged gratification to be able to record the gallant conduct of every officer and man in the command; I would be doing myself and them an injustice did I fail to do so.

Numerous instances of individual heroism were noticeable, but it would be invidious to mention names when all behaved with so much bravery.

I cannot close without paying a tribute to the good conduct and cheerful demeanor of the men, all throughout this trying time, on short rations, and continued duty by night and day. They never complained, but, on the contrary, have performed every duty, and suffered the privation and exposure without a murmur.

Subjoined is a list of casualties.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. MONTGOMERY,
Captain Commanding Regiment.

Twenty-third, private W. J. Coyle, wounded in left forearm. Twenty-fourth, Malcolm Sinclair, head. Twenty-fifth, Lieutenant Charles Watson. Privates Henry Pikel, thigh; Pat. Carlin, thigh. Sergeants Thomas Denham, killed; Robert Atherly, killed; privates, John Burgess, killed; David Schultz, killed. Sergeant Alfred Luce, wounded in the head; privates, Robert Paterson, thigh; Roderick McKenzie, shoulder; James Mitchell, breast; Wm. Smith, head.

KNOXVILLE, Dec. 2.

Seventeen days of siege. We have no butter, chickens, eggs, vegetables, or other luxuries of that kind, and have only one quarter rations of coffee, but so far we have had plenty of pork, beef, flour, and meal. Every one is confident,

and the best of spirits exist among all classes, citizens and soldiers. Up to last Saturday, an assault has been a matter of dread by many; but since the terrible storming of Fort Sanders on that memorable morning, and its disastrous and bloody results, even assaults have lost their terrors. The rebels seem still to surround us, and their pickets are quite as strong and vigilant as ever, but no demonstration of a serious nature has been made by them since Sunday. We are in the dark as to the rebel movements altogether, and can but theorize upon the little we know. I confess I am a subscriber to the proposition that places Longstreet in the position of the gentleman who caught the Tartar, having invested, threatened, and besieged Knoxville, in so far as he was able. He is now more anxious concerning a method of escape, and is doubtless straining every nerve to accomplish so desirable a result. Nevertheless, we are told to hold Knoxville at every hazard by a man who seldom gives an order without an object, and thus far we have done so. We could rally from our works and ascertain more of Longstreet, but he might not be so much gone off as we think, and we can afford no unusual risks; so we watch the pickets day and night, and every time we see a rebel head we shoot at it, and they generally return the compliment. As these memoranda of current events may probably never reach you, and might reach the enemy, I make no details. If no attack is made to-night, Longstreet will have irretrievably lost his opportunity, and should he have procrastinated his departure, will probably be lost himself, since we have tolerably sure evidence that we shall be relieved within thirty-six hours from our present predicament.

Dec. 8. — No attack last night. The rebel pickets are still vigilant, but nothing further can be ascertained. We begin to wonder what he means and why he goes not. No news of our reinforcements. One rumor comes to us that Granger had an engagement with the enemy near Clinton, and captured three guns. A deserter reports a battle near Loudon, between our reinforcements and Longstreet. A party of citizens from Sevierville report no appearance of the enemy in that direction. It is rumored to-day that Lee is advancing with the bulk of his army — having abandoned Richmond and removed the capital to Montgomery. Amid all these rumors we are quietly awaiting orders. The desperate straits to which rebeldom is driven by the summer and fall campaigns, give plausibility to any story, however improbable. Should Lee be able to aid Longstreet by any concatenation of military circumstances, we will, probably, be obliged to make different arrangements. Till then, we feel quite comfortable in the hope of capturing Longstreet.

To offset the rumor, we have another quite as likely, if not more plausible, that Willcox is marching from the Gap along the valley into Virginia, to destroy their salt-works and demolish any scattering rebs that may still infest those regions.

You may judge, from the number and nature of these rumors, what our situation must be, shut up from all outside information, as we are, here within the corporate limits of Knoxville.

In a former letter, speaking of the affair of Sunday, I stated the Twenty-seventh Kentucky "had abandoned the rifle-pits, etc." This was the information forwarded to division headquarters. I learn since that it was untrue. The regiment was ordered to fall back by the officer in command, and behaved gallantly in the subsequent charge to regain their position.

Saturday, Dec. 5.—I add hastily by sudden courier. It is over. Our long, anxious suspense, the siege, the campaign, and, I devoutly trust and believe, the culminating crisis of the rebellion. The dead point of danger is past; the position of East-Tennessee is assured to the Union. The Smoky Mountains will hereafter become our military front. The advance of our reinforcements, under Sherman, arrived yesterday morning. Granger is on the way. Longstreet's hours in East-Tennessee are numbered. His chief care since that glorious Sunday before Sanders has been, as I suggested, to escape from the trap in which he was involved by that blundering humbug Bragg. Our faith in Grant has not been in vain or misplaced.

A cavalry brigade, in command of Colonel Long, Fourth Ohio volunteer cavalry, is marching across our pontoon while I write. From Major Smith and Dr. Owens, of the Fifth Ohio volunteer cavalry, I learn the particulars of the utter demoralization of Bragg. A reconnaissance of our front is now out. The result will probably be to bring in rebel pickets out of the wet, and ascertain that Longstreet is on his way to Dixie. I will send particulars as soon as obtained. I cannot obtain full lists of killed and wounded of Shackleford's division. Our entire loss in all the engagements, during twenty-two days, will not reach one thousand. The rebel loss, during the same time, is not short of five thousand.

News of reconnaissance just in—enemy gone since Tuesday. Our cavalry are in pursuit to pick up stragglers. Thus endeth the campaign in East-Tennessee. What we will do with the huge army sent here by Grant, is problematical. One does not require the foot of an elephant to kill a gnat, and Grant is not one to overdo.

December 6.—I made a thorough survey of the enemy's position yesterday. The extent and elaborateness of their defensive as well as offensive works is proof positive that they intended to stay in front of Knoxville until it was captured or surrendered. It would be safe to say that four hundred acres of timber were cleared off by Longstreet's army and converted into log breastworks, and protections for rifle-pits. Their line of permanent works extended from the front of Fort Sanders about two and a half miles round to the right, terminating at the line of the Clinton Railroad.

There are eight inclosed works, with embra-

tures for one gun, situated checkerboard fashion; that is, one in front of a given line, the next, say fifty yards to the rear, and so on. These all, except two, which were evidently the last two built, and which were located two hundred yards to the left of the Clinton Railroad, bore upon the works of Fort Sanders and Temperance Hill forts. These last two works commanded the gorge of the railroad running north from the city.

To the right of this line, eastward, there was chiefly an open plain, three quarters of a mile wide, extending round to our extreme right, which was perfectly honeycombed by our own and the enemy's rifle-pits, in some parts within a few yards of each other. Their camp-fires were still burning in many places, and a considerable quantity of camp *débris* was scattered about. The enemy had begun to construct log huts, showing that he had intended to stay.

At the small-pox hospital, opposite the Clinton Railroad, a mile from town, a soldier having that loathsome disease had been left, with an attendant two days before the enemy came in. Upon the arrival of the rebel army the nurse ran away, and the poor soldier probably died for want of attention. Yesterday he was found dead in the house, his blankets and clothing having been stripped off and carried away by some greedy rebel in Longstreet's army.

Five miles from town, near the house of a Mr. Bell, one of our men was found hanging by the neck suspended to the limb of a tree, with a paper pinned upon his breast. The paper contained in pencil the following: "Milon Ferguson, One Hundred and Eighteenth Ohio regiment, sent into our lines by Colonel Byrd in disguise. Hung as a spy, by order of ———." General Carter sent and had the soldier brought to town and decently interred. The neighbors, who were accused of the hanging, say it was done by rebel General Martin's escort.

The following is General Burnside's congratulatory order to the army:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO, {
IN THE FIELD, December 5, 1863. }

GENERAL FIELD ORDERS, No. 84.

The Commanding General congratulates the troops on the raising of the siege.

With unsurpassed fortitude and patient watchfulness they have sustained the wearing duties of the defence, and with unyielding courage they have repulsed the most desperate assaults.

The army of the Ohio has nobly guarded the loyal region it redeemed from its oppressors, and rendered the heroic defence of Knoxville memorable in the annals of the war.

Strengthened by the experiences and the successes of the past, they now, with the powerful support of the gallant army which has come to their relief, and with undoubting faith in the Divine protection, enter with the brightest prospects upon the closing scenes of a most brilliant campaign.

By command of Major-General BURNSIDE.
LEWIS RICHMOND, A. A. G.

HONOR TO THE FALLEN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE OHIO, }
KNOXVILLE, TENN., Dec. 11. }

GENERAL ORDER, No. 87.

In order clearly to designate the positions occupied by our troops during the recent siege, and in token of respect to the gallant officers who fell in defence of Knoxville, the several forts and batteries are named as follows :

Battery Noble—At loop-holed house south of Kingston road, in memory of Lieutenant and Adjutant William Noble, Second Michigan volunteers, who fell in the charge upon the enemy's rifle-pits, in front of Fort Sanders, on the morning of November twenty-fourth.

Fort Byington—At College, after Major Cornelius Byington, Second Michigan volunteers, who fell mortally wounded, while leading the assault upon the enemy's rifle-pits, in front of Fort Sanders, on the morning of November twenty-fourth.

Battery Galpin—East of Second Creek, in memory of Lieutenant Galpin, Second Michigan volunteers, who fell in the assault upon the enemy's rifle-pits, in front of Fort Sanders, on the morning of November twenty-fourth.

Fort Comstock—On Summit Hill, near the railroad dépôt, in memory of Lieutenant-Colonel Comstock, Seventeenth Michigan volunteers, who fell in our lines during the siege.

Battery Wiltsee—West of Gay street, in memory of Captain Wiltsee, Twentieth Michigan volunteers, who was mortally wounded in our lines during the siege.

Fort Huntington Smith—On Temperance Hill, in memory of Lieutenant-Colonel Huntington Smith, Twentieth Michigan volunteer infantry, who fell at the battle of Campbell's Station.

Battery Clifton Lee—East of Fort Huntington Smith, in memory of Captain Clifton Lee, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois mounted infantry, who fell in the fight of November eighteenth, in front of Fort Sanders.

Fort Hill—At the extreme eastern point of our lines, in memory of Captain Hill, of the Twelfth Kentucky cavalry, who fell during the siege.

Battery Fearn—On Flint Hill, in memory of Lieutenant and Adjutant Charles W. Fearn, Forty-fifth Ohio mounted infantry, who fell in the action of November eighteenth, in front of Fort Sanders.

Battery Zoellner—Between Fort Sanders and Second Creek, in memory of Lieutenant Frank Zoellner, Second Michigan volunteers, who fell mortally wounded, in the assault upon the enemy's rifle-pits in front of Fort Sanders, on the morning of November twenty-fourth.

Battery Stearman—In the gorge between Temperance Hill and Mabrey's Hill, in memory of Lieutenant William Stearman, Thirteenth Kentucky volunteers, who fell near Loudon, Tennessee.

Fort Stanley—Comprising all the works upon the central hill on the south side of the river, in memory of Captain C. B. Stanley, Forty-fifth

Ohio volunteer mounted infantry, who fell mortally wounded in the action near Philadelphia, Tennessee.

Battery Billingsley—Between Gay street and First Creek, in memory of Lieutenant J. Billingsley, Seventeenth Michigan infantry, who fell in action in front of Fort Sanders, November twentieth.

Fort Higley—Comprising all the works on the hill west of the railroad embankment, south side of the river, in memory of Captain Joel P. Higley, Seventh Ohio cavalry, who fell in action at Blue Springs, Tennessee, October sixteenth, 1863.

Fort Dickerson—Comprising all the works between Fort Stanley and Fort Higley, in memory of Captain Jonathan Dickerson, One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois mounted infantry, who fell in action near Cleveland, Tennessee.

By command of Major-General BURNSIDE.
LEWIS RICHMOND, A. A. G.

Doc. 20.

GOVERNMENT OF THE CONTRABANDS.

GENERAL BUTLER'S ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, DEPARTMENT
OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH-CAROLINA,
FORT MONROE, VA., December 5, 1865. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 46.

THE recruitment of colored troops has become the settled purpose of the Government. It is therefore the duty of every officer and soldier to aid in carrying out that purpose, by every proper means, irrespective of personal predilection. To do this effectually, the former condition of the blacks, their change of relation, the new rights acquired by them, the new obligations imposed upon them, the duty of the Government to them, the great stake they have in the war, and the claims their ignorance, and the helplessness of their women and children, make upon each of us who hold a higher grade in social and political life, must all be carefully considered.

It will also be taken into account that the colored soldiers have none of the machinery of "State aid," for the support of their families while fighting our battles, so liberally provided for the white soldiers, nor the generous bounties given by the State and National Governments in the loyal States—although this last is far more than compensated to the black man by the great boon awarded to him, the result of the war—freedom for himself and his race for ever!

To deal with these several aspects of this subject, so that as few of the negroes as possible shall become chargeable either upon the bounty of Government or the charities of the benevolent, and at the same time to do justice to those who shall enlist, to encourage enlistment, and to cause all capable of working to employ themselves for their support, and that of their families—either in arms or other service—and that the rights of negroes and the Government may both be protected, it is ordered :

First. In this department, after the first day

of December instant, and until otherwise ordered, every able-bodied colored man who shall enlist and be mustered into the service of the United States for three years or during the war, shall be paid as bounty, to supply his immediate wants, the sum of ten (10) dollars. And it shall be the duty of each mustering officer to return to these headquarters duplicate rolls of recruits so enlisted and mustered into the service, on the tenth, twentieth, and last days of each month, so that the bounty may be promptly paid and accounted for.

Second. To the family of each colored soldier so enlisted and mustered, so long as he shall remain in the service and behave well, shall be furnished suitable subsistence, under the direction of the Superintendents of Negro Affairs, or their assistants; and each soldier shall be furnished with a certificate of subsistence for his family as soon as he is mustered; and any soldier deserting, or whose pay and allowances are forfeited by court-martial, shall be reported by his captain to the Superintendent of the district where his family lives, and the subsistence may be stopped—provided that such subsistence shall be continued for at least six months to the family of any colored soldier who shall die in the service by disease, wounds, or battle.

Third. Every enlisted colored man shall have the same uniform, clothing, arms, equipments, camp equipage, rations, medical and hospital treatment, as are furnished to the United States soldiers of a like arm of the service, unless, upon request, some modification thereof shall be granted from these headquarters.

Fourth. The pay of the colored soldiers shall be ten (10) dollars per month, three of which may be retained for clothing; but the non-commissioned officers, whether colored or white, shall have the same addition to their pay as other non-commissioned officers. It is, however, hoped and believed by the Commanding General, that Congress, as an act of justice, will increase the pay of the colored troops to a uniform rate with other troops of the United States. He can see no reason why a colored soldier should be asked to fight upon less pay than any other. The colored man fills an equal space in ranks while he lives, and an equal grave when he falls.

Fifth. It appears by returns from the several recruiting officers, that enlistments are discouraged, and the Government is competing against itself, because of the payment of sums larger than the pay of the colored soldiers to the colored employé in the several staff departments, and that, too, while the charities of the Government and individuals are supporting the families of the laborer. It is further ordered: That no officer, or other person on behalf of the Government, or to be paid by the Government, on land in this department, shall employ or hire any colored man for a greater rate of wages than ten dollars per month, without rations, except that mechanics and skilled laborers may be employed at other rates—regard being had, however, to the pay of the soldier, in fixing such rates.

Sixth. The best use, during the war, for an able-bodied colored man, as well for himself as the country, is to be a soldier. It is therefore further ordered: That no colored man, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, who can pass the surgeon's examination for a soldier, shall be employed on land by any person in behalf of the Government, (mechanics and skilled laborers alone excepted.) And it shall be the duty of each officer or other person employing colored labor in this department to be paid by or on behalf of the Government, to cause each laborer to be examined by the surgeons detailed to examine colored recruits, who shall furnish the laborer with a certificate of disability or ability, as the case may be; and after the first day of January next, no employment-rolls of colored laborers will be certified or passed at these headquarters wherein this order has not been complied with, and are not vouched for by such certificate of disability of the employés. And whenever, hereafter, a colored employé of the Government shall not be paid within sixty days after his wages shall become due and payable, the officer or other person having the funds to make such payment shall be dismissed the service, subject to the approval of the President.

Seventh. Promptness of payment of labor, and the facilities furnished by the Government and the benevolent, will enable colored laborers in the service of the Government to be supported from the proceeds of their labor. Therefore no subsistence will be furnished to the families of those employed by the Government at labor; but the Superintendent of Negro Affairs may issue subsistence to those so employed, and charge the amount against their wages, and furnish the officer in charge of payment of such laborers with the amounts so issued, on the first day of each month, or be himself chargeable with the amount so issued.

Eighth. Political freedom, rightly defined, is liberty to work, and to be protected in the full enjoyment of the fruits of labor, and no one with ability to work should enjoy the fruits of another's labor. Therefore, no subsistence will be permitted to any negro or his family, with whom he lives, who is able to work and does not work. It is, therefore, the duty of the Superintendent of Negro Affairs to furnish employment to all the negroes able to labor, and see that their families are supplied with the necessities of life. Any negro who refuses to work when able, and neglects his family, will be arrested, and reported to these headquarters, to be sent to labor on the fortifications, where he will be made to work. No negro will be required to labor on the Sabbath, unless upon the most urgent necessity.

Ninth. The Commanding General is informed that officers and soldiers in the department have, by impressment and force, compelled the labor of negroes, sometimes for private use, and often without any imperative necessity.

Negroes have rights so long as they fulfil their duties. Therefore, it is ordered, that no officer

or soldier shall impress or force to labor, for any private purpose whatever, any negro; and negro labor shall not be impressed or forced for any public purpose, unless under orders from these headquarters, or because of imperative military necessity, and where the labor of white citizens would be compelled, if present. And any order of any officer compelling any labor by negroes or white citizens shall be forthwith reported to these headquarters, and the reasons which called for the necessity for such order be fully set forth.

In case of a necessity compelling negro or white labor for the purpose of building fortifications, bridges, roads, or aiding transportation or other military purpose, it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Negroes in that district to cause employment-rolls to be made of those so compelled to labor, and to present said rolls, as soon as the necessity ceases, to the Assistant Quartermaster of the district, that the laborers may be paid; and the Superintendent shall see that those that labor shall have proper subsistence, and may draw from the Commissary of Subsistence rations therefor. Any officer offending wilfully against the provisions of this order, will be dismissed the service, subject to the approval of the President.

And no negro shall be impressed into military service of the United States, except under orders from these headquarters, by a draft, which shall equally apply to the white and colored citizens.

Tenth. The theory upon which negroes are received into the Union lines, and employed, either as laborers or soldiers, is, that every negro able to work, who leaves the rebel lines, diminishes by so much the producing power of the rebellion to supply itself with food and labor necessary to be done outside of military operations, to sustain its armies; and the United States thereby gains either a soldier or a producer. Women and children are received, because it would be manifestly iniquitous and unjust to take the husband and father, and leave the wife and child to ill-treatment and starvation. Women and children are also received when unaccompanied by the husband and father, because the negro has the domestic affections in as strong a degree as the white man, and however far South his master may drive him, he will sooner or later return to his family.

Therefore it is ordered: That every officer and soldier of this command shall aid, by every means in his power, the coming of all colored people within the Union lines; that all officers commanding expeditions and raids shall bring in with them all the negroes possible, affording them transportation, aid, protection, and encouragement. Any officer bringing or admitting negroes within his lines shall forthwith report the same to the Superintendent of Negro Affairs within his district, so they may be cared for and protected, enlisted, or set to work. Any officer, soldier, or citizen who shall dissuade, hinder, prevent, or endeavor to hinder or prevent any negro from coming within the Union lines; or

shall dissuade, hinder, prevent, or endeavor to prevent or hinder any negro from enlisting; or who shall insult, abuse, ridicule, or interfere with, for the purpose of casting ridicule or contempt upon colored troops, or individual soldiers, because they are colored, shall be deemed to be, and held liable under the several acts of Congress applicable to this subject, and be punished with military severity for obstructing recruiting.

Eleventh. In consideration of the ignorance and helplessness of the negroes, arising from the condition in which they have been heretofore held, it becomes necessary that the Government should exercise more and peculiar care and protection over them than over its white citizens, accustomed to self-control and self-support, so that their sustenance may be assured, their rights respected, their helplessness protected, and their wrongs redressed; and, that there be one system of management of negro affairs.

It is ordered: That Lieutenant-Colonel J. Burnham Kinsman, A. D. C., be detailed at these headquarters, as General Superintendent of Negro Affairs in this department, to whom all reports and communications relating thereto, required to be sent to these headquarters, shall be addressed. He shall have a general superintendence over all the colored people of this department; and all other Superintendents of Negro Affairs shall report to Lieutenant-Colonel Kinsman, who is acting for the Commanding General in this behalf.

All the territory of Virginia south of the James River shall be under the superintendence of Captain Orlando Brown, Assistant Quartermaster. All the territory north of James River shall be under the superintendence of Captain Charles B. Wilder, Assistant Quartermaster. The District of North-Carolina shall be under the superintendence of Rev. Horace James, Chaplain.

Each Superintendent shall have the power to select and appoint such Assistant Superintendents for such sub-districts in his district as may be necessary, to be approved by the Commanding General; such appointments to be confirmed by the Commanding General.

The pay of such assistant, if a civilian, shall in no case exceed the pay of a first-class clerk in the quartermaster's department.

It shall be the duty of each Superintendent, under the direction of the General Superintendent, to take care of the colored inhabitants of his district, not slaves, under the actual control of a loyal master in his district, (and in all questions arising as to freedom or slavery of any colored person, the presumption shall be that the man, woman, or child is free or has claimed protection of the military authorities of the United States, which entitles the claimant to freedom;) to cause an accurate census to be taken of colored inhabitants in his district, and their employments; to cause all to be provided with necessary shelter, clothing, food, and medicines; to see that all able to work shall have some employment, and that such employment shall be industriously pursued; to see that in all contracts for labor or

other things made by the negroes with white persons the negro is not defrauded, and to annul all contracts made by the negroes which are unconscionable and injurious, and that such contracts as are fulfilled by the negro shall be paid; to take charge of all lands and all property allotted, turned over, or given to the use of the negroes, whether by Government or by charity; to keep accurate accounts of the same, and of all expenditure; to audit all accounts of the negroes against Government, and to have all proper allowances made as well to the negro as the Government; and to have all claims put in train for payment by the Government; to keep accurate accounts of all expenses of the negro to the Government, and of his earnings for the Government; to see that the negroes who have wrought on land furnished by the Government on shares shall have their just portion, and to aid in disposing of the same for the best good of the negro and Government; to make quarterly returns and exhibits of all accounts of matters committed to them; and to hold all moneys arising from the surplus earnings of the negro over the expenditures by the United States, for the use and benefit of the negroes, under orders from these headquarters.

Twelfth. It appearing to the Commanding General that some of the labor done by the negroes in this department remains unpaid—some for the space of more than two years, although contracts were duly made by the proper officers of the Government for the payment thereof—whereby the faith of the negro in the justice of the Government is impaired, and the trust in its protection is weakened, it is ordered, that each Superintendent shall be a Commissioner, to audit all such accounts, procure evidence of their validity, make out accurate pay-rolls, and return the same, so that they may be presented for adjustment to the proper departments. Provided, however, that no sale of any such claim against the Government shall be valid, and no payment shall be made of any such claim, except in hand to the person actually earning it—if he is within this department—or to his legal representative, if the person earning it be deceased.

Thirteenth. Religious, benevolent, and humane persons have come into this department for the charitable purpose of giving to the negroes secular and religious instructions; and this, too, without any adequate pay or material reward. It is, therefore, ordered, that every officer and soldier shall treat all such persons with the utmost respect; shall aid them by all proper means in their laudable avocations; and that transportation be furnished them, whenever it may be necessary in pursuit of their business.

Fourteenth. As it is necessary to preserve uniformity of system, and that information shall be had as to the needs and the supplies for the negro, and as certain authorizations are had to raise troops in the department, a practice has grown up of corresponding directly with the War and other Departments of the Government, to the manifest injury of the service: It is, therefore, ordered, That all correspondence in relation to the raising

or recruitment of colored troops, and relating to the care and control of the negroes in this department, with any official organized body or society, or any department or bureau of the Government, must be transmitted through these headquarters, as by regulation all other military correspondence is required to be done.

Fifteenth. Courts-martial and courts of inquiry in relation to all offences committed by, or against any of the colored troops, or any person in the service of the United States connected with the care, or serving with the colored troops, shall have a majority of its members composed of officers in command of colored troops, when such can be detailed without manifest injury to the service.

All offences by citizens against the negroes, or by the negroes against citizens—except of a high and aggravated nature—shall be heard and tried before the provost-court.

Sixteenth. This order shall be published and furnished to each regiment and detached post within the department—a copy for every commanding officer thereof—and every commander of a company, or detachment less than a company, shall cause the same to be read once, at least, to his company or detachment; and this order shall be printed for the information of the citizens, once, at least, in each newspaper published in the department.

By command of Major-General BUTLER.
Official. R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 21.

MESSAGE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS.

DELIVERED DECEMBER 7, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

THE necessity for legislative action, arising out of the important events that have marked the interval since your adjournment, and my desire to have the aid of your counsel on other matters of grave public interest, render your presence at this time more than ordinarily welcome. Indeed, but for serious obstacles to convoking you in extraordinary session, and the necessity for my own temporary absence from the seat of government, I would have invited you to an earlier meeting than that fixed at the date of your adjournment.

Grave reverses befall our arms soon after your departure from Richmond. Early in July, our strongholds at Vicksburgh and Port Hudson, together with their entire garrisons, capitulated to the combined land and naval forces of the enemy. The important interior position of Jackson next fell into their temporary possession. Our unsuccessful assault on the post at Helena was followed, at a later period, by the invasion of Arkansas; and the retreat of our army from Little Rock gave to the enemy the control of the important valley in which it is situated.

The resolute spirit of the people soon rose superior to the temporary despondency naturally

resulting from these reverses. The gallant troops so ably commanded in the States beyond the Mississippi, inflicted repeated defeats on the invading armies in Louisiana and on the coast of Texas. Detachments of troops and active bodies of partisans kept up so effective a war on the Mississippi River as practically to destroy its value as an avenue of commerce.

The determined and successful defence of Charleston against the joint land and naval operations of the enemy, afforded an inspiring example of our ability to repel the attacks even of the iron-clad fleet, on which they chiefly rely, while on the Northern frontier our success was still more marked.

The able commander who conducted the campaign in Virginia determined to meet the threatened advance on Richmond—for which the enemy had made long and costly preparations—by forcing their armies to cross the Potomac and fight in defence of their own capital and homes. Transferring the battle-field to their own soil, he succeeded in compelling their rapid retreat from Virginia, and, in the hard-fought battle of Gettysburgh, inflicted such severity of punishment as disabled them from early renewal of the campaign as originally projected. Unfortunately, the communications on which our General relied for receiving his supplies of munitions were interrupted by extraordinary floods, which so swelled the Potomac as to render impassable the fords by which his advance had been made, and he was thus forced to a withdrawal, which was conducted with deliberation, after securing large trains of captured supplies, and with a constant but unaccepted tender of battle. On more than one occasion the enemy has since made demonstrations of a purpose to advance, invariably followed by a precipitate retreat to intrenched lines on the approach of our forces.

The effective check thus opposed to the advance of invaders at all points was such as to afford hope of their early expulsion from portions of the territory previously occupied them, when the country was painfully surprised by the intelligence that the officer in command of Cumberland Gap had surrendered that important and easily defensible pass without firing a shot, upon the summons of a force still believed to have been inadequate to its reduction, and when reinforcements were within supporting distance and had been ordered to his aid. The entire garrison, including the commander, being still held as prisoners by the enemy, I am unable to suggest any explanation of this disaster, which laid open Eastern Tennessee and South-Western Virginia to hostile operations, and broke the line of communication between the seat of government and Middle Tennessee. This easy success of the enemy was followed by an advance of General Rosecrans into Georgia, and our army evacuated Chattanooga and availed itself of the opportunity thus afforded of winning, on the field of Chickamauga, one of the most brilliant and decisive victories of the war. This signal defeat of General Rosecrans was followed by his retreat into

Chattanooga, where his imperilled position had the immediate effect of relieving the pressure of the invasion at other points, forcing the concentration, for his relief, of large bodies of troops withdrawn from the armies in the Mississippi valley and in Northern Virginia. The combined forces thus accumulated against us in Tennessee so greatly outnumbered our army as to encourage the enemy to attack. After a long and severe battle, in which great carnage was inflicted on him, some of our troops inexplicably abandoned positions of great strength, and, by a disorderly retreat, compelled the commander to withdraw the forces elsewhere successful, and, finally, to retire with his whole army to a position some twenty or thirty miles to the rear. It is believed that if the troops, who yielded to the assault, had fought with the valor which they had displayed on previous occasions, and which was manifested in this battle on other parts of the lines, the enemy would have been repulsed with very great slaughter, and our country would have escaped the misfortune and the army the mortification of the first defeat that has resulted from misconduct by the troops. In the mean time, the army of General Burnside was driven from all its field positions in Eastern Tennessee, and forced to retreat from its intrenchments at Knoxville, where, for some weeks, it was threatened with capture by the forces under General Longstreet. No information has reached me of the final result of the operations of our commander, though intelligence has arrived of his withdrawal from that place.

While, therefore, our success in driving the enemy from our soil has not equalled the expectations confidently entertained at the commencement of the campaign, his further progress has been checked. If we are forced to regret losses in Tennessee and Arkansas, we are not without ground for congratulations on successes in Louisiana and Texas. On the sea-coast he is exhausted by vain efforts to capture our ports; while, on the Northern frontier, he has in turn felt the pressure and dreads the renewal of invasion. The indomitable courage and perseverance of the people in the defence of their homes have been nobly attested by the unanimity with which the Legislatures of Virginia, North-Carolina, and Georgia have recently given expression to the popular sentiment; and like manifestations may be anticipated from all the States. Whatever obstinacy may be displayed by the enemy in his desperate sacrifices of money, life, and liberty, in the hope of enslaving us, the experience of mankind has too conclusively shown the superior endurance of those who fight for home, liberty, and independence, to permit any doubt of the result.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

I regret to inform you that there has been no improvement in the state of our relations with foreign countries since my message in January last. On the contrary, there has been a still greater divergence in the conduct of European nations from that practical impartiality which

alone deserves the name of neutrality, and their action, in some cases, has assumed a character positively unfriendly.

You have heretofore been informed, by common understanding, the initiative in all action touching the contest on this continent had been left by foreign powers to the two great maritime nations of Western Europe, and that the governments of these two nations had agreed to take no measures without previous concert. The result of these arrangements has, therefore, placed it in the power of either France or England to obstruct at pleasure the recognition to which the Confederacy is justly entitled, or even to prolong the continuance of hostilities on this side of the Atlantic, if the policy of either could be promoted by the postponement of peace. Each, too, thus became possessed of great influence in so shaping the general exercise of neutral rights in Europe, as to render them subservient to the purpose of aiding one of the belligerents, to the detriment of the other. I referred, at your last session, to some of the leading points in the course pursued by professed neutrals, which betrayed a partisan leaning to the side of our enemies; but events have since occurred which induce me to renew the subject in greater detail than was then deemed necessary. In calling to your attention the action of these governments, I shall refer to the documents appended to President Lincoln's messages, and to their own correspondence, as disclosing the true nature of their policy, and the motives which guided it. To this course no exception can be taken, inasmuch as our attention has been invited to those sources of information by their official publication.

In May, 1861, the Government of her Britannic Majesty informed our enemies that it had not "allowed any other than an immediate position on the part of the Southern States," and assured them "that the sympathies of this country (Great Britain) were rather with the North than with the South."

On the first day of June, 1861, the British government interdicted the use of its ports "to armed ships and privateers, both of the United States and the so-called confederate States," with their prizes. The Secretary of State of the United States fully appreciated the character and motive of this interdiction, when he observed to Lord Lyons, who communicated it: "That this measure, and that of the same character which had been adopted by France, would probably prove a death-blow to Southern privateering."

On the twelfth of June, 1861, the United States Minister in London informed Her Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs, that the fact of his having held interviews with the Commissioners of this Government "had given great dissatisfaction," and that a protraction of this relation would be viewed by the United States "as hostile in spirit, and to require some corresponding action accordingly." In response to this intimation, Her Majesty's Secretary assured the Min-

ister that "he had no expectation of seeing them any more."

By proclamation, issued on the nineteenth and twenty-seventh of April, 1861, President Lincoln proclaimed the blockade of the entire coast of the Confederacy, extending from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, embracing, according to the returns of the United States Coast Survey, a coast line of three thousand five hundred and forty-nine statute miles, on which the number of rivers, bays, harbors, inlets, sounds, and passes, is one hundred and eighty-nine. The navy possessed by the United States for enforcing this blockade was stated, in the reports communicated by President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States, to consist of twenty-four vessels of all classes in commission, of which half were in distant seas. The absurdity of the pretension of such a blockade, in the face of the authoritative declaration of the maritime rights of neutrals made at Paris in 1856, was so glaring, that the attempt was regarded as an experiment on the forbearance of neutral powers, which they would promptly resist. This conclusion was justified by the fact that the governments of France and Great Britain determined that it was necessary for their interests to obtain from both belligerents "securities concerning the treatment of neutrals." In the instructions which "confided the negotiations on this matter" to the British Consul at Charleston, he was informed that "the most perfect accord on this question exists between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of the French;" and these instructions were accompanied by a copy of the despatch of the British Foreign Office of the eighteenth May, 1861, stating that there was no difference of opinion between Great Britain and the United States as to the validity of the principles enunciated in the fourth article of the declaration of Paris in reference to blockades. Your predecessors of the provisional Congress had therefore no difficulty in proclaiming, nor I in approving, the resolutions which abandoned in favor of Great Britain and France our right to capture enemy's property when covered by the flags of these powers. The "securities" desired by those governments were understood by us to be required from both belligerents. Neutrals were exposed, on our part, to the exercise of the belligerent right of capturing their vessels when conveying the property of our enemies. They were exposed, on the part of the United States, to interruption in their unquestioned right of trading with us by the declaration of the paper blockade above referred to. We had no reason to doubt the good faith of the proposal made to us, nor to suspect that we were to be the only parties bound by its acceptance. It is true that the instructions of the neutral powers informed their agents that it was "essential, under present circumstances, that they should act with great caution in order to avoid raising the question of the recognition of the new Confederacy," and that the understanding on the subject did not assume, for that rea-

son, the shape of a formal convention. But it was not deemed just by us to decline the arrangement on this ground, as little more than ninety days had then elapsed since the arrival of our Commissioners in Europe, and neutral nations were fairly entitled to a reasonable delay in acting on a subject of so much importance, and which, from their point of view, presented difficulties that we, perhaps, did not fully appreciate. Certain it is that the action of this government on the occasion, and its faithful performance of its own engagements, have been such as to entitle it to expect, on the part of those who sought in their own interests a mutual understanding the most scrupulous adherence to their own promises. I feel constrained to inform you, that in this expectation we have been disappointed, and that, not only have the governments which entered into these arrangements yielded to the prohibition against commerce with us, which has been dictated by the United States, in defiance of the laws of nations, but that this concession of their neutral rights, to our detriment, has, on more than one occasion, been claimed, in intercourse with our enemies, as an evidence of the friendly feeling toward them. A few extracts from the correspondence of Her Majesty's Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, will suffice to show marked encouragement to the United States to persevere in its paper blockade, and unmistakable intimations that Her Majesty's government would not contest its validity.

On the twenty-first of May, 1861, Earl Russell pointed out to the United States Minister in London that "the blockade might no doubt be made effective, considering the small number of harbors on the Southern coast, even though the extent of three thousand miles were comprehended in terms of that blockade."

On the fourteenth of January, 1862, Her Majesty's Minister in Washington communicated to his government that in extenuation of the barbarous attempt to destroy the port of Charleston by sinking a stone-fleet in the harbor, Mr. Seward had explained "that the Government of the United States had, last spring, with a navy very little prepared for so extensive an operation, undertaken to blockade upward of three thousand miles of coast. The Secretary of the Navy had reported that he could stop up the 'large holes' by means of his ships; but that he could not stop up the 'small ones.' It has been found necessary, therefore, to close some of the numerous small inlets by sinking vessels in the channel."

On the sixth of May, 1862, so far from claiming the right of British subjects as neutrals to trade with us as belligerents, and to disregard the blockade on the ground of this explicit confession of our enemy of his inability to render it effective, Her Majesty's Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs claimed credit with the United States for friendly action in respecting it. His Lordship stated that "the United States Government, on the allegation of a rebellion pervad-

ing from nine to eleven States of the Union, have now, for more than twelve months, endeavored to maintain a blockade of three thousand miles of coast. This blockade, kept up irregularly, but when enforced, enforced severely, has seriously injured the trade and manufactures of the United Kingdom. Thousands are now obliged to resort to the poor rates for subsistence, owing to this blockade. Yet Her Majesty's government has never sought to take advantage of the obvious imperfections of this blockade in order to declare it ineffective. They have, to the loss and detriment of the British nation, scrupulously observed the duties of Great Britain toward a friendly state."

Again, on the twenty-second of September, 1862, the same noble Earl asserted that the United States were "very far indeed" from being in "a condition to ask other nations to assume that every port of the coasts of the so-styled confederate States is effectively blockaded."

When, in view of these facts, of the obligations of the British nation to adhere to the pledge made by their government at Paris in 1856, and renewed to this Confederacy in 1861, and of these repeated and explicit avowals of the imperfection, irregularity, and inefficiency of the pretended blockade of our coast, I directed our Commissioner at London to call upon the British government to redeem its promise and to withhold its moral aid and sanction from the flagrant violation of public law committed by our enemies, who were informed that Her Majesty's government could not regard the blockade of the Southern ports as having been otherwise than "practically effective" in February, 1862, and that "the manner in which it has since been enforced gives to neutral governments no excuse for asserting that the blockade has not been effectually maintained." We were further informed, when we insisted that by the terms of agreement no blockade was to be considered effective unless "sufficient really to prevent access to our coast," that the declaration of Paris was, in truth, directed against blockades not sustained by any actual force, or sustained by a notoriously inadequate force, such as the occasional appearance of a man-of-war in the offing, or the like.

It was impossible that this mode of construing an agreement, so as to make the terms mean almost the reverse of what they conveyed, could be considered otherwise than as a notification of the refusal of the British government to remain bound by its agreement, or longer to respect those articles of the declaration of Paris, which had been repeatedly denounced by British statesmen, and had been characterized by Earl Russell as "very imprudent" and "most unsatisfactory."

If any doubt remained of the motives by which the British Ministry have been actuated in their conduct, it would be completely dissipated by the distinct avowals and explanations contained in the public speech recently made by Her Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs. In commenting on the remonstrances of this government against the countenance given to an ineffective

blockade, the following language is used: "It is said we have, contrary to the declarations of Paris, contrary to international law, permitted the blockade of three thousand miles of American coast. It is quite true we did so, and the presumable cause of complaint is quite true, that although the blockade is kept up by a sufficient number of ships, yet these ships were sent into the United States navy in a hurry, and are ill fitted for the purpose, and did not keep up, so completely and effectively as was required, an effective blockade."

This unequivocal confession of violation, both of agreement with us and international law, is defended on grounds the validity of which we submit with confidence to the candid judgment of mankind.

These grounds are thus stated: "Still looking at the law of nations, it was a blockade we as a great belligerent power in former times, should have acknowledged. We, ourselves, had a blockade of upward of two thousand miles, and it did seem to me that we were bound in justice to the Federal States of America to acknowledge that blockade. But there was another reason which weighed with me. Our people were suffering severely for the want of that material which was the main staff of their industry, and it was a question of self-interest whether we should not break the blockade. But in my opinion the men of England would have been for ever infamous if, for the sake of their own interest, they had violated the law of nations and made war in conjunction with these slaveholding States of America against the Federal States."

In the second of these reasons our rights are not involved; although it may be permitted to observe that the conduct of governments has not heretofore, to my knowledge, been guided by the principle that it is infamous to assert their rights whenever the invasion of those rights creates severe suffering among their people and injuriously affects great interests. But the intimation that relations with these States would be discreditable because they are slaveholding, would probably have been omitted if the official personage who has published it to the world had remembered that these States were, when colonies, made slaveholding by the direct exercise of the power of Great Britain, whose dependencies they were, and whose interests in the slave-trade were then supposed to require that her colonies should be made slaveholding.

But the other ground stated is of a very grave character. It asserts that a violation of the law of nations by Great Britain in 1807, when that Government declared a paper blockade of two thousand miles of coast, (a violation then defended by her courts and jurists on the sole ground that her action was retaliatory,) affords a justification for a similar outrage on neutral rights by the United States in 1861, for which no palliation can be suggested; and that Great Britain "is bound, in justice to the Federal States," to make return for the war waged against her by the United States in resistance of her illegal

blockade of 1807, by an acquiescence in the Federal illegal blockade of 1861. The most alarming feature in this statement is its admission of a just claim on the part of the United States to require of Great Britain, during this war, a disregard of the recognized principles of modern public law, and of her own compacts, whenever any questionable conduct of Great Britain "in former times," can be cited as a precedent. It is not inconsistent with respect and admiration for the great people whose Government have given us this warning, to suggest that their history, like that of mankind in general, offers exceptional instances of indefensible conduct "in former times," and we may well deny the morality of violating recent engagements through deference to the evil precedents of the past.

After defending, in the manner just stated, the course of the British government on the subject of the blockade, Her Majesty's Foreign Secretary takes care to leave no doubt of the further purpose of the British government to prevent our purchase of vessels in Great Britain, while supplying our enemies with rifles and other munitions of war, and states the intention to apply to Parliament for the furtherance of this design. He gives to the United States the assurance that he will do in their favor not only "every thing that the law of nations requires, every thing that the present Foreign Enlistment act requires," but that he will ask the sanction of Parliament "to further measures that Her Majesty's ministers may still add." This language is so unmistakably an official exposition of the policy adopted by the British government in relation to our affairs, that the duty imposed on me by the Constitution, of giving you, from time to time, "information of the state of the Confederacy," would not have been performed if I had failed to place it distinctly before you.

I refer you for fuller details on this whole subject to the correspondence of the State Department, which accompanies this Message. The facts which I have briefly narrated are, I trust, sufficient to enable you to appreciate the true nature of the neutrality professed in this war. It is not in my power to apprise you to what extent the government of France shares the views so unreservedly avowed by that of Great Britain, no published correspondence of the French government on the subject having been received. No public protest nor opposition, however, has been made by His Imperial Majesty against the prohibition to trade with us, imposed on French citizens by the paper blockade of the United States, although I have reason to believe that an unsuccessful attempt was made on his part to secure the assent of the British government to a course of action more consonant with the dictates of public law and with the demands of justice toward us.

The partiality of Her Majesty's government in favor of our enemies has been further evinced in the marked difference of its conduct on the subject of the purchase of supplies by the two belligerents. This difference has been conspicuous

since the very commencement of the war. As early as the first May, 1861, the British Minister in Washington was informed by the Secretary of State of the United States that he had sent agents to England, and that others would go to France, to purchase arms, and this fact was communicated to the British Foreign Office, which interposed no objection. Yet, in October of the same year, Earl Russell entertained the complaint of the United States Minister in London, that the confederate States were importing contraband of war from the island of Nassau, directed inquiry into the matter, and obtained a report from the authorities of the island denying the allegations, which report was inclosed to Mr. Adams, and received by him as satisfactory evidence to dissipate suspicion naturally thrown upon the authorities of Nassau by that unwarrantable act." So, too, when the confederate government purchased in Great Britain, as a neutral country, (and with strict observance both of the law of nations and the municipal law of Great Britain,) vessels which were subsequently armed and commissioned as vessels of war, after they had been far removed from British waters, the British government, in violation of its own laws and in defiance to the importunate demands of the United States, made an ineffectual attempt to seize one vessel, and did actually seize and detain another which touched at the island of Nassau, on her way to a confederate port, and subjected her to an unfounded prosecution at the very time when cargoes of munitions of war were being openly shipped from British ports to New-York, to be used in warfare against us. Even now the public journals bring intelligence that the British government has ordered the seizure, in a British port, of two vessels, on the suspicion that they may have been sold to this government, and that they may be hereafter armed and equipped in our service, while British subjects are engaged in Ireland by tens of thousands to proceed to the United States for warfare against the Confederacy, in defiance both of the law of nations and of the express terms of the British statutes, and are transported in British ships, without an effort at concealment, to the ports of the United States, there to be armed with rifles imported from Great Britain, and to be employed against our people in a war for conquest. No royal prerogative is invoked, no executive interference is interposed against this flagrant breach of municipal and international law, on the part of our enemies, while strained constructions are placed on existing statutes, new enactments proposed and questionable expedients devised, for precluding the possibility of purchase, by this government, of vessels that are useless for belligerent purposes, unless hereafter armed and equipped outside of the neutral jurisdiction of Great Britain.

For nearly three years this government has exercised unquestioned jurisdiction over many millions of willing and united people. It has met and defeated vast armies of invaders, who have in vain sought its subversion. Supported

by the confidence and affection of its citizens, the Confederacy has lacked no element which distinguishes an independent nation, according to the principles of public law. Its legislative, executive, and judicial departments, each in its sphere, have performed their appropriate functions with a regularity as undisturbed as in a time of profound peace, and the whole energies of the people have been developed in the organization of vast armies, while their rights and liberties have rested secure under the protection of the courts of justice. This Confederacy is either independent or it is a dependency of the United States, for no other earthly power claims the right to govern it. Without one historic fact on which the pretension can rest, without one line or word of treaty or covenant which can give color to title, the United States having asserted, and the British government has chosen to concede, that these sovereign States are dependencies of the government which is administered at Washington. Great Britain has, accordingly, entertained with that Government the closest and most intimate relations, while refusing on its demand ordinary amicable intercourse with us, and has, under arrangements made with the other nations of Europe, not only denied our just claim of admission into the family of nations, but interposed a passive though effectual bar to the acknowledgment of her rights by other powers. So soon as it had become apparent, by the declarations of the British Minister, in the debates of the British Parliament in July last, that Her Majesty's government was determined to persist indefinitely in a course of policy which, under professions of neutrality, had become subservient to the designs of our enemy, I felt it my duty to recall the commissioners formerly accredited to that court, and the correspondence on the subject is submitted to you.

It is due to you and to our country that this full statement should be made of the just grounds which exist for dissatisfaction with the conduct of the British government. I am well aware that we are unfortunately without adequate remedy for the injustice under which we have suffered at the hands of a powerful nation, at a juncture when our entire resources are absorbed in the defence of our lives, liberties, and independence, against an enemy possessed of greatly superior numbers and material resources. Claiming no favor, desiring no aid, conscious of our own ability to defend our own rights, against the utmost efforts of an infuriate foe, we had thought it not extravagant to expect that assistance would be withheld from our enemies, and that the conduct of foreign nations would be marked by a genuine impartiality between the belligerents. It was not supposed that a professed neutrality would be so conducted as to justify the Foreign Secretary of the British nation in explaining, in correspondence with our enemy, how "the impartial observance of neutral obligations by Her Majesty's government has thus been exceedingly advantageous to the cause of the more powerful of the two contending parties." The British

government may deem this war a favorable occasion for establishing, by the temporary sacrifice of their neutral rights, a precedent which shall justify the future exercise of those extreme belligerent pretensions that their naval power renders so formidable. The opportunity for obtaining the tacit assent of European governments to a line of conduct which ignores the obligations of the declaration of Paris, and treats that instrument rather as a theoretical exposition of principles than a binding agreement, may be considered by the British Ministry as justifying them in seeking a great advantage for their own country at the expense of ours. But we cannot permit, without protest, the assertion that international law or morals regard as "impartial neutrality" conduct avowed to be "exceedingly advantageous" to one of the belligerents.

I have stated that we are without adequate remedy against the injustice under which we suffer. There are but two measures that seem applicable to the present condition of our relations with neutral powers. One is, to imitate the wrong of which we complain, to retaliate by the declaration of a paper blockade of the coast of the United States, and to capture all neutral vessels trading with their ports that our cruisers can intercept on the high seas. This measure I cannot recommend. It is true that, in so doing, we should but follow the precedents set by Great Britain and France in the Berlin and Milan decrees, and the British Orders in Council at the beginning of the present century. But it must be remembered that we, ourselves, protested against those very measures as signal violations of the law of nations, and declared the attempts to excuse them, on the ground of their being retaliatory, utterly insignificant. Those blockades are now quoted by writers on public law as a standing reproach on the good name of the nations who were betrayed by temporary exasperation into wrong-doing, and ought to be regarded rather as errors to be avoided than as examples to be followed.

The other measure is not open to this objection. The second article of the declaration of Paris, which provides "that the neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war," was a new concession by belligerents in favor of neutrals, and not simply the enunciation of an acknowledged preëxisting rule, like the fourth article, which referred to blockades. To this concession we bound ourselves by the convention with Great Britain and France, which took the shape of the resolutions adopted by your predecessors on the thirteenth of August, 1861. The consideration tendered us for that concession has been withheld. We have, therefore, the undeniable right to refuse longer to remain bound by a contract which the other party refuses to fulfil. But we should not forget that war is but temporary, and that we desire that peace should be permanent. The future policy of the Confederacy must ever be to uphold neutral rights to their full extent. The principles of the declaration of Paris commend them-

selves to our judgment as more just, more humane, and more consonant with modern civilization than those belligerent pretensions which great naval powers have heretofore sought to introduce into the maritime code. To forego our undeniable right to the exercise of those pretensions is a policy higher, worthier of us and our cause than to revoke our adhesion to principles that we approve. Let our hope for redress rest rather on a returning sense of justice which cannot fail to awaken a great people to the consciousness that the war in which we are engaged ought rather to be made a reason for forbearance of advantage than an occasion for the unfriendly conduct of which we make just complaint.

The events of the last year have produced important changes in the condition of our Southern neighbor. The occupation of the capital of Mexico by the French army, and the establishment of a provisional government, followed by a radical change in the constitution of the country, have excited lively interest. Although preferring our own government and institutions to those of other countries, we can have no disposition to contest the exercise, by them, of the same right of self-government which we assert for ourselves. If the Mexican people prefer a monarchy to a republic, it is our plain duty to cheerfully acquiesce in their decision, and to evince a sincere and friendly interest in their prosperity. If, however, the Mexicans prefer maintaining their former institutions, we have no reason to apprehend any obstacle to the free exercise of their choice. The Emperor of the French has solemnly disclaimed any purpose to impose on Mexico a form of government not acceptable to the nation; and the eminent personage to whom the throne has been tendered declines its acceptance, unless the offer be sanctioned by the suffrages of the people. In either event, therefore, we may confidently expect the continuance of those peaceful relations which have been maintained on the frontier, and even a large development of the commerce already existing to the mutual advantage of the two countries.

It has been found necessary, since your adjournment, to take action on the subject of certain foreign consuls within the Confederacy. The nature of this action, and the reasons on which it was based, are so fully exhibited in the correspondence of the State department, which is transmitted to you, that no additional comment is required.

In connection with this subject of our relations with foreign countries, it is deemed opportune to communicate my views in reference to the treaties made by the Government of the United States at a date anterior to our separation, and which were consequently binding on us as well as on foreign powers, when the separation took effect. It was partly with a view to entering into such arrangements as the change in our government had made necessary, that we felt it our duty to send commissioners abroad, for the purpose of entering into the negotiations proper

to fix the relative rights and obligations of the parties to those treaties. As this tender on our part has been declined, as foreign nations have refused us the benefit of the treaties to which we were parties, they certainly have ceased to be binding on us; and, in my opinion, our relations with European nations are, therefore, now controlled exclusively by the general rules of the law of nations. It is proper to add, that these remarks are intended to apply solely to treaty obligations toward foreign governments, and have no reference to rights of individuals.

FINANCES.

The state of the public finances is such as to demand your earliest and most earnest attention. I need hardly say that a prompt and efficacious remedy for the present condition of the currency is necessary to the successful performance of the functions of government. Fortunately, the resources of our country are so ample, and the spirit of the people so devoted to its cause, that they are ready to make any necessary contribution. Relief is thus entirely within our reach, if we have the wisdom to legislate in such manner as to render available the means at our disposal.

At the commencement of the war, we were far from anticipating the magnitude and duration of the struggle in which we were engaged. The most sagacious foresight could not have predicted that the passions of the Northern people would lead them blindly to the sacrifice of life, treasure, and liberty, in so vain a hope as that of subjugating thirteen independent States, inhabited by many millions of people, whose birth-right of freedom is dearer to them than life. A long exemption from direct taxation by the general government had created an aversion to its raising revenue by any other means than by duties on imports, and it was supposed that these duties would be ample for current peace expenditures, while the means for conducting the war could be raised almost exclusively by the use of the public credit.

The first action of the provisional Congress was therefore confined to passing a tariff law, and to raising a sum of fifteen millions of dollars by loan, with a pledge of a small export duty on cotton, to provide for the redemption of the debt.

At its second session, war was declared to exist between the Confederacy and the United States, and provision was made for the issue of twenty millions of dollars in treasury notes, and for borrowing thirty millions of dollars on bonds. The tariff was revised, and preparatory measures taken to enable the Congress to levy internal taxation at its succeeding session. These laws were passed in May, and the States of Virginia, North-Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas, having joined the Confederacy, the Congress adjourned to meet in the city of Richmond in the following month of July.

Prior to the assembling of your predecessors in Richmond, at their third session, near the end

of July, 1861, the President of the United States had developed, in his message, the purpose "to make the contest a short and decisive one," and had called on Congress for four hundred thousand men, and four hundred millions of dollars. The Congress had exceeded the Executive recommendation, and had authorized the levy of half a million of volunteers, besides largely increasing the regular land and naval forces of the United States. The necessity thus first became urgent that a financial scheme should be devised on a basis sufficiently large for the vast proportions of the contest with which we were threatened. Knowing that the struggle, instead of being "short and decisive," would be indefinite in duration, and could only end when the United States should awaken from their delusion of conquest, a permanent system was required, fully adapted to the great exigencies before us.

The plan devised by Congress, at that time, was based on the theory of issuing treasury notes, convertible, at the pleasure of the holder, into eight per cent bonds, the interest of which was to be payable in coin; and it was correctly assumed that any tendency to depreciation that might arise from over-issue of the currency would be checked by the constant exercise of the holder's right to fund the notes at a liberal interest, payable in specie. This system depended for success on the continued ability of government to pay the interest in specie; and means were, therefore, provided for that purpose in the law authorizing the issues. An internal tax, termed a war-tax, was levied, the proceeds of which, together with the revenue from imports, were deemed sufficient for the object designed. This scheme required, for its operation, that our commerce with foreign nations should not be suspended. It was not to be anticipated that such suspension would be permitted otherwise than by an effective blockade; and it was absurd to suppose that a blockade "sufficient really to prevent access" to our entire coast, could be maintained.

We had the means, therefore, (if neutral nations had not combined to aid our enemies by the sanction of an illegal prohibition on their commerce,) to secure the receipt into the treasury of coin sufficient to pay the interest on the bonds, and thus maintain the treasury notes at rates nearly equal to par in specie. So long as the interest continued to be thus paid with the reserve of coin preëxisting in our country, experience sustained the expectations of those who devised the system. Thus on the first of the following December, coin had only reached a premium of about twenty per cent, although it had already become apparent that the commerce of the country was threatened with permanent suspension by reason of the conduct of neutral nations, and that the necessary result must be the exhaustion of our specie reserve. Wheat, in the beginning of the year 1862, was selling at one dollar and thirty cents per bushel, not exceeding, therefore, its average price in time of peace. The other agricultural products of the country were

at similar moderate rates, thus indicating that there was no excess of circulation, and that the rate of premium on specie was heightened by the exceptional causes which tended to its exhaustion without the possibility of renewing the supply.

This review of the policy of your predecessors is given in justice to them, and it exhibits the condition of the finances at the date when the permanent government was organized.

In the mean time the popular aversion of internal taxation by the general government had influenced the legislation of the several States, and in only three of them—South-Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas—were the taxes actually collected from the people. The quota devolving upon the remaining States had been raised by the issue of bonds and State treasury notes, and the public debt of the country was thus actually increased instead of being diminished by the taxation imposed by Congress.

Neither at the first nor second session of the present Congress were means provided by taxation for maintaining the government, the legislation being confined to authorizing further sales of bonds and issues of treasury notes. Although repeated efforts were made to frame a proper system of taxation, you were confronted with an obstacle which did not exist for your predecessors, and which created grave embarrassment in devising any scheme of taxation. About two thirds of the entire taxable property of the confederate States consists of lands and slaves. The general power of taxation vested in Congress by the Provisional Constitution (which was to be only temporary in its operation) was not restricted by any other condition than that "all duties, imports, and excises should be uniform throughout the States of the Confederacy." But the permanent Constitution sanctioning the principle that taxation and representation ought to rest on the same basis, specially provides that "representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons—including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed—three fifths of all slaves."

It was further ordered that a census should be made within three years after the first meeting of Congress, and that "no capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken."

It is plain that, under the provisions, capitation and direct taxes must be levied in proportion to the census when made. It is also plain that the duty is imposed on Congress to provide for making a census prior to the twenty-second of February, 1865. It may further be stated that, according to the received construction of the Constitution of the United States, (a construction acquiesced in for upward of sixty years,) taxes on lands and slaves are direct taxes, and the conclusion seems necessarily to be that, in repealing without modification, in our Constitu-

tion, the language of the Constitution of 1787, our convention intended to attach to it the meaning which had been sanctioned by long and uninterrupted acquiescence.

So long as there seemed to be a probability of being able to carry out these provisions of the Constitution in their entirety, and in conformity with the intentions of its authors, there was an obvious difficulty in framing any system of taxation. A law which should exempt from the burden two thirds of the property of the country would be so unfair to the owners of the remaining third as it would be inadequate to meet the requirements of the public service.

The urgency of the need was such, however, that, after great embarrassment, and more than three months of assiduous labor, you succeeded in framing the law of the twenty-fourth April, 1863, by which you sought to reach, so far as was practicable, every resource of the country, except the capital invested in real estate and slaves, and by means of an income-tax and a tax in kind on the product of the soil, as well as by license on business occupations and professions, to command resources sufficient for the wants of the country. But a very large proportion of these resources could only be made available at the close of the present and the commencement of the ensuing year, while the intervening exigencies permitted no delay. In this state of affairs, superinduced almost unavoidably by the fortunes of the war in which we are engaged, the issues of treasury notes have been increased until the currency in circulation amounts to more than six hundred millions of dollars, or more than threefold the amount required by the business of the country.

I need not enlarge upon the evil effects of this condition of things. They are unfortunately but too apparent. In addition to the difficulty presented to the necessary operations of the government, and the efficient conduct of the war, the most deplorable of all its results is undoubtedly its corrupting influence on the morals of the people. The possession of large amounts of treasury notes has naturally led to a desire for investment, and with a constantly increasing volume of currency there has been an equally constant increase of price in all objects of investment. This effect has stimulated purchase by the apparent certainty of profit, and a spirit of speculation has thus been fostered, which has so debasing an influence and such ruinous consequences, that it is our highest duty to remove the cause, and no measures directed to that end can be too prompt or too stringent.

Reverting to the constitutional provisions already cited, the question recurs whether it be possible to execute the duty of apportioning in accordance with the census ordered to be made as a basis. So long as this appeared to be practicable, none can deny the propriety of your course in abstaining from the imposition of direct taxes till you could exercise the power in the precise mode pointed out by the terms of the fundamental law. But it is obvious that there

are many duties imposed by the Constitution which depend for their fulfilment on the undisturbed possession of the territory within which they are to be performed. The same instrument which orders a census to be made in all the States imposes the duty on the Confederacy "to guarantee to every State a republican form of government." It enjoins on us "to protect each State from invasion," and while declaring that its great objects and purposes are, "to establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," it confers the means and thereby imposes on us the paramount duty of effecting its intent, by "laying and collecting taxes, duties, imposts, and excises necessary to pay the debts, provide for the common defence, and carry on the government of the confederate States."

None would pretend that the Constitution is violated because, by reason of the presence of hostile armies, we are unable to guarantee a republican form of government to those States or portions of States now temporarily held by the enemy, and as little justice would there be in imputing blame for the failure to make the census, when that failure is attributable to causes not foreseen by the authors of the Constitution, and beyond our control. The general intent of our constitutional charter is unquestionably that the property of the country is to be taxed in order to raise revenue for the common defence, and the special mode provided for levying this tax is impracticable from unforeseen causes. It is, in my judgment, our primary duty to execute the general intent expressed by the terms of the instrument which we have sworn to obey, and we cannot excuse ourselves for the failure to fulfil this obligation on the ground that we are unable to perform it in the precise mode pointed out. Whenever it shall be possible to execute our duty in all its parts, we must do so in exact compliance with the whole letter and spirit of the Constitution. Until that period shall arrive, we must execute so much of it as our condition renders practicable. Whenever the withdrawal of the enemy shall place it in our power to make a census and apportionment of direct taxes, any other mode of levying them will be contrary to the will of the lawgiver, and incompatible with our obligation to obey that will; until that period the alternative left is to obey the paramount precept, and to execute it according to the only other rule provided, which is to "make the tax uniform throughout the confederate States."

The considerations just presented are greatly enforced by the reflection that any attempt to apportion taxes among States, some of which are wholly or partially in the occupation of hostile forces, would subvert the whole intention of the framers of the Constitution, and be productive of the most revolting injustice, instead of that just correlation between taxation and representation which it was their purpose to secure. With large portions of some of the States occupied by the enemy, what justice

would there be in imposing on the remainder the whole amount of the taxation of the entire State in proportion to its representation? What else would this be in effect than to increase the burthen of those who are the heaviest sufferers by the war, and to make our own inability to protect them from invasion, as we are required to do by the Constitution, the ground for adding to their losses by an attempted adherence to the letter, in violation of the spirit of that instrument? No such purpose could have been entertained, and no such result contemplated by the framers of the Constitution. It may add weight to these considerations, if we reflect that, although the Constitution provided that it should go into operation with a representation temporarily distributed among the States, it expressly ordains, after providing for a census within three years, that this temporary distribution of representative power is to endure "until such enumeration shall be made." Would any one argue that, because the census cannot be made within the fixed period, the government must, at the expiration of that period, perish for want of a representative body? In any aspect in which the subject can be viewed, I am led to the conclusion already announced, and which is understood to be in accordance with a vote taken in one or both houses at our last session. I shall, therefore, until we are able to pursue the precise mode required by the Constitution, deem it my duty to approve any law levying the taxation which you are bound to impose for the defence of the country, in any other practicable mode which shall distribute the burthen uniformly and impartially on the whole property of the people.

In your former legislation you have sought to avoid the increase in the volume of notes in circulation by offering inducements to voluntary funding. The measures adopted for that purpose have been but partially successful, and the evil has now reached such a magnitude as to permit no other remedy than the compulsory reduction of the currency to the amount required by the business of the country. This reduction should be accompanied by a pledge that, under no stress of circumstances, will that amount be exceeded. No possible mode of using the credit of the government can be so disastrous as one which disturbs the basis of all exchanges, renders impossible all calculations of future values, augments, in constantly increasing proportions, the price of all commodities, and so depreciates all fixed wages, salaries, and incomes, as to render them inadequate to bare subsistence. If to these be added the still more fatal influence on the morals and character of the people, to which I have already adverted, I am persuaded you will concur in the conclusion that an inflexible adherence to a limitation of the currency to a fixed sum is an indispensable element of any system of finance now to be adopted.

The holders of the currency now outstanding can only be protected in the recovery of their just claims by substituting for their notes some

other security. If the currency is not greatly and promptly reduced, the present scale of inflated prices will not only continue to exist, but by the very fact of the large amounts thus made requisite in the conduct of the war, those prices will reach rates still more extravagant, and the whole system will fall under its own weight, thus rendering the redemption of the debt impossible, and destroying its whole value in the hands of the holder. If, on the contrary, a funded debt, with interest secured by adequate taxation, can be substituted for the outstanding currency, its entire amount will be made available to the holder, and the government will be in a condition enabling it, beyond the reach of any probable contingency, to prosecute the war to a successful issue. It is, therefore, demanded, as well by the interest of the creditor as of the country at large, that the evidences of the public debt now outstanding, in the shape of treasury notes, be converted into bonds bearing adequate interest, with a provision for taxation sufficient to insure punctual payment, and final redemption of the whole debt.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury presents the outlines of a system which, in conjunction with existing legislation, is intended to secure the several objects of a reduction of the circulation within fixed reasonable limits; of providing for the future wants of the government; of furnishing security for the punctual payment of interest and final extinction of the principal of the public debt; and of placing the whole business of the country on a basis as near a specie standard as is possible during the continuance of the war. I earnestly recommend it to your consideration, and that no delay be permitted to intervene before your action on this vital subject. I trust that it will be suffered to engross your attention until you shall have disposed of it in the manner best adapted to attain the important results which your country anticipate from your legislation.

It may be added that, in considering this subject, the people ought steadily to keep in view that the government, in contracting debt, is but their agent; that its debt is their debt. As the currency is held exclusively by ourselves, it is obvious that, if each person held treasury notes in exact proportion to the value of his whole means, each would in fact owe himself the amount of the notes held by him, and, were it possible to distribute the currency among the people in this exact proportion, a tax levied on the currency alone, to an amount sufficient to reduce it to proper limits, would afford the best of all remedies. Under such circumstances, the notes remaining in the hands of each holder, after the payment of his tax, would be worth quite as much as the whole sum previously held, for it would purchase at least an equal amount of commodities. The result cannot be perfectly attained by any device of legislation, but it can be approximated by taxation. A tax on all values has, for its effect, not only to impose a due share

of the burden on the note-holder, but to force those who have few or none of the notes to part with a share of their possessions to those who hold the notes in excess, in order to obtain the means of satisfying the demands of the tax-gatherer. This is the only mode by which it is practicable to make all contribute as equally as possible in the burden which all are bound to share, and it is for this reason that taxation adequate to the public exigencies, under our present circumstances, must be the basis of any funding system or other remedy for restoring stability to our finances.

THE ARMY.

To the report of the Secretary of War you are referred for details relative to the condition of the army and the measures of legislation required for maintaining its efficiency, recruiting its numbers, and furnishing the supplies necessary for its support.

Though we have lost many of the best of our soldiers and most patriotic of our citizens—the sad and unavoidable result of the battles and toils of such a campaign as that which will render the year 1863 ever memorable in our annals—the army is believed to be, in all respects, in better condition than at any previous period of the war. Our gallant defenders, now veterans, familiar with danger, hardened by exposure, and confident in themselves and their officers, endure privations with cheerful fortitude and welcome battle with alacrity. The officers, by experience in field-service and the action of examining boards in relieving the incompetent, are now greatly more efficient than at the commencement of the war. The assertion is believed to be fully justified, that, regarded as a whole, for character, valor, efficiency, and patriotic devotion, our army has not been equalled by any like number in the history of the war.

In view of the large conscription recently ordered by the enemy, and their subsequent call for volunteers, to be followed, if effectual, by a still further draft, we are admonished that no effort must be spared to add largely to our effective force as promptly as possible. The sources of supply are to be found by restoring to the army all those who are improperly absent, putting an end to substitution, modifying the exemption law, restricting details, and placing in the ranks such of the able-bodied men now employed as wagoners, nurses, cooks, and other employés, as are doing service for which the negroes may be found competent.

The act of the sixteenth of April, 1862, provides: "That persons not liable for duty may be received as substitutes for those who are, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War." The policy of granting this privilege has not been sustained by experience. Not only has the numerical strength of the army been seriously impaired by the frequent desertions for which substitutes have become notorious, but dissatisfaction has been excited among

those who have been unable or unwilling to avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of avoiding the military service of their country.

I fully concur in the opinion expressed by the Secretary, that there is no ground for the objection that a new provision, to include those who furnished substitutes under the former call, would be a breach of contract. To accept a substitute was to confer a privilege, not to enter into a contract; and whenever the substitute is rendered liable to conscription, it would seem to follow that the principal, whose place he had taken, should respond for him, as the government had received no consideration for his exemption. Where, however, the new provision of law would fail to embrace a substitute now in the ranks, there appears, if the principal should again be conscripted, to be an equitable ground for compensation to the conscript, who then would have added to the service a soldier not otherwise liable to enrolment.

On the subject of exemption, it is believed that abuses cannot be checked unless the system is placed on a basis entirely different from that now provided by law. The object of your legislation has been, not to confer privileges on classes, but to exonerate from military duty such number of persons skilled in the various trades, professions, and mechanical pursuits, as could render more valuable service to their country by laboring in their present occupation than by going into the ranks of the army. The policy is unquestionable, but the result would, it is thought, be better obtained by enrolling all such persons, and allowing details to be made of the number necessary to meet the wants of the country. Considerable numbers are believed to be now exempted from the military service who are not needful to the public in their civil vocations.

Certain duties are now performed throughout the country by details from the army, which could be as well executed by persons above the present conscript age. An extension of the limit, so as to embrace persons over forty-five years of age, and physically fit for service, in guarding posts, railroads, and bridges, in apprehending deserters, and, where practicable, assuming the place of younger men detailed for duty with the nitre, ordnance, commissary, and quartermasters' bureaus of the War Department, would, it is hoped, add largely to the effective force in the field, without an undue burthen on the population.

If to the above measures be added a law to enlarge the policy of the act of twenty-first April, 1862, so as to enable the department to replace not only enlisted cooks, but wagoners and other employes in the army, by negroes, it is hoped that the ranks of the army will be so strengthened for the ensuing campaign as to put at defiance the utmost efforts of the enemy.

In order to maintain, unimpaired, the existing organization of the army until the close of the war, your legislation contemplated a frequent supply of recruits, and it was expected that before the expiration of the three years for which

the men were enrolled, under act of sixteenth April, 1862, the majority of men in each company would consist of those who joined it at different dates, subsequent to the original muster of the company into service, and that the discharge of those who had completed their term would at no time be sufficient to leave the company with a less number than is required to enable it to retain its organization. The difficulty of obtaining recruits from certain localities, and the large number of exemptions from military service granted by different laws, have prevented sufficient accessions in many of the companies to preserve their organizations after the discharge of the original members. The advantage of retaining tried and well-approved officers, and of mingling recruits with experienced soldiers, is so obvious, and the policy of such a course is so clearly indicated, that it is not deemed necessary to point out the evil consequences which would result from the destruction of the old organizations, or to dwell upon the benefits to be secured from filling up the veteran companies as long before the discharge of the early members as may be possible. In the cases where it may be found impracticable to maintain regiments in sufficient strength to justify the retention of the present organization, economy and efficiency would be promoted by consolidation and reorganization. This would involve the necessity of disbanding a part of the officers, and making regulations for securing the most judicious selection of those who are retained, while least wounding the feelings of those who are discharged.

Experience has shown the necessity of further legislation in relation to the horses of the cavalry. Many men lose their horses by casualties of service, which are not included in the provisions made to compensate the owner for the loss, and it may thus not unfrequently happen that the most efficient troopers, without fault of their own, indeed it may be because of their zeal and activity, are lost to the cavalry service.

It would also seem proper that the government should have complete control over every horse mustered into the service, with the limitation that the owner should not be deprived of his horse except upon due compensation being made therefor. Otherwise, mounted men may not keep horses fit for the service; and the question whether they should serve mounted or on foot would depend, not upon the qualifications of the men, but upon the fact of their having horses.

Some provision is deemed requisite to correct the evils arising from the long-continued absence of commissioned officers. Where it is without sufficient cause, it would seem but just that the commission should be thereby vacated.

Where it results from capture by the enemy, which, under their barbarous refusal to exchange prisoners of war, may be regarded as absence for an indefinite time, there is a necessity to supply their places in their respective commands. This might be done by temporary appointments,

to endure only until the return of the officers regularly commissioned. Where it results from permanent disability incurred in the line of their duty, it would be proper to retire them, and fill the vacancies according to established mode. I would also suggest the organization of an invalid corps, and that the retired officers be transferred to it. Such a corps, it is thought, could be made useful in various employments for which efficient officers and troops are now detached.

An organization of the general staff of the army would be highly conducive to the efficiency of that most important branch of the service. The plan adopted for the military establishment furnishes a model for the staff of the provisional army, if it be deemed advisable to retain the distinction; but I recommend to your consideration the propriety of abolishing it, and providing for the organization of the several staff corps in such number and with such rank as will meet all the wants of the service. To secure the requisite ability for the more important positions, it will be necessary to provide for officers of higher rank than is now authorized for these corps. To give to the officers the proper relation and co-intelligence in their respective corps, and to preserve in the chief of each useful influence and control over his subordinates, there should be no gradation on the basis of the rank of the general with whom they might be serving by appointment. To the personal staff of a general it would seem proper to give a grade corresponding with his rank, and the number might be fixed to correspond with his command. To avoid the consequence of discharge upon a change of duty, the variable portion of the personal staff might be taken from the line of the army, and allowed to retain their line commissions.

The disordered condition of the currency, to which I have already alluded, has imposed on government a system of supplying the wants of the army, which is so unequal in its operation, vexatious to the producer, injurious to the industrial interest, and productive of such discontent among the people, as only to be justified by the existence of an absolute necessity. The report of the Secretary on this point establishes conclusively, that the necessity which has forced the Bureau of Supply to provide for the army by impressment, has resulted from the impossibility of purchase by contract, or in the open market, except at such rapidly increased rates as would have rendered the appropriations inadequate to the wants of the army. Indeed, it is believed that the temptation to hoard supplies for the higher prices which could be anticipated with certainty, has been checked mainly by the fear of the operation of the impressment law; and that commodities have been offered in the markets, principally to escape impressment, and obtain higher rates than those fixed by appraisal. The complaints against this vicious system have been well founded, but the true cause of the evil has been misapprehended. The remedy is to be found, not in a change of the

impressment law, but the restoration of the currency to such a basis as will enable the department to purchase necessary supplies in the open market, and thus render impressment a rare and exceptionable process.

The same remedy will effect the result, universally desired, of an augmentation of the pay of the army. The proposals made at your previous sessions to increase the pay of the soldier by additional amount of treasury notes, would have conferred little benefit on him; but a radical reform in the currency will restore the pay to a value approximating that which it originally had, and materially improve his condition.

The reports from the ordnance and mining bureaus are very gratifying, and the extension of our means of supply of arms and munitions of war from our home resources has been such as to insure our ability soon to become mainly, if not entirely, independent of supplies from foreign countries. The establishments for the casting of guns and projectiles, for the manufacture of small arms and of gunpowder, for the supply of nitre from artificial nitre-beds, and mining operations generally, have been so distributed through the country as to place our resources beyond the reach of partial disasters.

The recommendations of the Secretary of War on other points are minutely detailed in his report, which is submitted to you, and extending as they do to almost every branch of the service, merit careful consideration.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

I regret to inform you that the enemy have returned to the barbarous policy with which they inaugurated the war, and that the exchange of prisoners has been for some time suspended. The correspondence of the Commissioners of Exchange is submitted to you by the Secretary of War, and it has already been published for the information of all now suffering useless imprisonment. The conduct of the authorities of the United States has been consistently perfidious on this subject. An agreement for exchange, in the incipency of the war, had just been concluded, when the fall of Fort Donelson reversed the previous state of things, and gave them an excess of prisoners. The agreement was immediately repudiated by them, and so remained till the fortune of war again placed us in possession of the larger number. A new cartel was then made, and under it, for many months, we restored to them many thousands of prisoners in excess of those whom they held for exchange, and encampments of the surplus paroled prisoners delivered up by us were established in the United States, where the men were enabled to receive the comforts and solace of constant communication with their homes and families. In July last, the fortune of war again favored the enemy, and they were enabled to exchange for duty the men previously delivered to them, against those captured and paroled at Vicksburgh and Port Hudson. The prisoners taken at Gettysburgh, however, remained in their hands, and should have been

returned to our lines on parole, to await exchange. Instead of executing a duty imposed by the plainest dictates of justice and good faith, pretexts were instantly sought for holding them in permanent captivity. General orders rapidly succeeded each other from the bureau at Washington, placing new constructions on an agreement which had given rise to no dispute while we retained the advantage in the number of prisoners. With a disregard of honorable obligations, almost unexampled, the enemy did not hesitate, in addition to retaining the prisoners captured by them, to declare null the paroles given by the prisoners captured by us the same series of engagements, and liberated on condition of not again serving until exchanged. They have since openly insisted on treating the paroles given by their own soldiers as invalid, and those of our soldiers, given under precisely similar circumstances, as binding. A succession of similar unjust pretensions has been set up in a correspondence tediously prolonged, and every device employed to cover the disregard of an obligation which, between belligerent nations, is only to be enforced by a sense of honor.

No farther comment is needed on this subject; but it may be permitted to direct your special attention to the close of the correspondence submitted to you, from which you will perceive that the final proposal made by the enemy, in settlement of all disputes under the cartel, is, that we should liberate all prisoners held by us, without the offer to release from captivity any of those held by them.

In the mean time a systematic and concerted effort has been made to quiet the complaints in the United States of those relatives and friends of the prisoners in our hands who are unable to understand why the cartel is not executed in their favor, by the groundless assertion that we are the parties who refuse compliance. Attempts are also made to shield themselves from the execration excited by their own odious treatment of our officers and soldiers now captive in their hands, by misstatements, such as that the prisoners held by us are deprived of food. To this last accusation the conclusive answer has been made that, in accordance with our law and the general orders of the department, the rations of the prisoners are precisely the same, in quantity and quality, as those served out to our own gallant soldiers in the field, and which have been found sufficient to support them in their arduous campaigns, while it is not pretended by the enemy that they treat prisoners by the same generous rule. By an indulgence, perhaps unprecedented, we have even allowed the prisoners in our hands to be supplied by their friends at home with comforts not enjoyed by the men who captured them in battle. In contrast to this treatment, the most revolting inhumanity has characterized the conduct of the United States toward prisoners held by them. One prominent fact, which admits no denial or palliation, must suffice as a test. The officers of our army, natives of Southern and semi-tropical climates, and

unprepared for the cold of a Northern winter, have been conveyed, for imprisonment, during the rigors of the present season, to the most northern and exposed situation that could be selected by the enemy. There, beyond the reach of comforts, and often even of news from home and family, exposed to the piercing cold of northern lakes, they are held by men who cannot be ignorant of, even if they do not design, the probable result. How many of our unfortunate friends and comrades, who have passed unscathed through numerous battles, will perish on Johnson's Island, under the cruel trial to which they are subjected, none but the Omniscient can foretell. That they will endure this barbarous treatment with the same stern fortitude that they have ever evinced in their country's service, we cannot doubt. But who can be found to believe the assertion that it is our refusal to execute the cartel, and not the malignity of the foe, which has caused the infliction of such intolerable cruelty on our own loved and honored defenders?

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT.

Regular and punctual communication with the Trans-Mississippi is so obstructed as to render difficult a compliance with much of the legislation vesting authority in the executive branch of the government. To supply vacancies in offices; to exercise discretion on certain matters connected with the military organizations; to control the distribution of the funds collected from taxation or remitted from the Treasury; to carry on the operations of the Post-Office department, and other like duties, require, under the Constitution and existing laws, the action of the President and heads of departments. The necessities of the military service frequently forbid delay, and some legislation is required, providing for the exercise of temporary authority, until regular action can be had at the seat of government. I would suggest, especially in the Post-Office department, that an assistant be provided in the States beyond the Mississippi, with authority in the head of that department to vest in his assistant all such powers now exercised by the Postmaster-General as may be requisite for provisional control of the funds of the department of these States, and their application to the payment of mail contractors, for superintendence of the local post-offices, and the contracts for carrying the mail; for the temporary employment of proper persons to fulfil the duties of postmasters and contractors in urgent cases, until appointments can be made, and for other like purposes. Without some legislative provision on the subject, there is serious risk of the destruction of the mail service by reason of the delays and hardships suffered by contractors under the present system, which requires constant reference to Richmond on their accounts, as well as the returns of the local paymasters, before they can receive payment for services rendered. Like provision is also necessary in the Treasury department; while, for military affairs, it would seem to be sufficient to authorize the President

and Secretary of War to delegate to the commanding general so much of the discretionary power vested in them by law as the exigencies of the service shall require.

THE NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy gives in detail the operations of that department since January last, embracing information of the disposition and employment of the vessels, officers, and men, and the construction of vessels at Richmond, Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, Selma, and on the rivers Roanoke, Neuse, Pedee, Chattahoochee, and Tombigbee; the accumulation of ship-timber and supplies; and the manufacture of ordnance, ordnance stores, and equipments. The foundries and workshops have been greatly improved, and their capacity to supply all demands for heavy ordnance for coast and harbor defences is only limited by our deficiency in the requisite skilled labor. The want of such labor and of seamen seriously affects the operations of the department.

The skill, courage, and activity of our cruisers at sea cannot be too highly commended. They have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, without suffering a single disaster, and have seriously damaged the shipping interests of the United States by compelling their foreign commerce to seek the protection of neutral flags.

Your attention is invited to the suggestions of the report on the subject of supplying seamen for the service, and of the provisions of the law in relation to the volunteer navy.

THE POST-OFFICE.

The Postmaster-General reports the receipts of that department for the fiscal year ending the thirtieth June last, to have been three million three hundred and thirty-seven thousand eight hundred and fifty-three dollars and one cent, and the expenditures for the same period two million six hundred and sixty-two thousand eight hundred and four dollars and sixty-seven cents. The statement thus exhibits an excess of receipts amounting to six hundred and seventy-five thousand forty-eight dollars and forty-four cents, instead of a deficiency of more than a million of dollars, as was the case in the preceding fiscal year. It is gratifying to perceive that the department has thus been made self-sustaining, in accordance with sound principle, and with the express requirements of the Constitution, that its expenses should be paid out of its own revenues after the first March, 1863.

The report gives a full and satisfactory account of the operations of the Post-Office department for the last year, and explains the measures adopted for giving more certainty and regularity to the service in the States beyond the Mississippi, and on which reliance is placed for obviating the difficulties heretofore encountered in that service.

The settlement of the accounts of the department is greatly delayed by reason of the inability of the First Auditor to perform all the duties

now imposed on him by law. The accounts of the departments of State, of the Treasury, of the Navy, and of Justice, are all supervised by that officer, and more than suffice to occupy his whole time. The necessity for a Third Auditor, to examine and settle the accounts of a department so extensive as that of the Post Office, appears urgent, and his recommendation on that subject meets my concurrence.

CONDUCT OF THE ENEMY.

I cannot close this message without again adverting to the savage ferocity which still marks the conduct of the enemy in the prosecution of the war. After their repulse from the defences before Charleston, they first sought revenge by an abortive attempt to destroy the city with an incendiary composition, thrown by improved artillery from a distance of four miles. Failing in this, they changed their missiles, but fortunately have thus far succeeded only in killing two women in the city. Their commanders, Butler, McNeil, and Turchin, whose horrible barbarities have made their names widely notorious and everywhere execrable, are still honored and cherished by the authorities at Washington. The first-named, after having been withdrawn from the scenes of his cruelties against women and prisoners of war, (in reluctant concession to the demands of outraged humanity in Europe,) has just been put in a new command at Norfolk, where helpless women and children are again placed at his mercy.

Nor has less unrelenting warfare been waged by these pretended friends of human rights and liberties against the unfortunate negroes. Wherever the enemy have been able to gain access, they have forced into the ranks of their army every able-bodied man that they could seize, and have either left the aged, the women, and the children to perish by starvation, or have gathered them into camps, where they have been wasted by a frightful mortality. Without clothing or shelter, often without food, incapable, without supervision, of taking the most ordinary precaution against disease, these helpless dependents, accustomed to have their wants supplied by the foresight of their masters, are being rapidly exterminated wherever brought in contact with the invaders. By the Northern man, on whose deep-rooted prejudices no kindly restraining influence is exercised, they are treated with aversion and neglect. There is little hazard in predicting that, in all localities where the enemy have gained a temporary foothold, the negroes, who under our care increased six fold in number since their importation into the colonies of Great Britain, will have been reduced by mortality during the war to not more than one half their previous number.

Information on this subject is derived not only from our own observation and from the reports of the negroes who succeeded in escaping from the enemy, but full confirmation is afforded by statements published in the Northern journals, by humane persons engaged in making appeals

to the charitable for aid in preventing the ravages of disease, exposure, and starvation among the negro women and children who are crowded into encampments.

The frontier of our country bears witness to the alacrity and efficiency with which the general orders of the enemy have been executed in the devastation of the farms, the destruction of the agricultural implements, the burning of the houses, and the plunder of every thing movable. Its whole aspect is a comment on the ethics of the general order issued by the United States on the twenty-fourth of April, 1863, comprising "instructions for the government of armies of the United States in the field," and of which the following is an example :

"Military necessity admits of all direct destruction of life or limb of armed enemies, and of other persons whose destruction is incidentally unavoidable in the armed contests of the war ; it allows of the capturing of every armed enemy, and of every enemy of importance to the hostile government, or of peculiar danger to the captor ; it allows of all destruction of property and obstructions of the ways and channels of traffic, travel, or communication, and of all withholding of sustenance or means of life from the enemy ; of the appropriation of whatever an enemy's country affords necessary for the subsistence and safety of the army, and of such deception as does not involve the breaking of good faith, either positively pledged regarding agreements entered into during the war, or supposed by the modern law of war to exist. Men who take up arms against one another in public war do not cease on this account to be moral beings, responsible to one another and to God."

The striking contrast to these teachings and practices, presented by our army when invading Pennsylvania, illustrates the moral character of our people. Though their forbearance may have been unmerited and unappreciated by the enemy, it was imposed by their own self-respect, which forbade their degenerating from Christian warriors into plundering ruffians, assailing the property, lives, and honor of helpless non-combatants. If their conduct, when thus contrasted with the inhuman practices of our foe, fail to command the respect and sympathy of civilized nations in our day, it cannot fail to be recognized by their less deceived posterity.

The hope last year entertained of an early termination of the war has not been realized. Could carnage have satisfied the appetite of our enemy for the destruction of human life, or grief have appeased their wanton desire to inflict human suffering, there has been bloodshed enough on both sides, and two lands have been sufficiently darkened by the weeds of mourning to induce a disposition for peace.

If unanimity in a people could dispel delusion, it has been displayed too unmistakably not to have silenced the pretence that the Southern States were merely disturbed by a factious insurrection, and it must long since have been admitted that they were but exercising their re-

served right to modify their own government in such manner as would best secure their own happiness. But these considerations have been powerless to allay the unchristian hate of those who, accustomed to draw large profits from a union with us, cannot control the rage excited by the conviction that they have, by their own folly, destroyed the richest source of their prosperity. They refuse even to listen to proposals for the only peace possible between us—a peace which, recognizing the impassable, and which divides us, may leave the two people separately to recover from the injuries inflicted on both by the causeless war now waged against us. Having begun the war in direct violation of their Constitution, which forbade the attempt to coerce a State, they have been hardened by crime, until they no longer attempt to veil their purpose to destroy the institutions and subvert the sovereignty and independence of these States. We now know that the only hope for peace is in the vigor of our resistance, as the cessation of their hostility is only to be expected from the pressure of their necessities.

The patriotism of the people has proved equal to every sacrifice demanded by their country's need. We have been united as a people never were united under like circumstances before. God has blessed us with success disproportionate to our means, and, under his divine favor, our labors must at last be crowned with the reward due to men who have given all they possess to the righteous defence of their inalienable rights, their homes, and their altars.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, December 7, 1863.

Doc. 22.

NEGRO TROOPS AT FORT WAGNER.

REPORT OF MAJOR T. B. BROOKS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
ENGINEER'S OFFICE, FOLLY ISLAND, S. C., Dec. 10, 1863. }

GENERAL: In accordance with your instructions, I have the honor to submit the following statement, relating to the amount and nature of the fatigue-duty performed by the colored troops of this command, as compared with the white, in those portions of our recent operations against the defences of Charleston harbor, which were under my direction, namely, the defensive line across Morris Island, the approaches against Fort Wagner, and part of the breaching batteries against Fort Sumter.

In the engineering operations, thirty-three thousand five hundred days' work, of seven hours each, were expended, of which five thousand five hundred were by engineer troops, and six thousand by infantry; nine thousand five hundred days' work, being more than half of that performed by the infantry, and two fifths of the whole, were by blacks, all being volunteer troops.

The whole of this work was done under a fire of artillery or sharp-shooters, or both, and the greater part of it in the night.

My own observation, confirmed by the testimony of all the engineer officers who had the immediate superintendence of the work, proves that the blacks, as a rule, did a greater amount of work than the same number of whites; but the whites were more skillful, and had to be employed on the more difficult part of the work, comprising about one fifth of the whole.

We found the black soldier more timorous than the white, but in a corresponding degree more docile and obedient, doing just what he was told to the best of his ability, but seldom with enthusiasm.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. B. BROOKS,

Major, A. D. C., and Assistant Engineer.

Major-General Q. A. GILLMORE,

Commanding Department of the South.

Doc. 28.

NAVAL OPERATIONS IN FLORIDA.

REAR-ADMIRAL BAILEY'S REPORTS.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP SAN JACINTO, }
KEY WEST, December 28, 1862. }

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy :

SIR: I have the gratification of reporting a very important service performed by the blockading force at St. Andrew's Sound, under command of Acting Master William R. Browne, in destroying a very extensive and valuable quantity of salt-works, both at Lake Ocala and in St. Andrew's Bay. The circumstances are as follows:

On the second of December, a boat was despatched from the bark *Restless*, then lying at St. Andrew's, bound to Lake Ocala, some twenty miles to the westward, where Acting Ensign James J. Russell landed with his men, and marched some five miles inland to Kent's Salt-Works, consisting of three different establishments, and utterly destroyed them. There were six steamboat boilers at this place, cut in half lengthwise, and seven kettles made expressly for the purpose, each holding two hundred gallons. They were in the practice of burning out one hundred and thirty gallons of salt daily. Beside destroying these boilers, a large quantity of salt was thrown into the lake. Two large flat-boats and six ox-carts were demolished, and seventeen prisoners were taken, who were paroled and released, as the boat was too small to bring them away.

On the first of December, Acting Ensign Edwin Cressy arrived at St. Andrew's Sound, from the East Pass of Santa Rosa Sound, with the stern-wheel steamer *Bloomer*, and her tender, the sloop *Carolina*, having heard of the expedition to Lake Ocala, and placed his command at the disposal of Acting Master Browne for more extensive operations near St. Andrew's; and accordingly three officers and forty-eight men were sent from the *Restless* to the *Bloomer*, and she proceeded to West Bay, where the rebel government's salt-works were first destroyed, which produced four hundred bushels daily. At this place there were

twenty-seven buildings, twenty-two boilers, and some two hundred kettles, averaging two hundred gallons each, all of which were destroyed, together with five thousand bushels of salt and some storehouses containing some three months' provisions—the whole estimated at half a million of dollars. From this point the expedition proceeded down the bay, destroying private salt-works, which lined each side for a distance of seven miles, to the number of one hundred and ninety-eight different establishments, averaging two boilers and two kettles each, together with a large quantity of salt; five hundred and seven kettles were dug up and rendered useless, and over two hundred buildings were destroyed, together with twenty-seven wagons and five large flat-boats.

The entire damage to the enemy is estimated by Acting Master Browne at three million dollars.

Thirty-one contrabands employed at those works gladly availed themselves of this opportunity to escape, and were of great service in pointing out the places where the kettles were buried for concealment. In the mean time, while these operations were going on, Acting Master Browne got under way in the bark *Restless*, and ran up to within one hundred yards of the town of St. Andrew's, which had been reported by deserters to him as being occupied by a military force for the last ten months, and commenced shelling the place and some soldiers, who made a speedy retreat to the woods.

Selecting the weathermost houses for a target, the town was fired by the third shell, and thirty-two houses were soon reduced to ashes. No resistance was offered to our people throughout the affair. Acting Master Browne speaks in high terms of Acting Ensigns James J. Russell and Charles N. Hicks, and the forty-eight men from the *Restless*, as also of Acting Ensign Edwin Cressy and the six men belonging to the *Bloomer*, for the prompt manner in which they carried out his orders. Respectfully,

THEODORUS BAILEY,

Acting Rear-Admiral Commanding E. G. B. Squadron.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP SAN JACINTO, }
KEY WEST, Dec. 28, 1862. }

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy :

SIR: It gives me great pleasure to call the attention of the department to a very important service performed by the schooner *Fox*, a tender of the *San Jacinto*, under the command of Acting Master George Ashbury. The circumstances are as follows:

On the twentieth of December, a steamer was discovered in the mouth of the Suwanee River, apparently at anchor or aground. The *Fox* immediately beat up toward her until, when within about three quarters of a mile of the steamer, she grounded in eight and a half feet of water, and opened upon her with the howitzer, at the same time sending an armed boat in to capture the steamer. An attempt was made to intimidate our people by mounting a piece of stove-pipe on a chair, to represent a fore-castle gun, and a log of

wood on a camp-stool for a stern gun, but this device of the enemy failed in its object; and Acting Ensign Marcellus Jackson boarded the steamer, from which every body had made their escape to the shore. She proved to be a side-wheel steamer, painted lead-color, with black smoke-stack, two masts, and a walking-beam engine. Neither cargo, personal effects, papers, nor any thing to indicate her name was found on board, but from the description, she is supposed to have been the Little Lila, formerly the Nau Nau, and before that the Flushing. The water was found running rapidly into the engine-room. None of our people were competent to stop the leak or work the engine. The channel was exceedingly intricate and narrow, and night was rapidly coming on. Under these circumstances, Acting Ensign Jackson set fire to the vessel, agreeably to orders from Acting Master Ashbury, and in returning to the Fox, pulled up all the stakes by which the channel was marked out, for about a mile and a half.

Again, on December twenty-fourth, a vessel was discovered by the Fox standing in for the Suwanee River, and, after a chase of two hours, and the firing of several shells, she hove to. Being ordered by Mr. Ashbury to send a boat on board, the stranger put his helm up with the intention of running the Fox down, and came down upon the starboard quarter, carrying away the boat-davits, but doing little damage, as the Fox was immediately kept away.

While his vessel was passing off, Mr. Ashbury directed a rifle-shot to be fired for the purpose of intimidation; but a heavy sea was running at the time, and the bullet took effect upon the captain of the strange vessel, who was at the wheel, passing through his leg, but without touching an artery. The vessel was then boarded and found to be the British schooner Edwin from Havana, bound to the Suwanee River, with a cargo of lead and salt, and was accordingly seized as a prize. In addition to these achievements, I would remind the department that the Fox was one of the three tenders that assisted the Honduras in the capture of the British steamer Mail.

Respectfully,
Acting Rear-Admiral Commanding E. G. B. Squadron.

THEODORUS BAILEY,

Doc. 24.

GEN. GRANT AND REBEL DESERTERS.

THE OATH HE PRESCRIBED FOR THEIR ACCEPTANCE.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF
THE MISSISSIPPI, IN THE FIELD,
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Dec. 13, 1863. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10.

To obtain uniformity in the disposition of deserters from the confederate armies coming within this military division, the following order is published:

I. All deserters from the enemy coming within our lines will be conducted to the commander of division or detached brigade who shall be nearest the place of surrender.

II. If such commander is satisfied that the deserters desire to quit the confederate service, he may permit them to go to their homes, if within our lines, on taking the following oath:

THE OATH.

"I do solemnly swear in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Union of States thereunder, and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not yet repealed, modified, or held void by Congress or by decision of the Supreme Court, and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all proclamations of the President made during the existing rebellion having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by decision of the Supreme Court; so help me God.

"Sworn and subscribed to before me, —, this — day of —, 186 —."

III. Deserters from the enemy will at once be disarmed, and their arms turned over to the nearest ordnance officer, who will account for them.

IV. Passes and rations may be given to deserters to carry them to their homes, and free passes over military railroads and on steamboats in government employ.

V. Employment at fair wages will, when practicable, be given to deserters by officers of the quartermaster and engineer departments.

VI. To avoid the danger of recapture of such deserters by the enemy, they will be exempt from the military service in the armies of the United States.

By order of Major-General U. S. GRANT.
T. S. BOWERS, A.A.G.

Doc. 25.

GENERAL AVERILL'S EXPEDITION.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

EDRAY, POCANTONAS CO., W. VA., Dec. 21, }
via BEVERLY, Dec. 22, 1863. }

To Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief:

I HAVE the honor to report that I cut the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad at Salem on the sixteenth instant, and have arrived safely at this point with my command, consisting of the Second, Third, and Eighth Virginia mounted infantry, Fourteenth Pennsylvania, Dobson's battalion of cavalry, and Ewing's battery, at Salem.

Three dépôts were destroyed, containing two thousand barrels of flour, ten thousand bushels of wheat, one hundred thousand bushels shelled corn, fifty thousand bushels oats, two thousand barrels meat, several cords of leather, one thousand sacks of salt, thirty-one boxes clothing, twenty bales of cotton, a large amount of harness, shoes, and saddles, equipments, tools, oil, tar, and various other stores, and one hundred wagons.

The telegraph wire was cut, coiled, and burned for half a mile.

The water-station, turn-table, and three cars were burned, and the track torn up and rails heated and destroyed as much as possible in six hours. Five bridges and several culverts were destroyed over an extent of fifteen miles.

A large quantity of bridge-timber and repairing materials were also destroyed.

My march was retarded occasionally by the tempest in the mountains and the icy roads.

I was obliged to swim my command, and drag my artillery with ropes across Craig's Creek seven times in twenty-four hours. On my return, I found six separate commands under Generals Early, Jones, Fitz Lee, Imboden, Jackson, Echols, and McCouslin, arranged in a line extending from Staunton to Newport, upon all the available roads, to prevent my return. I captured a despatch from General Jones to General Early, giving me the position and that of Jackson at Olifton Forge, and Covington was selected to carry.

I marched from the front of Jones to that of Jackson at night. His outposts were pressed in at a gallop by the Eighth Virginia mounted infantry, and the two bridges across Jackson's River were saved, although sagots had been piled ready to ignite.

My column, about four miles along, hastened across, regardless of the enemy, until all but my ambulances, a few wagons, and one regiment had passed, when a strong effort was made to retake the first bridge, in which they did not succeed.

The ambulances and some sick men were lost, and, by the darkness and difficulties, the last regiment was detained upon the opposite side until morning. When it was ascertained that the enemy seemed determined to maintain his position up the cliffs which overlooked the bridges, I caused the bridges, which were long and high, to be destroyed, and the enemy immediately changed his position to the flank and rear of the detachment which was cut off. I sent orders to the remnants to destroy our wagons and come to me across the river, or over the mountains.

They swam the river with the loss of only four men, who were drowned, and joined me. In the mean time, forces of the enemy were concentrating upon me at Callaghan's over every available road but one, which was deemed impracticable, but by which I crossed over the top of the Alleghanies, with my command, with the exception of four caissons, which were destroyed in order to increase the teams of the pieces.

My loss is six men drowned, one officer and four men wounded, and four officers and ninety men missing.

We captured about two hundred prisoners, but have retained but forty officers and eighty men, on account of their inability to walk; we took also about one hundred and fifty horses.

My horses have subsisted entirely upon a very poor country, and the officers and men have suffered cold, hunger, and fatigue with remarkable fortitude. My command has marched, climbed,

slid, and swam three hundred and fifty-five miles since the eighth instant.

W. W. AVERILL,
Brigadier-General.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

WHEELER, WEST-VIRGINIA, JANUARY 8.

The Second, Third, and Eighth Virginia mounted infantry, Fourteenth Pennsylvania cavalry, Gibson's battalion and battery G, First Virginia artillery, composing the "Mountain Brigade" of General Averill, left New-Creek, West-Virginia, on the morning of the eighth of December, and a march of two days brought us to Petersburg. On the morning of the tenth, resumed the march, after being joined by detachments from the First Virginia, Fourteenth and Twenty-third Illinois infantry, a section of Rook's Illinois battery, and the Ringgold cavalry, under command of Colonel Thoburn, of the First Virginia infantry. We passed through Franklin, and camped for the night on the South-Branch. During this day's march we again destroyed the saltpetre works that the rebels had begun to repair. Met a party of refugees, who were endeavoring to get into our lines, and at night had a fight with bushwhackers.

The weather thus far had been cold, but after night it began to rain, and next morning we started on the march, Colonel Thoburn in the advance. When we arrived at the cross-roads, Thoburn's brigade taking the road to Monterey and Staunton, whilst our brigade took the road leading to Hightown and the Buck Creek valley. It rained very hard, and we were enveloped in the clouds of the mountain tops. This day captured a rebel mail-carrier, and at night camped near Burdtown.

Next morning resumed the march down the Buck Creek valley, finding the streams very much swollen from the rains. During the day a party of refugees, who were armed, came to us; they had been lying in the "brush" ever since the Droop Mountain fight, to keep out of the way of the rebel conscript officers. About dark we arrived at Gatewood's, where we intercepted Mudwall Jackson's train, that was on its way from Huntersville to Warm Springs, to get out of reach of Colonel Moore. The train was guarded by two companies of Jackson's ragged chivalry, and loaded with clothing, shoes, and ammunition. We captured in addition to the train twenty-nine prisoners, while the balance escaped to the mountain, and bushwhacked us at long-range, but hurt none.

The rebels, not expecting another raid, had rebuilt their camp and saltpetre works. These we again burnt, together with the potash factory. Started next morning for Callaghan's; during the morning captured one hundred and fifty cattle, that the farmers were driving out of the valley, and a contraband directed us to an extensive saltpetre works, which we destroyed. We arrived at Callaghan's at four o'clock, where we heard of the operations of General Duffie and Colonel Moore, and the retreat of Echols. We marched out on the Sweet Springs road, and encamped for the night on Dunlap's Creek.

Hitherto our marches had been by easy stages, twenty miles per day, and had taken special care of our horses; but now we were in the enemy's country and the great object of the expedition before us, and our movements must of necessity be rapid. At two o'clock A.M., started for Sweet Springs, in Monroe, where we arrived at ten o'clock, and halted for two hours for refreshment and to groom our horses. At the Springs captured a large quantity of manufactured tobacco, that was divided amongst the men, furnishing an abundant supply for a long time. Began the ascent of the mountain at noon, and in the gap captured a wagon-load of salt. The day was fine, and from the top of the mountain had a grand view of the mountains far off in Dixie, as well as the Alleghanies in our rear. These mountains correspond with the North-Shenandoah range. After crossing this mountain and the valley, we ascended the Eleven Mile or Peter's Mountain; and in the gap an amusing incident occurred. Our advance captured, not a rebel picket, but a wedding party, bride, groom, preacher, and guests. They, together with the whole country through which we had passed, were taken by surprise; but the scamp of a preacher made his escape in the confusion caused by the tears and distress of the women, who had so unexpectedly become acquainted with the Yankees. We descended the mountain and halted for two hours at Mrs. Scott's tavern, on Barbour's Creek. We started up the valley, and the advance captured a company of Georgia troops, with ninety horses. We then crossed Patt's Mountain, and dashed into New-Castle, the county-seat of Craig. Here we captured a portion of the home guard, with their arms, and without halting kept on for Roanoke. Our march was up the Craig Creek valley, and during the morning captured a rebel patrol party, and a rebel Colonel Chapman, who attempted to escape, and was killed. We also burned another saltpetre works, and after crossing two mountains, at about half-past ten o'clock reached Salem. After we entered, a train containing a rebel brigade came up the track from Lynchburgh, but three shots from one of our Parrotts caused the engineer to reverse his engine, and, with a snort from the whistle, the train took the back track.

The citizens had been apprised that we were in the country, but had not expected us so soon, and to our utter surprise, both along the road and in the town, we were received with a kind and cordial greeting, and the waving of white handkerchiefs. Now that we had arrived, we were invited to their houses, and treated with kindness and hospitality; and our healthy appearance, our clothing, and especially our boots, as well as our gentlemanly deportment, were all subjects of wonder and admiration.

The destruction on the railroad and dépôts began immediately; the government buildings and dépôts were fired, and the Third Virginia and the Fourteenth Pennsylvania were sent out each way to tear up and destroy; and most effectually they did the work; fine bridges were

destroyed, and fifteen miles of the road torn up, and the rails heated, water-station and turn-table burned, together with the materials that were on the ground for repairs. This was a heavy blow to the rebels, considering their facilities for repairing a damaged road, and the absolute necessity for keeping open communications with Longstreet.

According to their own accounts, it has taken twelve days to put the road in running order again. We did that work in six hours; while Lee, with his army of seventy-five thousand men, had the control of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for fourteen days, and, after all the damage that was inflicted, the Company repaired the road in four weeks. In addition to the destruction of the railroad, was the immense amount of stores destroyed in the three dépôts, mill, and warehouse; two thousand barrels flour, ten thousand bushels wheat, one hundred thousand bushels shelled corn, fifty thousand bushels oats, two thousand barrels meat, several cords leather, one thousand sacks salt, thirty-one boxes clothing, twenty bales cotton, a large amount of harness, shoes, saddles, and equipments, tools, oil, tar, and various other stores, and one hundred wagons, and, in addition, three hundred boxes tobacco. The amount of property destroyed was immense, and we can form some idea of its value from the prices of the above articles in Dixie. The citizens stated to us that the value was five millions of dollars. This, including the damage to the railroad, is not far from the mark. It must be borne in mind that Salem is the dépôt for Western Virginia, as well as for Longstreet's corps, and that the stores had been removed from other points to Salem, for safety. After we had performed this work, we began the retreat, and fell back six miles to the foot of Poverty Mountain, where we camped for the night. We had two good days in succession; but after night it began to rain, and toward morning began to freeze, and a high, blinding wind with it. Our blankets and clothing became saturated with water, and at daylight we began the retrograde movement. The march over the mountain was very fatiguing, and the road so icy, that we had to dismount and lead our horses. We found the Catawba very much swollen, and across the mountain, and after we reached the Craig Creek valley, the rain poured down in torrents, and it was a work of great labor for the artillery and the trains to move. Every small stream had become a foaming torrent, carrying rocks and drift before it; the pine-trees forming a crystal forest, with beautiful festoons and arches bending over the road.

When we came to Craig's Creek, the water was so deep, and the current so strong, and besides, the drift was running, it was supposed that our way was completely blockaded; but our General was equal to the emergency, and we were ordered to attempt the ford—the General directing and encouraging in person—the men riding into the cold icy water cheerfully, and by using caution, and obeying the directions

of the General and the officers, the first, second, and third fords were crossed. This consumed nearly the whole day, with the train, the artillery, and the rear-guard still to cross. We were now on the New-Castle side, and, by the road, several more fords to cross; but as it was but a few miles to town, it was determined to cut a road through the woods, which was done, and at eleven o'clock at night, the Eighth entered the town. Here we took possession of the government corn-cribs, where the corn-tithe, or tenth, was deposited. This we fed to our horses, and afterward made demonstrations on the different roads, while the balance of the brigade were endeavoring to extricate themselves from the watery blockade that had so suddenly stopped our progress; but it was not until the next evening that the artillery and train reached the town. The efforts of the quartermasters, officers, and men were very fatiguing and laborious, in dragging the artillery and wagons through the water by means of ropes, and the whole work superintended by the General, who had made it a point of honor to save the artillery and transportation; but the provisions were lost, except the soldier's great reliance, coffee. This was preserved, and when the brigade reached the town, it was issued to the men.

We now found that the rebels held the gap, to dispute our march, and heard that Fitz-Hugh Lee was in our rear. We did not fear the rebel force in our front, for they had not sufficient time to unite their scattered forces. A squadron of the Eighth was sent to force them back, and a brisk skirmish ensued, when reinforcements from the Second and Eighth were sent to assist in driving back the enemy. The rebels retired, and at midnight the brigade reached Mrs. Scott's, at the foot of the Eleven Mile Mountain. But here a new danger arose, for Jones held the Sweet Springs Mountain in force, and that was our only apparent outlet, and besides, our limited supply of ammunition had become partially damaged from the wet. Here our young chief performed a master-stroke of generalship, completely deceiving, as well as mystifying Jones. He sent a force to the top of the Eleven Mile Mountain, to make a bold demonstration, drive in the rebel pickets, and make the rebels believe that our whole force was advancing. In the mean time, the column was ordered to move up a creek and by-road, in the direction of the Covington and Fincastle turnpike. The General had got the information of this road from a citizen, with the statement that no vehicle had passed over the road in two years, and Jones's scouts told him that the road was totally impracticable, but we passed through in safety, Jones waiting the whole day, and expecting an attack every hour. In the afternoon, we struck the Fincastle pike, and distant from Covington ten miles. We had now eluded two rebel armies, but still we knew that they were on both flanks, and perhaps in our front; but we were ordered to move rapidly, and the advance to dash to the Jackson River bridge, to prevent its being burnt. On

this road we met a party of Jackson's cavalry, and skirmished with them, pressing them close. When we reached the river, they turned to the right, in the direction of Jackson River dépôt, while we turned to the left, toward Covington. Here we captured a messenger from Jones to Early, with a despatch to be forwarded to Early by Jackson, by telegraph. (Early was supposed to be at Warm Springs.) This proved of importance to the General, for it disclosed the rebel plans, and the movements of Jones, Echols, and McCauslin. The advance hastened at a trot toward the bridge, and when they came to it, the rebel guard opened fire upon them, but we charged through with a cheer and at a gallop, the rebels retreating at their highest speed. We found piles of combustibles on the bridge ready for the torch, and fire burning and torch ready; but the advance, by its gallantry, saved the bridge. As the brigade moved so rapidly, it left the artillery, trains, and rear-guard far in the rear, with perhaps a gap of two miles open. This was taken advantage of by Jackson, who marched in his force, and ambushed themselves in the cliffs with the cavalry, ready to make a charge on the trains. They made a dash to take the bridge, but were repulsed by the guard that we had left there; and next morning, Jackson's force, with artillery, infantry, and cavalry, made an attack on the rear-guard and the train, but were repulsed, while we succeeded in destroying the train, to prevent its falling into their hands, and the loss that we met with, was in having a portion of the men, who were cut off, captured. Our loss was sixty men captured. These were mostly dismounted men. We also lost three officers captured.

The brigade moved rapidly to Covington, where the advance captured several of the home guard and a number of fine horses, and pushed on toward Callaghan's. The advance crossed the second bridge and surprised a rebel picket of sixteen men. These, with their horses, arms, and equipments, were captured except one of the party, the captain, who escaped.

When we reached Callaghan's, strong pickets were sent out on all the roads. We began to breathe more freely, but our privations began to tell from hunger and cold. Our clothing was frozen stiff, a large proportion of the men had their feet and fingers frozen, but the greatest suffering was from want of sleep. The pickets were forbidden to make fires. After the videttes had been placed, the balance of the men lay down in the road, and the night was intensely cold, but the officers aroused the men and would not permit them to sleep; and a short time before day they were permitted to make fires in the pine-thickets, and with the comfortable bed, and a cup of strong coffee, they soon regained their accustomed spirits. Our crackers were now exhausted, and nothing to eat but fresh pork and coffee.

Here the General sent out scouting-parties to ascertain the movements of the enemy. We here learned that Early held the Back Creek valley, and that there was a force at Gatewood's, cover-

ing the Huntersville road, while it was supposed that Echols was in the direction of the White Sulphur and Rocky Gap. With the detachment and train on the other side of the river, our General, who had shared all our privations, and by his skill had brought us through so many dangers, felt his responsibility, and was greatly disturbed; but if he could have heard the kind words of sympathy that fell from the lips of those tired, rugged veterans, he would have felt refreshed and encouraged, but he was equal to this emergency also. Although it was thought that we were surrounded by six rebel columns, yet there was one road open; he sent an order to Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson to burn the bridges, and, if the rebels changed position, for the rear-guard to swim the river; this was done, and a Union lady pointed out a ford by which they crossed.

In the afternoon, the brigade started up a path that led up a ravine, from Callaghan's to the top of the Alleghenies, and crossed with the artillery, and camped for the night on Dunlap's Creek, with three open roads, but supposed that the enemy held the one leading to Huntersville.

A rebel column came to Callaghan's the same evening, and encamped five miles from us.

Our march the next day was over by-roads; and late in the afternoon crossed the Green Briar, and, after a rest of an hour, pushed on to Hillsborough, and camped on part of the Droop Mountain battle-field. Here we began to feel a degree of security, as we knew that we had an open road before us, and the enemy were far in our rear.

Major Gibson was sent with his battalion to blockade the Huntersville road, but found that Jackson had done it effectually, from fear of Colonel Moore; so, after the most comfortable night's rest that we had enjoyed during our retreat, and paying a visit to our wounded that had been left after the Droop Mountain fight, we resumed the march. Our rations consisted of parched-corn, coffee, and frozen apples. The wind was so cold that it was painful to the eyes, and our poor horses almost worn out. Their shoes, owing to the rocks and ice, were worn perfectly smooth. We left Marling Bottom during the morning, and began the ascent of the Green Briar Mountain; it began to sleet, and the icy road so smooth that it was with the utmost difficulty that our poor horses could walk at all. The sufferings of the men and horses were almost intolerable, and our march was very slow, and a number of the horses that had stood the other raids were abandoned that evening and night. It was touching to see the poor animals, after being stripped of saddles and equipments, with sunken eyes, the brightness gone, shivering in the road, with not sufficient life to get out of the way of the moving column, which would part to the right and left, as if commiserating the condition of the poor animals that a sad necessity consigned to the cold solitude of the mountains.

This night we encamped near Mrs. Gibson's, on the head of Elk River, and within our own lines, but had hardly any thing to eat, and a

small allowance of hay for our horses. Next morning, resumed the march over the same kind of roads, crossed Elk Mountain, and camped for the night on the top of the Valley Mountain, at the Mingo Flats.

Here we felt almost home, and visions of crackers and bacon began to float in our imaginations, and at this time our stock of coffee was exhausted. We reached the mouth of Elkwater at noon, where we met a supply-train from Colonel Moore, with the wished-for crackers, and with our crackers and coffee forgot, in a measure, the hardships of the expedition. We camped for the night near Huttonville, and Christmas day, in the afternoon, made our triumphal entry into Beverley, where we rested one day, and, by easy marches, reached the railroad on New-Year's day. IRWIN.

REBEL NARRATIVES

RICHMOND, December 28, 1862.

An officer who participated in the recent fight between the forces under General William L. Jackson and the Yankees under Averill, gives us the following interesting narrative of that gallant affair:

On the thirteenth instant, scouts belonging to General Jackson's brigade reported that a Yankee force of about five thousand cavalry, including two batteries of artillery, were advancing down Black Creek, toward Gatewood's, within twelve miles of Warm Springs, in Bath County.

Information had at that time been received from General Samuel Jones, that a heavy force of Yankees were also advancing upon Lewisburgh from the Kanawha valley. General Jackson at once concluded that the force of five thousand under Averill would strike for the Tennessee Railroad, by way of the Sweet Springs, and he immediately put his force in motion to intercept them on their return, as he could not pursue them, owing to having only about one hundred and twenty-five mounted men, the balance of his command being dismounted infantry. Crossing at McGraw's Gap, General Jackson came to Jackson's River, and found it swollen and past fording, with no bridge except the railroad bridge. Infantry could cross on that, but it seemed to be madness to attempt to cross wagons and artillery on it. Jackson, however, with indomitable energy and perseverance, had the wagons and artillery drawn over the bridge by the men. He then continued the march on to Callahan's, but, from information derived from his scouts, he was convinced that Averill would return by the Rich Patch road, which taps the Covington turnpike near Jackson's River dépôt. He forthwith moved his command down to Jackson's River dépôt, and directed the Island Ford bridge to be burned as soon as it was ascertained that the enemy were advancing toward it. Jackson then took a strong position near the Jackson's River dépôt, at the point where the Rich Patch road connects the Covington turnpike. He then directed his mounted men, under Captain Sprague, to move on the Rich Patch road until they met the enemy's advance, and to attack them desperately,

and cut the column in two if possible. At four o'clock on Saturday evening, the nineteenth instant, a courier from Captain Sprague announced the approach of the enemy by that road, and that he had commenced a skirmish with Averill's advanced forces. Jackson immediately ordered an advance of the Twentieth Virginia regiment by a blind road, so as to attack the enemy obliquely. He also ordered the Nineteenth Virginia regiment to advance on the Covington turnpike road, and to attack the enemy directly. At that point Jackson conceived the idea of taking a detachment of about fifty men, and move forward with them for the purpose of striking the enemy vigorously and cutting his column in two. In this Jackson succeeded perfectly. One half of the Yankees were thus separated from the other half, which was under the immediate command of Averill, and who rapidly passed forward toward the Island Ford bridge. Persons intrusted with the burning of the Island Ford bridge failed to do so, however, owing to the rapid advance of the enemy upon that point. The advance, under Averill in person, thus managed to make their escape across the bridge; but that portion of his command which had been cut off—consisting of one regiment and an entire wagon train—were held in check by Jackson's detachment of fifty men during the entire night. Soon after sunrise on Sunday, the twentieth, the heavy force which Averill had left at the bridge after he had crossed, to prevent Jackson from burning it, themselves fired it, and in a short time it fell into the river; and this produced much consternation among the Yankees who had been cut off from the bridge by the detachment under Jackson. Had Jackson's order to attack the Yankees furiously not been so tardily obeyed, the whole force which had been cut off, together with the entire wagon train, would have been captured. By failing, however, thus to attack, the Yankees had time to burn their train and to escape by swimming; in doing so, however, many of them were drowned.

The result of Jackson's operations was the complete capture of the Yankee ambulance train, about two hundred prisoners, their horses and equipments, a number of carbines and revolvers, forty or fifty negroes, (whom the Yankees were taking off,) eight of Averill's officers, including his adjutant-general, a lieutenant-colonel, Averill's horse, his servant, and a number of his maps of fifteen or twenty counties, in which nearly every house was put down, and, in numerous instances, the occupants of the houses given. Jackson also captured a number of mules and wagons. Jackson's loss was small.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

To the Editor of the Richmond Examiner :

The raid is over. Averill has gone, not "up the spout," but back into his den. Cast your eye upon a map, and I'll tell you how he went and how he came. He came from New-Creek, a dépôt on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in the county of Hardy, along the eastern base of

the Shenandoah Mountains, through Covington to Salem, burnt things generally, and returned over nearly the same route. Imboden seized the gap where the Parkersburgh turnpike crosses the Shenandoah, and prevented a raid on Staunton. Averill left five hundred men to hold Imboden there, and pushed on toward Salem. That General could not pursue without uncovering Staunton, the force threatening nearly equalling his own. General Lee was informed of the situation of affairs.

Here commences the reign of Major-Generals and military science. Major-General Tubal A. Early came; Major-General Fitz-Hugh Lee came; Brigadier-General Walker came; Brigadier-General Thomas came; their staffs came. They all took a drink. General Early took two. Brigadier-General Wickham came; Colonel Chambliss, commanding a brigade, came. They smiled also.

When Averill was opposite Staunton, Fitz Lee was at Fry Dépôt, on the Virginia Central Railroad, a day's march from that town—a fortunate occurrence, indeed. Every body thought Averill was "treed" now. Lee was ordered across the Blue Ridge. He passed through Brown's Gap, and struck the valley turnpike at Mount Crawford, eight miles above Harrisonburgh—a miserable mistake; one day's march lost. He then marched toward Staunton; another day gone for nothing. He finally reached Staunton, where he ought to have been the first night. Still, there was plenty of time to cut Averill off. Lee and Imboden marched day and night to Lexington, and then toward Covington. They had yet time enough to intercept him. Here was committed the fatal and foolish blunder. While Lee and Imboden were on the road to Covington, in striking distance of that place, word was sent that the Yankees were marching toward Buchanan instead of Covington. No man ought to have put credence in a statement so utterly absurd as that the enemy was going from Salem to that place. Such a statement presupposes Averill deliberately placing himself past escape, and, therefore, run raving mad. Such improbable rumors should never be entertained a moment, much less made the basis of important military movements. The order was obeyed. The troops turned and marched back, and at night were neither at Buchanan nor Covington.

The story is told in a few words. The Yankees passed through Covington, and, to their great amazement, escaped. The rumor about Buchanan was the tale of some frightened fool. The enemy, in terror and demoralization, fled from Salem at full speed, destroying their train and artillery. Jackson knocked some in the head; the citizens beat the brains out of others. One farmer in Alleghany killed six. Some are scattered in the mountains, and are being picked up here and there. The rapid streams drowned many, but the main part have gone whence they came, wondering how they did get away. It is hardly necessary to add, the humblest private in the ranks, if he possessed sense enough to eat and drink, not only could but would have man-

aged better. Old Stonewall would have marched on, caught and killed the Yankees. What Lee thought, this writer don't know. They who know, say Imboden begged to go to Covington. He made it plain to the dullest mind that the Buchanan story was past belief. What's done is done.

No language can tell the suffering of our men. They were in saddle day and night, save a few hours between midnight and day. They were beat up by their officers with their swords—the only means of arousing them—numb and sleepy. Some froze to death; others were taken from their horses senseless. They forded swollen streams, and their clothes, stiff-frozen, rattled as they rode. It rained in torrents, and froze as it fell. In the mountain paths the ice was cut from the roads before they ventured to ride over. One horse slipped over the precipice. The rider was leading him; he never looked over after him. The whole matter is summed up in a couple of sentences. Averill was penned up. McCausland, Echols, and Jackson at one gate; Lee and Imboden at the other. Some ass suggested he might escape by jumping down the well and coming out in Japan, that is, go to Buchanan. Early ordered them to leave a gate open and guard the well. He did not jump in.

Meanwhile, the Yankee cavalry came up the valley through Edinburgh, New-Market, up to Harrisonburgh, within twenty-five miles of Staunton, "their headquarters." This was bearding the lion in his den. Tubal took the field, at the head of company I, and a party of substituted men, farmers and plough-boys, called "home guards." The Yankees got after him, and the "Major-General Commanding" lost his hat in the race. The last heard of him he was pursuing the enemy with part of his division—footmen after cavalry—with fine prospects of overtaking them somewhere in China, perhaps about the "great wall." The Yankees were retreating toward the "Devil Hole." Early bound for the same place! They did very little damage in the valley.

Here is the moral: The marshals under Napoleon's eye were invincible—with separate commands, blunderers. A general of division, with General Robert E. Lee to plan and put him in the right place, does well. Mosby would plan and execute a fight or strategic movement better than Longstreet at Suffolk or Knoxville, Tubal Early at Staunton. Jackson's blunt response to some parlor or bar-room strategist in Richmond, "More men, but fewer orders," was wisdom in an axiom—true then, just as true now as when the hero of the valley uttered it. It is difficult to direct, especially by couriers, the movement of troops a hundred miles distant, among mountains the "ranking" general never saw, except on an inaccurate map. It is not every commander who can point out roads he never heard of, and by-paths he never dreamed of, as the proper ones to cut off an enemy. Bullets, not brains, are needed here.

NOTE.—Some say ten blue-bellies ran the whole

"home guard." This, I believe, is a lie; at least as far as the substitute men are concerned. They had "flanked out" to buy the "plunder and traps" of the flying farmers. This statement is due to truth. If any fell back hurriedly, it was not the substitute men. They were not there!

Doc. 26.

EXPEDITION TO CHARLES CITY COURT-HOUSE.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

FOURTHS MONTH, VA., Dec. 14.

GENERAL WISTAR, with my approbation, sent out an expedition to Charles City Court-House on the James River, to capture the enemy's force stationed there, and I have the pleasure to forward his report of its complete success. What adds to the brilliancy of its achievement is that it has been accomplished during a terrible storm.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

YONKOWS, VA., Dec. 14, 1862.

Major-General Butler:

I have the satisfaction to announce the complete success of the expedition sent out under Colonel West. All worked in successful combination. Our cavalry carried the enemy's camp at Charles City Court-House after sharp fighting—the enemy firing from their houses. We captured eight officers and eighty-two enlisted men, being the whole command of three companies, fifty-five horses and three mules, besides many shot, etc., left on the ground. The enemy's camp, with its equipments, arms, ammunition, and provisions, were all thoroughly destroyed.

Our loss is Captain Gregory, severely wounded; one sergeant and one corporal killed, and four men wounded. The New-York Mounted Rifles, in forty-four hours, marched seventy-six miles; the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth New-York infantry, in fifty-four hours, marched sixty-one miles, mostly in a severe storm, moving day and night, and walking their shoes off, which should be made good by the Government. All are entitled to high commendation for gallantry and unflinching endurance, Colonel West especially, for his precise execution of a difficult combination, by which alone he could have accomplished my object.

J. J. WISTAR,
Brigadier-General.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., Monday, Dec. 14, 1862.

An expedition, composed of six companies of the First New-York Mounted Rifles and three companies of the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth New-York regiment, has just returned from a highly successful raid to Charles City Court-House, situated near the north bank of the James River, and seven miles beyond the Chickahominy. The expedition was under the direction of Colonel R. M. West, the present commander of this post; the cavalry was command-

ed by Colonel B. F. Onderdonk, and the infantry, which acted as a reserve this side the Chickahominy, by Colonel Roberts.

The infantry preceded the cavalry twelve hours. The Mounted Rifles quitted Williamsburgh at six o'clock on the evening of the eleventh instant, under lowering clouds, and an atmosphere that presaged storm. We made a brief halt at Twelve-Mile Ordinary. After leaving this point, our route lay through dense forests of pine and dreary patches of cleared but uncultivated land. As night and the column advanced, the darkness became terrible, the wind fairly roared through the tall trees, and the rain, so long threatening, fell in torrents. We had two trusty white guides, but you may imagine how serviceable they were, when we could not distinguish a horseman at the distance of three yards, unless, perhaps, he was mounted on a white steed. Still, the regiment moved forward for many miles, keeping closed files, and carefully following the sound of clanking sabres; until, finally, the road, which before had seemed to be in a highly tangled condition, formed a knot like the Gordian puzzle. Here, apparently, fate had a choice bivouac in store for us — but not so Colonel West. The guides lit matches, which blazed for a moment, (just long enough to exhibit our forlorn prospects,) and were then quenched by the rain. Still, we were making a few yards, or rather "taking ground to the right." The guide covered his hands with the phosphorus of the matches, and held them up. This did not remind one forcibly of a revolving coast-light, but we persevered. Many of the men lost their way through the woods, two or three officers were missing, but fortunately all regained the column. We pushed on in this manner until about three o'clock, when it being perfectly impossible to proceed another foot, on account of the blackness of all surrounding objects, and the awful condition of the road, (when we found it,) we were compelled to sit patiently in our saddles until daylight, drenched to the skin, and ruminating upon the beautiful moral relation which the soldier sustains toward a grateful country.

At daylight we moved on rapidly, and made up for lost time. We came up with the infantry, and halted a mile this side of the Chickahominy River. They had surprised and captured a small rebel picket. We soon came in sight of the river at Ford's Crossing, and away we went on the gallop. The first rebel picket was discovered on the west bank of the river. They were in a tranquil state of existence, having divested themselves of their superfluous clothing, and "lain down to quiet dreams." They were sound asleep. The very doorkeepers of the great and invincible city of Richmond were snoring in their slumbers. After fording the river, which is quite narrow at this place, and the water about up to our saddlebags, we swept onward with drawn sabres, at a light gallop, capturing without resistance four pickets, and keeping a bright lookout in all directions. As we mounted a hill in view of Charles

City Court-House, we caught a sight of the rebel camp, and with a loud cheer we commenced the charge. The charge was led by the field-officers of the regiment, with Colonel Onderdonk and Colonel West. It was irresistible. In less than fifteen minutes we captured ninety prisoners, including eight commissioned officers, nearly one hundred and fifty stand of arms, over fifty horses, and a large quantity of forage, commissary stores, camp and garrison equipage.

The rebels were holding the usual Sunday morning inspection in their best clothes, in camp, and made slight resistance, being either entirely surprised or not wishing to injure the few good clothes in their possession.

At the Court-House the rebels made a brief but spirited resistance. They were driven into two wooden buildings, and fired several volleys from the windows, at very short-range. We surrounded the houses, and compelled a surrender, which was formally made by the enemy, after exhibiting a white flag. Sergeant Wood, a brave and faithful non-commissioned officer, was killed in the first assault upon the building. Captain Gregory was severely, but not dangerously, wounded in the thigh. Our entire loss during the expedition was two killed and five wounded.

The rebel officers were, without exception, gentlemen, both in appearance and manner. Had their surprise been less complete, I have no doubt they would have made an obstinate defence. Many of the rebel soldiers were well uniformed, and were mostly armed with the Maynard rifles. The force captured was a part of the Forty-second Virginia, commanded by Major Robinson, who was away at the time on his wedding-tour. It was considered by the rebels a crack corps, they being admirably styled "Plugs."

After destroying their camp, all the arms, accoutrements, and munitions of war, which we could not bring away, we retired leisurely across the Chickahominy. Here the regiment rested awhile. Colonel West sent a small party to secure Diascon Creek bridge. The party arrived just in time to prevent the destruction of the bridge by a small squad of guerrillas, who retired after exchanging a few shots, wounding the guide severely. We arrived in Williamsburgh yesterday afternoon. The fair portion of the inhabitants behaved any thing but amiably when they beheld the result of the expedition, in so many prisoners.

The rank and file of the captured party appeared rather happy, than otherwise, with their sudden escape from rebeldom. One (a nephew of United States Senator Bowden) took the oath of allegiance, and several seemed disposed to do so. The officers, of course, are as bitter as their systematic schooling to pervert the use of the five senses will make any one. Captain Rodgers, in command, owned nearly all the horses and equipments, and he reckons his loss heavily. Among the captured was a young woman in soldier's clothes.

We brought into our lines quite a large num-

ber of contrabands. The rebel officers told them they were not compelled to come. We told them they were not compelled to stay. They seemed to value our word most, and came. One of them, an athletic, pure-blooded African, was relating his adventures. He said his master, in Richmond, had sold him for one thousand six hundred dollars, to be sent South. He ran away, and came to his wife, at Charles City Court-House. His master offered two hundred dollars for his capture, and he was obliged to hide. The morning of our arrival at the Court-House, he was lying asleep in the woods, and a little boy came and woke him up, and said that the Yankees had come. He said: "Go 'way, chile; what you want to fool dis nigga for?" But just then he heard the firing, and raising up, saw the blue coats of our troops on the hill. "I was so glad, dat I come right away, and left all my things."

The following is a list of the killed and wounded in the Mounted Rifles: Sergeant Wood, company H, killed; Corporal Smith, company H, killed; Captain L. B. Gregory, wounded severely in thigh; Sergeant Hendrickson, company H, wounded in three places; private Stoppelbein, company H, wounded; private Johnson, company H, wounded slightly; guide, wounded in arm.

The rebels had three men wounded.

This raid has developed some interesting facts, which I would like to impart, but forbear, on account of their military importance. C.

Doc. 27.

THE EFFICIENCY OF THE BLOCKADE.

REAR-ADMIRAL LEE'S REPORT.

FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
NEWPORT NEWS, VA., December 21, 1863. }

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: In reference to the excessive running of the blockade off Wilmington, as reported in the rebel journals, and copied in our own, I beg leave to call your attention to the following extracts from private letters recently found on the prize steamer *Ceres*, which plainly show that all such statements are fictions:

Captain Maffit, in a letter to Mr. Lamar, dated Liverpool, October, says: "The news from blockade-runners is decidedly bad. Six of the last boats have recently been caught, among them the *Advance* and *Eugenie*. Nothing has entered Wilmington for the last month."

The firm of William P. Campbell, of Bermuda, says, in a letter to their correspondents in Charleston, dated December second, 1863: "It is very dull here. The only boats that came in from Wilmington this moon were the *Flora* and *Gibraltar*."

Captain Ridgely, senior naval officer off Wilmington, reports, under date of the tenth instant, that but one vessel has succeeded in getting in, to the knowledge of any of the blockading vessels, and that on the night of the tenth instant. She was fired at and hit several

times by the *Howqua* and *Britannia*. Also, under date of the seventeenth, Captain Ridgely says that: "The newspaper paragraph stating that seventeen vessels arrived in Wilmington in one night, is entirely destitute of truth. Such reports are, doubtless, published to encourage the shipment of crews for the large numbers of vessels recently purchased for blockade-running, as they have been very roughly handled of late. The blockade-runners change their names very often, for the same purpose."

Each vessel on the blockade off Wilmington sends to me here a carefully prepared abstract from the log for the month, in which every movement is actually recorded, and it is evident from a comparison of such abstracts, that the reports are entirely unfounded.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully yours,

S. P. LEE,

A. R. Admiral Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.

Doc. 28.

EXPEDITION THROUGH PAGE VALLEY, VIRGINIA.

HEADQUARTERS, December 23, 1863.

On Monday morning, December twenty-first, the First Maine cavalry, with the Second, Eighth, and Sixteenth Pennsylvania cavalry regiments, assembled at Bealton Station, on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, preparatory to their departure for Page Valley, Perryville, and the cosy little town of Luray. It was the intention of Colonel Charles H. Smith, of the First Maine cavalry, who commanded the expedition, to start at daylight, but owing to two of the regiments having returned to camp from a tedious campaign of three days only the preceding evening, a delay of a few hours was necessary to replenish exhausted stores of forage, ammunition, and subsistence.

At eleven o'clock A.M., every thing being in readiness, the four regiments took up their line of march for Sulphur Springs. After a short halt, the line was formed, and the bugle-notes echoed: "Advance." A march of a few hours brought the expedition to Amisville—a small, dilapidated village, whose inhabitants are all of strong rebel proclivities, many of them furnishing aid and comfort to the gangs of guerrillas infesting this vicinity. At daybreak, on the twenty-second, the expedition proceeded toward Gaines's Cross-Roads, and, just at the left of Amisville, a charge was made upon a few guerrillas, capturing one prisoner, and scattering the remainder in all directions. At Gaines's Cross-Roads, a nest of Mosby's men was surprised and driven to the mountains. Thence, the expedition marched to Sperryville, where the enemy were discovered holding Thornton's Gap, and, upon the approach of our troops they offered considerable resistance to our advancing skirmishers. A strong reserve making its appearance, the entire force fled to the numerous paths in the moun-

tains, where, far above carbine range, the discomfited guerrillas, perched among the rocks and caverns, waved their hats and shouted in defiance to our cavalymen. On leaving Sperryville, you reach the ascending turnpike leading to Thornton's Gap. As you ascend mounted, a fine view can be had from the saddle. Thornton's Gap is immediately beneath the highest peak of the Blue Ridge, and it is no exaggeration to say that the vicinity of this mountain-pass affords one of the grandest views to be found in this country. There is one portion of the serpentine turnpike, where a carbine-shot would cross the pike six times in a direct line, so zig-zag is its course. One hundred sharp-shooters, stationed at this point, could retard the progress of a large army, rendering the ascent an almost impossible one. Such a picturesque panorama of natural beauties one seldom witnesses as were revealed on the morning of our ascent. The frost-king had touched the leaves of the forest trees with his magic wand of silver, and placed his glistening crown upon the mountain-tops, while the rays of the sun danced upon the frozen dew, coloring the valley with gaudy lines, and the crests of the mountains, till the dazzling scene reminded one of a mammoth kaleidoscope. It was a vivid and romantic picture to witness five thousand horsemen climbing the steep mountain sides, their sabres flashing in the sunlight as their warlike steeds pranced along the pass. The mountains were finally crossed, and our forces encamped for the night within four miles of Luray. Our pickets were attacked an hour after dark by a party of Gillmore's guerrillas, but, after a brief skirmish with our vigilant cavaliers, they deemed "prudence the better part of valor," and they retired, carrying off their wounded. The march was resumed at daylight on the twenty-third instant, our advance driving the weak picket force on our front before them with little difficulty. As we arrived within sight of Luray, quite a large rebel force were observed drawn up in line of battle to check our advance, and with the apparent intention of making a sufficiently strong stand to contest our entrance to the town. The order was given for one of those resistless "Yankee" cavalry charges which only "greasy mechanics" and "Northern mudsills" can execute, when lo! the F. F. V.s and the Second F. V.s fled in the greatest disorder, utterly dismayed and thrown into the greatest confusion by the temerity of Colonel Smith, who dared thus invade their limits of the sacred soil. Owing to the fleetness of the chivalry, but few prisoners were captured, and, their horses being in a much better condition than ours, it was fruitless to attempt further pursuit. At this point, two deserters entered our lines, and, after being relieved of their arms, they were sent to our rear-guard. Those deserters reiterated the same doleful story of the terrible condition of the "poor white trash" of the South, many of whom they represent as being on the verge of starvation. They report great disaffection throughout the ranks of the rebel army, and said the President's Amnesty

Proclamation had given considerable satisfaction to poor, oppressed and helpless people, many of whom have been mercilessly conscripted to fill up the decimated ranks of the rebel army. The wealthy spurn the Proclamation, and in Richmond the strictest surveillance is maintained over those persons suspected of sympathy with the North.

At Luray, Colonel Smith learned that Rosser's brigade had encamped there Sunday night, and had left on Monday, taking the "grade" up the Page valley, on the east side of the river, in the direction of Madison, and, as Rosser had succeeded in getting forty-eight hours' start of our fatigued forces, Colonel Smith concluded, very wisely, to run no further risks, inasmuch as the objects of the expedition were accomplished, and no infantry or artillery were at hand to lend assistance in case of an attack by superior numbers. Colonel Smith sent several officers to examine the post-office, jail, court-house, and other public buildings. A number of conscripts were taken from the jail upon hearing the news of our approach. A large three-story building, filled with harnesses and artillery and cavalry equipments, and which was used as an extensive manufactory for the supply of rebel outfits, was destroyed, together with a large quantity of raw material, rings, buckles, and a valuable lot of tools. Adjoining this manufactory was a large tannery, with numerous vats filled with stock in a half-finished state. Several wooden buildings were stored with thousands of dollars' worth of hides and finished leather; these were destroyed by fire. On the return march, five new and well-furnished tanneries, stocked with a large amount of leather, were completely gutted, and their contents destroyed, on the road between Luray and Sperryville.

Near Sperryville, our advance-guard surprised and captured a two-horse wagon belonging to a rebel sutler. An examination of the wagon by the inquisitive "Yankees" revealed a secret bottom, in which were found a rebel mail and a quantity of medicines and dry goods *en route* for the rebel lines. This wagon was on its way from the Upper Potomac, a strong argument in favor of increased vigilance in that department.

At Little Washington, our advance-guard surprised a small party of Mosby's guerrillas, killing one and capturing another. Here the expedition halted and encamped for the night to rest their horses, which were, if possible, more jaded than their gallant riders. At daylight the march was continued, and on Christmas Eve the wearied soldiers reached their comfortable winter quarters in a high state of glee, every man having provided himself with an abundant supply of poultry, in order to properly celebrate Christmas in the army. The expedition marched one hundred and twenty-five miles in four days, inflicting a serious blow to the enemy in the most vital part of their prosperity. I regret to announce that these perambulating "Yankee cavaliers" were allowed to help themselves to several dressed hogs, which were in readiness for

the satisfaction of more refined appetites, such as the disciples of Mosby, White, and other prominent F. F. V.s. As our troops were out of rations, Colonel Smith had no scruples in allowing his troops to indulge in the secesh provender.

On the person of the captured rebel sutler was found a revolver and a valuable gold watch. Seven thousand dollars in shinplasters, representing the currency of the would-be Confederacy, were found on the prisoners whom we captured, some fifteen or twenty in all. A large quantity of fine tobacco was confiscated in the town of Luray. The town of Luray being situated in the centre of Page valley, is one of the prettiest in Virginia. It consists of a large brick court-house, several substantial churches, and the streets of the town are laid out very tastily, running at right angles, and lined with shade-trees on either side. The private residences are superior to most of the Southern towns, and their architectural finish denotes the refined taste of their owners. Colonel C. H. Smith deserves notice for the energy and rapidity with which this difficult and hazardous movement was executed. The valor and discipline of the moral regiment under his command, and the excellent reputation they sustain for promptness and bravery on the field, among the various cavalry regiments of this army, is sufficient eulogium.

J. E. H.

Doc. 29.

FIGHT IN STONO RIVER, S. C.

The following extracts of a private letter from one of the engineers on the United States gun-boat *Marblehead*, dated in Stono River, December twenty-fifth, 1863, give an account of the attack of the rebels on that vessel:

We had expected for some days to go to Port Royal, and the rebels, probably hearing of it, determined to give us a parting blessing. I had the morning-watch to-day, from four to eight o'clock A.M., and was sitting in the engine-room, as usual, when one of the master's mates opened the engine-room door, and wished me "Merry Christmas." This put me in mind of home; and while recurring in memory to the many pleasant Christmas-days spent at home, I little thought of what was at hand. It was not long before I was startled by the shriek of a rifle-shell close over my head, instantly followed by the loud summons of the officers of the deck: "All hands to quarters! We are attacked!"

Instantly, all was confusion, as you may well imagine. It was about six o'clock, and quite dark, so that we could not see from which side the attack came. I spread the fire, and started the blower, to get up steam quickly. We had hauled the fires on the starboard and best boiler some days previous, on account of a bad leak, and so had only half our power. But I did the best I could, and before the chief-engineer arrived, every thing was in readiness.

The cable was slipped, and one bell struck, to

start the engine, which was done; but as we were deprived of one boiler, and the fires were small on the other, the pressure fell so rapidly that the gauge showed only five pounds. All this time, the shells were whizzing past us in all directions, as fast as we could count, and occasionally one would strike, throwing the splinters in all directions. The captain, half dressed, sword in hand, was rushing around the deck, encouraging every body, and giving orders for firing and working the ship. The engine worked slower and slower, and the captain came to the hatch every little while, shouting, "Give her more steam!" but all to no purpose; there was no steam to be had. How eagerly I watched the steam-gauge to note the first forward movement of the pointer, and how long I watched in vain! The engine was barely moving, and the pressure was diminishing. The captain sent for the chief-engineer, and told him that he must have steam; but what could he do? Already we had been struck many times, and one man was instantly killed, while we could not bring our guns to bear, as we were not able to move the vessel.

The Pawnee was at anchor three miles below, in the inlet, and the rebel batteries were masked. At last, the powerful blast of the blower began to tell upon our fires, and joyfully we watched the gauge, as it gradually showed more steam. But for a long time our case seemed hopeless, and we expected to get aground every minute. As we were able to increase the speed, we could manoeuvre with more facility, and our shots soon began to fall thick and fast among the woods on the shore, near the village, and exploding, created great havoc. The captain showed the most persistent bravery. As soon as he found he could work the vessel, he refused to go down the river, but said he would save the handful of our troops stationed in the village.

The eleven-inch gun was worked with most admirable precision and despatch, and its tremendous report was heard every three minutes. We continued to keep in motion, so as to destroy the enemy's aim, and as we now had plenty of steam, were able to move with great facility. The rebels also fired very rapidly, and with deadly effect. A shell passed through the main-top-mast, cutting away the shrouds, and scattering the splinters all over the decks and the engine-room. Whenever I stepped up to the hatch, the whiz of the shells was unusually distinct, showing that the enemy were good gunners. Word was now brought down that more men were killed, and the carpenter came down to sound the pumps. But although she had been hulled many times, there was no leakage, though we had every thing in readiness for such an event. The captain kept shouting, "Give it to them, boys, we are driving them!" and showed no fear, only dodging the balls, as we all did.

At last our rapid broadside fire of six guns began to tell, and soon the gallant "chivalry" were in full retreat, leaving their guns in the woods. They could not stand our rapid fire,

and so vamoused. We gave three cheers, and were then relieved from "quarters," after an engagement of two hours. All hands were called to muster on the quarter-deck, and officers and men, begrimed with powder, assembled around the binnacle to hear the roll called. It was found that six did not answer to their names, and the corpses on the deck and wounded men on stretchers told the story.

At this moment the Pawnee came up, closely followed by the mortar-schooner C. P. Williams, which, though a sailing vessel, had come down from Folly River, some six miles, to our assistance, and showed the most praiseworthy promptness, although too late to participate in the engagement. The Pawnee never fired a gun or received a shot. The men "faced the music" with the most unflinching heroism, and did themselves credit. The Captain complimented them highly, and said that the victory was all due to their efforts. Two of the crew of the eleven-inch gun were almost instantly killed by shells, and the captain (a seaman) of the aft-howitzers was also killed by a rifle-shot, which took off the top of his head. One of the coal-heavers was badly wounded by the fragment of the anchor-bit, which was knocked to atoms by a shot, and two other men were quite badly injured, besides several others scratched by splinters. The enemy fled precipitately, leaving two large rifle-guns and carriages, and many knapsacks and muskets, and one dead body.

We landed, but could not carry off the guns on account of the marsh, and so spiked them and threw them into the river. If we had not stood our ground so well, the "rebs" would have captured Legreeville and all our troops there, and would then have erected a battery so as to command the whole of the river. Our captain acted nobly, and we are all proud of him. All honor was shown to the brave fellows who fell in the action while in the performance of their duty. Their corpses were laid upon the starboard side of the quarter-deck, and carefully covered with the finest American ensign on the ship. Coffins were made for them on board the Pawnee, in which they were laid, and are now awaiting burial. A boat has just left the ship for the purpose of digging the graves, and most of us are expecting to be present at the burial, and are only too willing to do the heroes honor.

The guns used by the rebels were very heavy rifled pieces, and were worked with great rapidity.

We were struck twenty times, every shot passing through the ship or masts, and the deck was covered with splinters and blood. A rifle-shot struck the ship at the steerage, and, passing through, made a perfect lumber-room of it. The hole through the ship was as large as a hat, and much broken, and the shot passing through, broke up two of the berths on the starboard side and tore down the curtains, and, going on, struck the solid floor, making a long hole in it a foot wide. The shot then passed over to the engineer's side, breaking to atoms the glass, and

passed through the lockers of the other two engineers, and then smashed Mr. S.'s berth all to pieces, ripping open his mattress and cutting the ends off from all the slats. We found the shot on the floor. It was more than a foot long, conical, and weighed thirty pounds. It was a wicked shot, and was evidently aimed at the engine, and if it had struck, as intended, a few feet further forward, it would probably have killed all in the engine-room and disabled the engine, when the boat would probably have been lost. Nothing but the mercy of the Almighty turned that tremendous missile from its course and saved the ship and our lives.

This is the severest fight we have had since the taking of Port Royal. Our proportion of killed and wounded is one in twelve.

H. W. R.

Doc. 30.

BATTLE AT CHARLESTOWN, TENN.

GENERAL THOMAS'S REPORT.

CHATTANOOGA, December 23, 1862.

To Major-General Halleck:

COLONEL LONG, of the Fourth Ohio cavalry, commanding the Second division of cavalry, reports from Cahoun, Tennessee, December twenty-eighth:

The rebel General Wheeler, with one thousand two hundred or one thousand five hundred cavalry and mounted infantry, attacked Colonel Siebert, and captured a supply-train from Chattanooga, for Knoxville, about ten o'clock this morning, at Charlestown, on the south bank of the Hiwassee.

The train escort had reached the encampment at Charlestown last night, and Colonel Siebert's skirmishers hotly engaged with the enemy this morning before Colonel Long was apprised of their approach.

He immediately moved the small force for duty in his camp at the time—one hundred and fifty men—crossed to Colonel Siebert's support. The rebels shortly after gave way, Colonel Long pursuing them closely, discovering a portion of their force cut off on the right. He charged them with sabres, completely demolishing and scattering them in great confusion and in every direction.

Several of the enemy, number not known, were killed and wounded. One hundred and twenty-one prisoners were captured, including five commissioned officers.

The main rebel column fled, and were pursued five miles on the Dalton road, and, when last seen, were flying precipitately.

Colonel Long's loss was one man slightly wounded. The officer in command of the courier station at Cleveland, also reports that he was attacked early this morning, December twenty-eighth, by a force of one hundred rebels. He drove them off, however.

Geo. H. Thomas,
Major-General Commanding.

COLONEL LAIBOLD'S REPORT.

CAMP NEAR CALBOUR, December 23, 1862.

Sir: It affords me great pleasure to report to

you that I have given the rebel General Wheeler a sound thrashing this morning. I had succeeded, in spite of the most abominable roads, to reach Obarlestown on the night of the twenty-seventh, and this morning, shortly after daylight, I was moving my train across the Hiawassee River bridge, when Wheeler's cavalry—reported one thousand five hundred men strong, with four pieces of artillery, which, however, they had no time to bring into action—appeared on my rear. I placed my infantry in line of battle, then got my train over the bridge safely, and asked Colonel Long to place a regiment of cavalry at my disposal. These arrangements made, I charged with my infantry, on the double-quick, on the astonished rebels, and routed them completely, when I ordered a cavalry charge, to give them the finishing touch. The charge was made in good style, but the number of our cavalry was insufficient for an effective pursuit, and so the enemy got away, and was even able to take his guns along, which, with numerous prisoners, must have fallen into my hands, could I have made a pursuit.

I have now with me, as prisoners, five commissioned officers, among whom is the Inspector-General of General Kelly's division, a surgeon, and one hundred and twenty-six men of different regiments.

Wheeler commanded in person, and it was reported to him, as the prisoners state, that I had six hundred wagons in my train, which he expected to take without much trouble.

The casualties on my side are as follows:

Third division—Two commissioned officers wounded, two men killed, eight wounded, and one missing.

Second division—Four men wounded.

The rebels lost, beside the number stated, several severely wounded, which I am obliged to leave behind, and probably several killed. The number of small arms thrown away by them is rather large, and they will, undoubtedly, be gathered by Colonel Long.

I shall pursue my march at daybreak to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BERNARD LAIBOLD,

Colonel Second Missouri Infantry.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLERTON,

Adjutant-General Fourth Corps.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

CHATTANOOGA, Monday, December 28.

An important victory has just been added to the list which has crowned the army of the Cumberland with glory. True, the fight was upon a comparatively small scale; but victories are not always to be valued by the numbers engaged, nor the list of the slain. The importance of an achievement must be estimated by results; and, in this instance, it would be impossible to compute the magnitude of the interests at stake, and the advantages gained by the defeat of our adversary.

Although it has hitherto been contraband, I

deem it so no longer, to state that the divisions of Sheridan and Wood were left at or near Knoxville, when Sherman withdrew from that point, and they will probably remain there during the winter; and, of course, it is necessary that their supply-trains, left behind at the first march, should be forwarded to them. Accordingly, a few days since, the quartermasters received orders to move their vehicles to their respective commands, and, in a brief space, the trains were on the way, guarded by the cavalry brigade commanded by Colonel Long, of the Fourth Ohio. They met with no traces of the enemy for several days—only hearing of small guerrilla parties, at different points, which were by no means formidable—and finally arrived at the very natural conclusion that the route was unobstructed, and that the train was not threatened.

Night before last (twenty-seventh) the wagons were all thrown across the Hiawassee, and parked, with but a small guard, under Colonel Siebert, in the front, the main force, one thousand two hundred in number, remaining on the south side of the stream. During the night no alarms occurred, and in the morning the mules were hitched up, as usual, to proceed on the journey, when the small guard was suddenly attacked by Wheeler, at the head of one thousand five hundred men. The charge was sudden and unexpected, and resulted in a hasty retreat on Colonel Siebert's part, leaving the train in the hands of the rebels. He had but about one hundred men with him, and it would have been impossible to have resisted the progress of the enemy; but he had scarcely reached the river-bank, when reinforcements, to the number of one hundred and fifty, crossed to his aid, when a counter-charge was made, resulting in the recapture of the wagons, mules, and horses, which had not been injured, so brief was the rebel possession of the prize.

After retaking the train, Colonel Siebert, with his handful of men, was unable to continue the pursuit, but, keeping his force in line, he so far terrified his adversary that no effort was made to repossess the lost plunder, until Colonel Long, with the whole force, reached the north bank, and wheeled into line, ready for work.

But a moment is required to prepare for an onset; sabres were drawn, and the soldiers stood waiting for the command; it was given, and in a moment, without even making a show of resistance, the rebels broke and ran, pell-mell, down the Dalton road, up every trail, and over hills so steep that hoof had never before trodden them. Many jumped from their animals and sought safety among the rocks; others, in dismay, leaped fences, while yet more surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

The loss to the rebels in this engagement was forty-seven killed and wounded, and one hundred and twenty-three prisoners. But this was not the most important result of the achievement. The wagon route from here to Knoxville has been rendered secure, and the courier lines saved from further annoyance.

The old cavalry corps of this department of the rebel army, once the terror of Kentucky and Tennessee, has dwindled down to almost nothing. It can no longer effect any thing. It has been defeated so often of late, that it and its commanders have fallen into disrepute, and are no longer looked upon as of importance to the army.

Our loss in the engagement is variously estimated at from one to ten wounded, all agreeing that none of our gallant men were killed, though one was taken prisoner. To the Fourth Ohio cavalry and Twentieth Missouri mounted infantry belong the honor of this last important achievement, which resulted in securing a connection of the highest importance to the country.

COLONEL LAIBOLD'S LETTER.

LONDON, TENN., January 1, 1864.

SIR: Being well aware of the flattering interest you take in my movements, I take pleasure in informing you that I have had an engagement with the rebel General Wheeler, on the twenty-eighth of December, giving him the soundest thrashing he ever received.

On the twenty-third of December, I was given command of a detachment of the Fourth army corps, consisting principally of convalescents of the two last battles, camp retainers, etc., and a train of about one hundred and fifty wagons, with orders to join the army corps at Knoxville. On the twenty-fourth, I started from Chattanooga, and proceeded about eight miles, to a place near Chickamauga River, being necessitated to halt on account of the slow progress of the train. In the evening of that day, a flag of truce came into my lines, with despatches to Generals Grant and Thomas, and a mail, and I have no doubt that the bearer of that flag gave information which induced Wheeler to follow my track.

The miserable state of the weather and worse condition of the roads, prevented me from moving fast, and it was the twenty-seventh before I reached Charlestown on the Hiwassee River. On the morning of the twenty-eighth, I commenced moving my train across a temporary bridge on the ties of the railroad structure, but had only a few wagons over when it was found necessary to dig a new road in the railroad dyke. Whilst this was being done, Wheeler, with two divisions of cavalry, (Generals Kelly's and Preston's,) made a rush at the train. I immediately advanced my skirmishers, and silently formed my command in line of battle, covering completely, at the same time, all avenues of approach.

I then saw the whole of my train safely over the river, and ordered a small cavalry force to be stationed at that post under my immediate command, stationing them in a convenient position for a charge. I had, up to that time, strictly forbidden all firing from the lines; but now, being in readiness, I charged with the infantry in double-quick, and completely routed the enemy, under Wheeler's personal command; and when they were in utter confusion, I charged again with the cavalry, who cut down many of the terrified enemy, and made scores of prisoners.

My movements were quick enough to prevent Wheeler from bringing four cannon he had with him into action, and the stampede of the renowned rebel cavalry was such that, with any thing like an adequate number of cavalry, I could have easily captured the whole command. As it was, I captured five commissioned officers and one hundred and twenty-six men, killed (as far as I was able to learn during my brief stay) eleven rebels, wounded over thirty, amongst them General Kelly and Colonel Wade; and the number of small arms thrown away by the valiant warriors must amount to between three and four hundred.

Being obliged to proceed upon my march, I had to leave it to the cavalry to bring in the small arms thrown away, and, I have no doubt, they captured a good many more prisoners, as large numbers of the enemy scattered in different directions to hide in the woods. Wheeler moved post haste into Georgia, with a couple of hundred men of his command, bare-headed, and without arms. I started next day, according to orders, and arrived at this place on the thirty-first December, all safe.

The casualties in my command, in the engagement, were two officers wounded, two men killed, and twelve wounded; amongst them none of the few Missouri troops with me.

Your obedient servant, **BERNARD LAIBOLD**,
Colonel Second Infantry, Missouri Volunteers.
JOHN B. GRAY,
Adjutant-General State of Missouri.

Doc. 81.

THE FIGHT AT MOSSY CREEK, TENN.

KNOXVILLE, January 31, 1864.

THE following account of this fight is given by one who participated in it:

We reached Mossy Creek on the twenty-eighth of December, and for the next two days our pickets were constantly skirmishing. On the twenty-ninth, the rebels attacked us, coming down rapidly with eight thousand cavalry and fifteen pieces of artillery. They were opposed by our brigade of infantry—First brigade, Second division, Twenty-third army corps—numbering about one thousand five hundred, with four regiments of cavalry, two batteries, with nine guns. We had the advantage in position, and the enemy in numbers.

The guns were placed in position, and commenced firing at eleven o'clock A.M. At the same time, skirmishing commenced all along the line. The One Hundred and Eighteenth was still quietly in camp; but soon an aid dashed up with the order to "fall in, without knapsacks or blankets," and in five minutes we were rapidly moving into our position, which was a mile from our camp. We went, double-quick, down the hill, across the Mossy Creek, up the steep ascent on the other side, and had accomplished the distance in less than fifteen minutes. When on the brow of the hill, we were under a terrific fire of shell, round shot, and shrapnel, thrown by the rebel batteries,

nine of their guns reaching our position. Meanwhile, the Twenty-fourth Indiana battery was pouring a most deadly fire among the rebel ranks in the opposite fields and woods. After various manoeuvring, we were thrown into a position on the left of that gallant battery, in a piece of woods with cleared ground all around it. In getting to that position, we had to pass through a perfect storm of all manner of deadly missiles, and, after getting there, we stood for three mortal hours under fire of artillery and small arms, which old soldiers describe as being the most terrible they had ever witnessed. Our own regiment, One Hundred and Eighteenth Ohio, tried for the first time in so terrible a manner, together with the above-mentioned battery, stood the brunt of the fight, and sustained the heaviest loss. We had been thrown into a position without support, and we only escaped through the good judgment and skill of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas S. Young, commanding, and the indomitable bravery of the men. In front of us was the railroad, running parallel to our line; and behind this, was a regiment of sharpshooters picking us off at every opportunity. A piece of woods and a large corn-field to our left were swarming with "graybacks." They charged us the second time, and would, no doubt, ultimately have overwhelmed us, had not the First Tennessee cavalry, Colonel Jim Brownlow, by a well-timed counter-charge, driven them from our left, while we poured a heavy fire into their front, causing them to beat a hasty retreat. But doggedly they rallied and advanced again, calmly filling up the gaps we made in their ranks, cheering loudly all the while. This advance was to take the Indiana battery, which had made terrible havoc among them, besides having silenced several of their guns; and they had well-nigh accomplished their purpose, and were only fifty yards from us, when Colonel Young gave the order to cease firing. He had just received orders to hold that strip of woods, and hold it he would, at all hazard. Our artillery was on the eve of being lost. What few men were left to man the guns were doing all they could to get them away. Again the order was, "Fix bayonets!" and in the next instant, led by the gallant Colonel, we charged them at the point of the bayonet. With unbroken line, at double-quick, we went at them and drove them out of the woods across the open field. This was the first suspicion that rebel infantry were in the woods, as we afterward learned from a printed address of Major-General Martin, who commanded the enemy's forces—two divisions under Wheeler and Armstrong.

The First Tennessee cavalry lost several in killed and wounded. The Twenty-fourth Indiana battery suffered most severely, nearly every man and horse belonging to it, being injured to a greater or less extent. The First Lieutenant and one private had their heads entirely blown off. The One Hundred and Eighteenth Ohio escaped with but forty-two killed and wounded, out of four hundred and forty-one engaged.

Our entire forces were commanded by Brigadier-General Sturgis.

It is due here to state, that had it not been for the gallantry of the intrepid Lieutenant-Colonel Young, in holding the strip of woods referred to, the issue of the fight would certainly have been very far from satisfactory, if not entirely disastrous.

SUPER.

Doc. 32.

AMNESTY PROCLAMATION.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PROCLAMATION.

WASHINGTON, December 8, 1863.

WHEREAS, in and by the Constitution of the United States, it is provided that the President shall "have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases for impeachment;" and

Whereas a rebellion now exists whereby the loyal State governments of several States have, for a long time, been subverted, and many persons have committed and are now guilty of treason against the United States; and

Whereas, with reference to said rebellion and treason, laws have been enacted by Congress declaring forfeitures and confiscation of property, and liberation of slaves, all upon terms and conditions therein stated, and also declaring that the President was thereby authorized at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion, in any State or part thereof, pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions, and at such times, and on such conditions as he may deem expedient for the public welfare; and

Whereas, the Congressional declaration for limited and conditional pardon accords with well-established judicial exposition of the pardoning power; and

Whereas, with reference to said rebellion the President of the United States has issued several proclamations, with provisions in regard to the liberation of slaves; and

Whereas, it is now desired by some persons heretofore engaged in said rebellion, to resume their allegiance to the United States, and to re-inaugurate loyal State governments within and for their respective States; therefore,

I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do proclaim, declare, and make known to all persons who have, directly or by implication, participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, that a full pardon is hereby granted to them and each of them, with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, and in property cases where rights of third parties shall have intervened, and upon the condition that every such person shall take and subscribe an oath, and thenceforward keep and maintain said oath inviolate; and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation,

and shall be of the tenor and effect following, to wit:

"I, ———, do solemnly swear, in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not repealed, modified, or held void by Congress, or by decision of the Supreme Court; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all proclamations of the President made during the existing rebellion having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by decision of the Supreme Court. So help me God."

The persons excepted from the benefits of the foregoing provisions are all who are, or shall have been, civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the so-called confederate government; all who have left judicial stations under the United States to aid the rebellion; all who are or shall have been military or naval officers of said so-called confederate government above the rank of colonel in the army, or of lieutenant in the navy; all who left seats in the United States Congress to aid the rebellion; all who resigned commissions in the army or navy of the United States, and afterward aided the rebellion; and all who have engaged in any way in treating colored persons, or white persons in charge of such, otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of war, and which persons may have been found in the United States service as soldiers, seamen, or in any other capacity.

And I do further proclaim, declare, and make known, that whenever, in any of the States of Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South-Carolina, and North-Carolina, a number of persons not less than one tenth in number of the votes cast in such State at the Presidential election of the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty, each having taken the oath aforesaid and not having since violated it, and being a qualified voter by the election law of the State existing immediately before the so-called act of secession, and excluding all others, shall reestablish a State government which shall be republican, and in no wise contravening said oath, such shall be recognized as the true government of the State, and the State shall receive thereunder the benefits of the Constitutional provision which declares that "the United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion, and, on application of the legislature, or the executive, (when the legislature cannot be convened,) against domestic violence.

And I do further proclaim, declare, and make known that any provision which may be adopted by such State government in relation to the freed people of such State, which shall recognize and declare their permanent freedom, provide for

their education, and which may yet be consistent, as a temporary arrangement, with their present condition as a laboring, landless, and homeless class, will not be objected to by the national Executive. And it is suggested as not improper, that, in constructing a loyal State government in any State, the name of the State, the boundary, the subdivisions, the constitution, and the general code of laws, as before the rebellion, be maintained, subject only to the modifications made necessary by the conditions heretofore stated, and such others, if any, not contravening the said conditions, and which may be deemed expedient by those framing the new State government.

To avoid misunderstanding, it may be proper to say that this proclamation, so far as it relates to State governments, has no reference to States wherein loyal State governments have all the while been maintained. And, for the same reason, it may be proper further to say, that whether members sent to Congress from any State shall be admitted to seats, constitutionally rests exclusively with the respective Houses, and not to any extent with the Executive. And still further, that this proclamation is intended to present the people of the States wherein the national authority has been suspended, and loyal State governments have been subverted, a mode in and by which the national authority and loyal State governments may be reestablished within said States, or in any of them; and, while the mode presented is the best the Executive can suggest, with his present impressions, it must not be understood that no other possible mode would be acceptable.

Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, the eighth day of December, A.D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-eighth. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN GENERALS LONGSTREET AND FOSTER.

HEADQUARTERS CONFEDERATE FORCES,
EAST-TENNESSEE, January 8, 1864. }

To the Commanding General U. S. Forces East-Tennessee:

SIR: I find the proclamation of President Lincoln of the eighth of December last in circulation in handbills among our soldiers. The immediate object of this circulation appears to be to induce our soldiers to quit our ranks and to take the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. I presume, however, that the great object and end in view is to hasten the day of peace.

I respectfully suggest, for your consideration, the propriety of communicating any views that your Government may have upon this subject through me, rather than by handbills circulated among our soldiers. The few men who may desert under the promise held out in the proclamation cannot be men of character or standing.

If they desert their cause they degrade themselves in the eyes of God and of man. They can do your cause no good, nor can they injure ours.

As a great nation, you can accept none but an honorable peace; as a noble people, you can have us accept nothing less. I submit, therefore, whether the mode that I suggest would not be more likely to lead to an honorable end than such a circulation of a partial promise of freedom.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
J. LONGSTREET,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO, }
KNOXVILLE, E. T., January 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-General Commanding Forces in East-Tennessee:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated January third, 1864; you are correct in the supposition that the great object in view in the circulation of the President's proclamation is to induce those now in rebellion against the Government to lay aside their arms and return to their allegiance as citizens of the United States, thus securing the reunion of States now arrayed in hostility against one another and restoration of peace. The immediate effect of the circulation may be to cause many men to leave your ranks, to return home or come within our lines, and, in view of this latter course, it has been thought proper to issue an order announcing the favorable terms on which deserters will be received.

I accept, however, your suggestion that it would have been more courteous to have sent these documents to you for circulation, and I embrace with pleasure the opportunity thus afforded to inclose to you twenty (20) copies of each of these documents, and rely upon your generosity and desire for peace to give publicity to the same among your officers and men.

I have the honor to be General, very respectfully,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO, }
January 17, 1864.

Lieutenant-General Longstreet, Commanding Confederate Forces East-Tennessee:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the reception of your letter of the eleventh inst. The admonition which you gave me against trifling over the events of this great war does not carry with it the weight of authority with which you seek to impress me.

I am, nevertheless, ready to respond, in plain terms, to the suggestions conveyed in your first letter, and which you quote in your second despatch, that I communicate through you any views which the United States Government may entertain, having for their object the speedy restoration of peace throughout the land.

These views, so far as they can be interpreted, from the policy of the Government, and sustained by the people at their elections, are as follows:

First, the restoration of the rights of citizen-

ship to all now in rebellion against the Government who may lay down their arms and return to their allegiance.

Second, the prosecution of the war until every attempt at armed resistance to the Government shall have been overcome.

I avail myself of the opportunity to forward an order publishing proceedings, finding, and sentence in the case of private E. S. Dodd, Eighth Texas confederate cavalry, who was tried, condemned, and executed as a spy.

I also inclose the copy of an order which I have found it necessary to issue in regard to the wearing of the United States uniforms by confederate soldiers.

I have the honor to be, General, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. G. FOSTER,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO, }
KNOXVILLE, TENN., January 8, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7.

Our outposts and pickets posted in isolated places having in many instances been surprised and captured by the enemy's troops disguised as Union soldiers, the Commanding General is obliged to issue the following order for the protection of his command and to prevent a continuance of the violation of the rules of civilized warfare:

Corps commanders are hereby directed to cause to be shot dead all rebel officers and soldiers wearing the uniform of the United States army captured in future within our lines.

By command of Major-General Foster.

HENRY CURTIS, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Official: ED. N. STRONG,
Major and A. D. C.

Doc. 88.

GENERAL WILD'S EXPEDITION.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

Worcester, Va., Monday, January 4.

THE success which crowned the late expedition of Colonel Draper, of the Second North-Carolina (colored) regiment, to Princess Anne County, resulting in the enlistment of a large number of recruits, the release from bondage of hundreds of slaves, the discomfiture of the guerrillas and the capture of their chief, induced General Wild, the commander of the colored troops in this department, with the approbation of Major-General Butler, to plan a raid of a similar character, but on a much more extensive scale, beyond our lines into North-Carolina. This plan was in one respect entirely original. The success of a raid is usually made to depend upon the secrecy with which it is undertaken, and the rapidity with which it is executed—a dash into the enemy's country, rest nowhere, and a hasty return. But General Wild resolved to be absent a month, to occupy and evacuate towns at his leisure, relying upon a novel species of strategy and the bayonets

of his sable braves to recross our lines in safety when his work should be accomplished.

Collecting his available forces—about one thousand eight hundred men—at two points, the intrenched camp four miles from Norfolk, and a point conveniently distant from Portsmouth, the columns marched at daylight on the fifth ult., leaving so secretly that your correspondent was the only representative of the press aware of the movement, and a week later the public first learned, through the *Times*, that the main object of the raid had been accomplished.

The column, commanded by General Wild in person, consisting of the Second North-Carolina and the Fifth United States, encamped the first night at Deep Creek, nine miles from Portsmouth. Following the tow-path of the Dismal Swamp Canal, which commences here, a march of eighteen miles was accomplished the next day, the men encamping at night on Ferrebee's farm. A halt was made here until the middle of the following day, boats with rations and forage being expected to arrive. These not appearing, General Wild determined to advance, trusting to Providence and the country for the subsistence of his men.

Encamping that night at South-Mills, the column was started the next morning in the direction of Camden Court-House. The region abounded in agricultural wealth, was thickly settled, and contained many slaves. All visible contrabands were invited to "fall in," and parties were detailed to search the houses of the planters. In many instances the slaves were found locked up, when the doors were broken open, the teams of their masters impressed, and they were taken along with their household property. In this way the train was hourly extended, until by night it was half a mile in length. The inhabitants being almost exclusively "secesh," the colored boys were allowed to forage at will along the road. Returning to South-Mills, General Wild sent his train of contrabands, numbering seventy-five wagons, under guard to Portsmouth. A battery of artillery and two companies of cavalry, from General Getty's division, reinforced him here.

Arriving at River Bridge the next day, it was found to have been destroyed by the guerrillas, nothing of it remaining visible but the charred tops of the piles. Learning that a house and barn near by belonged to one of the guerrilla band, General Wild adopted a novel means to restore the bridge and punish the bushwhacker at the same time. In ten minutes, a thousand men were engaged in demolishing the house and barn; suitable portions of the timber were selected and drawn to the creek, and in six hours the whole force was across and pushing on to Elizabeth City.

Intelligence having reached me that Elizabeth City had been occupied by General Wild, without opposition, a few hours after forwarding my despatch to that effect to the *Times*, in company with Colonel Draper, of the Second North-Carolina, who had been detained in Norfolk by the

trial of the guerrilla chief, whom he had lately captured, I was in the saddle and on my way thither—a dismal, lonely ride before me of nearly fifty miles. We left the camp near Portsmouth about nine o'clock in the evening, and, dashing into the darkness, arrived in an hour at Deep Creek, where a regiment of General Getty's brigade is now stationed. A brief delay here, caused by the countersign differing from the one in our possession, and we entered the tow-path of the Dismal Swamp Canal, which commences at this point. Passing several picket-fires, at each of which a cavalryman cried, "Dismount one; advance, and give the countersign!" we came at length to the reserve. This consisted of some twenty men, belonging to the Fifth Pennsylvania cavalry, who were seated around a blazing fire of fence-rails, near a deserted house, with several prisoners that had been brought in. This we learned was the last of our picket-posts, that it was twenty-five miles to Elizabeth City, and that there were plenty of guerrillas ahead. It was about midnight when we bade our friends good-by, and entered the enemy's country. We were now in the dreariest and wildest part of the Dismal Swamp; the darkness was dense, the air damp, and the ghastly silence was broken only by the hooting of owls and the crying of wild-cats. For two hours we rode through the Stygian blackness of the forest, when we arrived at South-Mills—a collection of about twenty houses—where we stopped to rest our horses. Here we left the canal and descended into another swamp of Hades. The narrow, crooked road was flooded with water, and crossed innumerable little rickety bridges, over which our horses picked their steps with great caution and reluctance. A mile of this road to Jordan, a suspicion I had expressed that we had missed the way, strengthened every minute. Turning a bend, a picket-fire, with four men standing by it, appeared ahead, while further on a large camp-fire lighted up the forest. What could this mean? We knew General Wild to be in Elizabeth City. Were our friends the guerrillas on the war-path? or had a rebel force come down from the Blackwater? Turning our horses aside, after a brief consultation, we decided to advance, come what might. In a moment we were challenged. Colonel Draper dismounted, and led his horse toward the picket. Presently we heard exclamations of welcome, and then a call of "All right—come on!" Riding up, we found that the picket was from Colonel Draper's own regiment, and learned that General Wild had left a considerable force behind to guard the bridge he had built. I need not say that this was an agreeable surprise. In a few moments we reached the camp, which presented a scene of singular picturesqueness. All about were strewn timbers, boards, joists, shingles, and the miscellaneous *debris* of the buildings torn down, among which, under shelter of every imaginable device, the sable soldiers were stretched upon beds of corn-stalks, while a hundred blazing fires threw their glare upon the sleeping figures, and lighted up the green cedar swamp around.

We were delayed an hour here, while the men were relaying the planks of the bridge, when we mounted our horses and posted on. We had now ten miles to Elizabeth City, and the road ran in dangerous proximity to a guerrilla camp. A half an hour of swamp and black darkness and we emerged from the forest at Hintonville, which consists of a church and a single dwelling-house. Welcome dawn at length appeared, revealing a pleasant, open country, with spacious corn-fields on every side. Smoke began to curl from the chimneys of the farm-houses; here and there an early riser was drawing water from the well, or opening the doors of the barn, while hundreds of larks were singing in the groves and orchards.

As we rode into Elizabeth City, a little after sunrise, I was surprised to see how its appearance had been changed by the war. Three years ago it was a busy and beautiful little city, noted for the number of its stores and manufactories, the extent and variety of its trade, for its enterprise and the rapid increase of its population. Now most of the dwellings were deserted; the stores all closed; the streets overgrown with grass, its elegant edifices reduced to heaps of ruins by vandal Georgian troops; the doors of the bank standing wide open, and a sepulchral silence brooded over the place. We found General Wild at his headquarters—the fine residence of Dr. Pool—standing on the piazza with a portion of his staff, and received a cordial welcome.

I found that the attention of the General, after occupying the city, had been first turned to the guerrillas who infested the neighborhood, and that he had just sent out a force of one thousand two hundred men, under command of Colonel Holman, of the First United States, in the direction of Hertford, where there was reported to be a large camp of these villains. The expedition returned the next day, without accomplishing its object, all the bridges having been found destroyed, and the guerrillas keeping themselves concealed. They were not far away, however, for a man who straggled from the column was taken prisoner by them.

On Sunday morning the steamer Frazier arrived, with the intelligence that the gunboat North State, which had been sent from Old Point with orders to report to General Wild, had burst her steam-pipe, and was lying disabled in Currituck Sound. This disaster promised to prove a serious blow to the success of the expedition, which contemplated coöperation by water. Besides, it was not improbable that a formidable rebel force might be sent hither from the Blackwater, in which case it would be impossible to retreat or to hold the city for any length of time without the aid of a gunboat. As no other vessel could be procured from Fortress Monroe in less than a week, General Wild determined to send to Captain Flusser, commanding the naval force at Plymouth, for assistance.

Accordingly, a sail-boat and a loyal pilot having been found, near sunset I set sail for Plymouth, seventy-five miles from Elizabeth City. A few miles down the river I encountered the privateer

Three Brothers—a little stern-wheel canal-boat, used by General Wild to procure wood, and as a transport. Quartermaster Birdsall, of the First United States, who had been installed commander of this formidable craft, elated by his good fortune in capturing that day two stranded sloops, which he maintained were blockade-runners, and thinking to obtain a still nobler prize, put after me at full speed, (two miles an hour,) and it was for a time uncertain, in the darkness of the evening, whether I would not be towed back in triumph, lashed to the stern of his victorious "wheelbarrow." I afterward almost regretted that this had not happened, for the wind being dead ahead, we were the whole night beating to the mouth of the river. The Sound reached, with daybreak a furious wind arose, threatening my frail craft with destruction. In fact, the pilot pronounced the voyage impracticable, and we were crossing to the rebel shore, where I had determined to land and attempt to reach Plymouth on foot, when a steamer was descried through the fog. Tacking and steering for her, she proved to be the Whitehead, and I learned that Captain Flusser was on board the Miami, at the mouth of North River, whither the Whitehead was also bound. My boat was taken in tow, and in an hour we were alongside the Miami. Captain Flusser at once acceded to the General's request, and we were soon under way for Elizabeth City, before which we came to anchor about noon.

Meanwhile, detachments were sent in all directions through the neighborhood to "canvass" the plantations for contrabands. One of three hundred men, under command of Major Wright, was landed by the Frazier on Wade's Point, at the mouth of the Pasquotank, with orders to scour the Peninsula between the Pasquotank and Little Rivers up to Elizabeth City, bringing in all the slaves that could be found. Major Wright returned with a train of thirty-eight ox, mule, and horse carts, containing the personal property of two hundred and fifty slaves that followed him into town. Almost hourly officers sent out on this service would report to the General the return of their commands, with the number of teams taken and slaves liberated. In addition to this, slaves belonging to isolated plantations were constantly coming to headquarters and asking the General to protect them in the removal of their families. Seldom did such a request fail to insure the necessary detail of men. The lately deserted streets of the city were thronged with liberated slaves that came pouring in from the country in every direction with their household furniture. As rapidly as possible the women and children, and such men as were physically unfit to serve as soldiers, were shipped to Roanoke Island, where a large negro colony has been founded under the care of Horace James.

Although the suppression of the guerrillas was considered by General Wild subordinate to the great object of his raid, which was to clear the country of slaves and procure recruits for his

brigade, still as those highwaymen, calling themselves the Sixty-sixth North-Carolina volunteers, and the "State Defenders," were constantly lurking in the neighborhood and nightly firing on our pickets, and as they had not returned the colored soldier they had taken, a "gorilla" hunt was determined upon. Accordingly, a force of five hundred men, under Colonel Holman, was sent against Captain Elliott's band of robbers, whose camp was known to be located near the town. Following the Hertford road six miles, to what is called the "Sandy Cross-Road," and following this three miles, the men were deployed and ordered to advance through the swamp. In half an hour the discharge of musketry and shouts from the colored boys proclaimed that the camp of the Sixty-sixth had been discovered. The valiant "State Defenders" fled in confusion at the first fire, leaving their arms and several fine horses behind. The camp was burned, with two large buildings, containing their winter store of forage and provisions. In the neighborhood, the dwelling-house and barns of William T. Wright, their Commissary, were also burned, as were subsequently the house and barn of Lieutenant Munden. Having carried out his orders, Colonel Holman then returned to Elizabeth City with his trophies and one guerrilla as prisoner. The next morning General Wild received a letter from the guerrilla chief, stating that the colored soldier had been sent to Raleigh, but that he would set out at once for that city, see Governor Vance, and have him returned. At the commencement of the war General Wild was practising medicine in Brookline, Massachusetts. That he understands the guerrilla pathology, and can give a prescription that will cure every time, I think the Pasquotank bushwhackers will acknowledge.

On the fifteenth instant, Brigadier-General Wessel arrived from Plymouth on the steamer Massasoit. The two Generals remained an hour in consultation, when the Massasoit left for Roanoke Island. General Wessel's district comprises the territory adjacent to the Albemarle Sound, and his command consists of the One Hundred and First and One Hundred and Third Pennsylvania, and the Eighty-fifth and Ninety-sixth New-York. His headquarters are at Plymouth.

The General's headquarters are besieged from daylight until dark by persons desiring passes to and from the country, to reclaim horses and carts taken for the removal of the effects of the slaves; to have guards stationed at their houses; to take the oath of allegiance, etc., etc. The General imposes very little office work on the members of his staff, doing nearly all the writing himself. Having but one arm, this is especially laborious, but it is his way. Nothing, however trivial, escapes his notice, and he personally superintends every thing.

The money in circulation here is confederate treasury notes and State currency. The day after my arrival, I saw some of our officers purchasing confederate notes of the citizens to send

home as souvenirs of rebeldom. The price paid in United States postage currency was ten cents for a dollar. Corn, of which the country is full, costs in rebel shiplasters, four dollars a bushel; in State currency, two dollars; in United States money it could probably be bought for twenty-five cents. Ordinary women's shoes cost in the money of the Southern Confederacy, one hundred dollars a pair. As I have before remarked, there is not a store open in the city, and the inhabitants depend exclusively for the few necessary articles they obtain upon smuggling through our lines from Norfolk. Coffee and tea are unknown luxuries.

A grand expedition to Husbord, in conjunction with Captain Flusser's gunboats, having been abandoned through a misunderstanding, the surrounding region having been cleared of slaves, the guerrillas effectually chastised, General Wild's mission in Elizabeth City had been fulfilled, and preparations were made to evacuate the place, the steamer Coleman and three schooners were loaded with contrabands and their effects, and a final contribution sent to the flourishing colony on Roanoke Island. Two hundred men, under command of Captain Frye, were sent to a point near the mouth of the Pasquotank, with orders to scour the country to Currituck Sound. The long train of wagons to accompany the main column was ordered to be in readiness by daylight the next morning, and lastly a court-martial was convened to try the prisoners in our possession, now numbering about twenty. Of these, eight were found guilty of various offences, and ordered to be taken to Norfolk; two were retained as hostages; the guerrilla was sentenced to death, and the rest were ordered to be discharged. The following morning the pickets were called in, and the column moved, and in the midst of a drenching rain the place was evacuated, having been held six days.

About noon, the sun coming out, a halt was ordered. The General and his staff rode forward to a small, unfinished building, designed for a post-office, standing upon a knoll at a cross-roads. Sufficient boards and laths were knocked off to afford an unobstructed view of the proceedings from two sides; when one of the officers, producing a cord, tied a hangman's knot at one end of it, and, standing upon the head of an empty cider-barrel, made the other fast to one of the joists overhead. After considerable experimenting, the barrel was made to serve for both the scaffold and the drop, being ingeniously balanced upon one of the floor-timbers, and held in place by a wedge which could be instantly removed. From this to one of the windows a board was laid, and thence another to the ground outside, forming an inclined plane. Meanwhile, most of the officers had ridden forward, and tied their horses to the fence of an adjacent farm-house, whose inmates had closed all the window-blinds, and a crowd of colored soldiers encircled the building, watching in silence these ominous proceedings. Lieutenant-Colonel Shurtliff, of the Fifth United States, was appointed spiritual adviser to the

criminal, and went back with a guard to bring him to the place of execution. When informed that he had but a few minutes to live, and was counselled to improve this time in making his peace with God, he dropped upon his knees in the road and prayed: "O merciful Father! look down upon me! O merciful Father! look down upon me!" These words alone he repeated a hundred times, until the acting chaplain stopped him. He then rose to his feet, walked up the inclined board with a firm step, at the point of the bayonets of the colored guard, advanced quickly to the head of the cider-barrel, and stood under the noose. This being placed around his neck, Colonel Shurtliff invoked the thrones of grace in behalf of the guilty wretch. As the word "Amen" dropped from his lips, the General, who had taken charge of the drop, pulled the wedge—the barrel tipped, the guerrilla dropped. He was a man of about thirty, a rough, stout fellow, was dressed in butternut homespun, and looked the very ideal of a guerrilla. He died of strangulation, his heart not ceasing to beat for twenty minutes. Then a slip of paper was pinned to his back, on which the General had previously written: "This guerrilla hanged by order of Brigadier-General Wild. Daniel Bright, of Pasquotank County." And the body was left hanging there, a warning to all passing bushwhackers.

Encamping that night near River Bridge, the next morning the prisoners and the long contraband train, with the cavalry and artillery, were sent forward to Norfolk, when General Wild started with the remainder of his brigade for Indiantown, fifteen miles distant, in Camden County, at which point Colonel Draper had been ordered to join him. At first, the country was poor, and the houses were mean and far apart. But about noon we struck another road, and entered a region of great beauty and fertility, reminding one of the scenery of Indiana. Vast fields of corn, often a mile in extent, stretched away into tall, green forests—the fences were in good repair, and the houses large, with numerous out-buildings. In no portion of the South had I seen more magnificent plantations. Here the work of "canvassing" began in earnest, and the march of the colored troops was that of an army of liberation. The first plantation to which we came belonged to a man named Ferrebee. Fourteen slaves were found in the negro quarters. "Would they go with us?" "Yes." A squad of men, detailed for the purpose, found a cart under the shed, to which a horse, caught in the pasture, was harnessed; the furniture belonging to the slaves was piled into it, the women and children were placed on the top, and the first team of the contraband train took its place in the procession. Meanwhile, detachments were sent ahead to every visible farmhouse to repeat this operation, and have the slaves ready to fall in by the time the rear-guard should come along. Once a soldier came running to the General in breathless haste. He belonged in the neighborhood, and wished permission to go to the house of his former master, a

half a mile from the road, and get his son. The General sent a lieutenant and twenty men along with him. A number of horses were seen feeding in a corn-field. A squad of men were sent to take two or three of them. A horse and a mule stood looking over the fence by the roadside. The horse "fell in," when the mule leaped the rails and also came along. Wherever a team could be found, it was borrowed or taken for the benefit of such slaves as should not be fortunate enough to have masters owning any. Sometimes, to save their teams, the planters would volunteer to bring their slaves along, which proposition the General invariably accepted. While this was going on, the farms were foraged to some extent. Geese, chickens, and turkeys everywhere abounded, and the inhabitants being all "secesh," the men were permitted to help themselves. On arriving at a house, the front-windows and doors would invariably be found closed, when the men would rush at once to the rear, and overrun the premises like so many ants, bringing away canteens full of milk, bridles for the spare horses, and a few similar articles. Thus the march continued, the train of contrabands growing in length continually, when an incident occurred worthy of a special paragraph.

Toward the middle of the afternoon, our road skirting a densely wooded swamp, two horsemen suddenly appeared ahead in the distance, slowly approaching us. Some of the General's staff, riding forward to overhaul them, they wheeled their horses and retreated at full speed. Upon this all the mounted men, including the General, put spurs to their horses, and an exciting chase commenced. Along the road fast and furious dashed the pursued and the pursuers, the mud and water flying as if a hurricane were sweeping along. At length the two men, still some distance ahead, turned into the forest and disappeared, when the chase was abandoned. We soon came upon the house of one of these bandits, which was given to the flames.

A mile ahead we encountered a party of Colonel Draper's men, which had been sent out to meet us. The Colonel had just reached Indiantown, after a severe skirmish with the guerrillas, in which he had lost several men. In a few minutes we reached the stately mansion of Dr. McIntosh, of which alone the village now consists, the rest of the houses having been burned. For convenience as well as security, Colonel Draper had encamped his men on the Doctor's premises, which, in addition to the large dwelling-house, comprised a spacious farm-yard and twenty or thirty outbuildings. Into the grounds our columns soon poured, and a scene at once novel and picturesque presented itself. The garden fences were speedily demolished, and fires sprang up in all directions under the trees, while a large fire of fence-rails was burning in the road. A hundred horses were tied to every available post and tree; a maze of carts, with their loads of contrabands, inclosed the stables and extended out into the adjoining corn-field; officers were riding to and fro; squads of men were marching

hither and thither, detailed on various duties; the doors of the outbuildings had been forced open and they were occupied for every imaginable purpose. In the Doctor's office a lieutenant-colonel and a captain had taken up their quarters, and saddles, bridles, blankets, swords, pistols, were mingled with pill-boxes and bottles of physic. The neighboring kitchen was filled with women and children from our contraband train. The creaking pump-handle was unceasingly worked—horses were neighing and kicking—servants were bringing armfuls of fodder from the barn. Here were soldiers plucking the feathers from poultry of which they had despoiled the secesh on the march, there a group was listening to the details of the fight with the "grillas," while near by three or four happy darkeys were singing over their boiling camp-kettle. These mingled sights and sounds, blended in rich confusion, composed a scene I shall not soon forget. But in one corner of the yard there was a different spectacle. Hither the wounded men were brought in carts and carefully removed into a small building, where they were placed upon beds of corn-fodder and attended by three surgeons. Many of the wounds were slight, but some were pronounced fatal, and one man died while I was present.

As before stated, a force of four hundred men had been sent from Elizabeth City, under command of Colonel Draper, of the Second North-Carolina, to scour the lower districts of Camden County for contrabands, with orders to unite with the main column at Indiantown. The region was found to abound with fine plantations, and the result of the first day's "cavass" was twenty teams. Encamping that night at Shiloh—a village of about twenty houses and a church—fires were built at a cross-roads near the church, while the men were quartered in the church, and pickets posted on all the approaches. About midnight the pickets were driven in by a force of guerrillas, supposed to number about one hundred men, who discharged their rifles at the camp fires, where they supposed the men to be sleeping. This was what Colonel Draper had anticipated, and thanks to his shrewdness, not the least harm was done. The fire being returned by the reserve-guard, the guerrillas fled into the swamp. The next day, resuming the march to Indiantown, at a place called Sandy Hook, where the road crossed a swamp, they were attacked by a large body of guerrillas in ambush. Colonel Draper ordered his men to lie down while loading their guns, and sent two detachments to attack the bushwhackers with the bayonet on both flanks, skirting the woods for protection. Executing this order, exposed to a sharp fire, the detachments had reached the wood in which the guerrillas were posted, when, perceiving they were flanked, they took to their heels and escaped by a path which the Colonel's men could not find at the time. The fight lasted about half an hour. Colonel Draper's loss was eight killed and seven wounded. The loss of the guerrillas, as was subsequently ascertained,

was thirteen killed and wounded. Entering Indiantown, his rear-guard was fired upon and one man killed.

The Pasquotank guerrillas had fought shy of the armed "niggers," invariably "skeddadling" at their approach; but as these of Camden seemed more bold and numerous, General Wild determined to return to Sandy Hook, and ascertain if the "State Defenders" were really spoiling for a stand-up fight with an equal number of his colored boys. Accordingly, the next morning—leaving behind a sufficient force to protect the camp—the General started for the "Hook," taking with him about four hundred men. A half a mile from the Indiantown Bridge the guerrillas were descried ahead. Colonel Draper, who commanded the advance, at once started his men on the "double-quick" for them, when, firing a few shots, they turned and fled. The main column, led by General Wild on foot, immediately joined in the chase, and a singular spectacle for Jefferson Davis to contemplate was presented; his unconquerable chivalry—any one of whom used to be called equal to six or eight picked Yankees, running for dear life from the bayonets of despised niggers! O Jeff! At length the fleet-footed guerrillas fled off into a forest path, the colored boys some distance behind, filling the air with eager shouts. A half a mile through the wood, across a corn-field, into a second wood, the pursuit was continued, when the path ended, and all traces of the "State Defenders" were lost at the edge of an impassable swamp, densely wooded and flooded with water. Search was made in every direction for the secret path they had taken. At last the embers of a recent picket-fire were discovered, near which the trunk of a felled tree was found to be worn with footsteps. Following this, another tree was found felled, and then another, and another, their trunks forming a zigzag footpath through the mire and water of the swamp. Colonel Draper, at the head of the entire force, in single file, penetrated the swamp in this novel manner for half a mile, when a small island was reached.

Here, surrounded by gloom and savage wildness, was spread the camp of the guerrillas, consisting of log-huts and a number of tents. Fires were found burning, Enfield rifles scattered over the ground, and every thing indicated a hasty evacuation of the place. Between fifty and sixty rifles, a drum, a large quantity of ammunition of both English and rebel manufacture, clothing, a tent full of provisions, and, lastly, the muster-roll of the company, fell into our hands. The huts were soon in flames and the camp of Sanderlin's land-pirates vanished into smoke, which rose in a vast black volume above the forest. Pursuit of the guerrillas was then resumed. They had fled by a path similar to the one by which they entered, leading across the swamp in another direction. Following this, a large farmhouse was reached belonging to Major Gregory. It having been ascertained that Sanderlin obtained here a considerable portion of his supplies, the house and barns, containing several thousand

bushels of corn, were fired, and the Major was carried away prisoner. Guided by the captured muster-roll, all the dwellings belonging to guerrillas within four miles were burned, when General Wild returned to Indiantown, not so well satisfied with his morning's work as he would have been had the villains dared to face his colored troops.

By three P.M., the column was in motion toward Currituck Court-House, followed by an immense train of contrabands, more than a mile in length. We pushed on rapidly, sending scouts ahead to notify the slaves to be ready to "fall in" when the train should pass.

The country through which we passed was as level as a floor, with vast corn-fields stretching away into the forest. Many of the fields, however, were overgrown with weeds, showing where the slaves had run away before the spring-work was done. The houses were generally closed, and a Sabbath silence brooded over the land. It was evidently one of the richest agricultural regions in the State, and even now was filled with plenty. But next year, with their slaves all gone, these wealthy planters must starve, or else put their own shoulders to the wheel.

Some time after dark we came in sight of Captain Fry's picket-fires, and half an hour subsequently entered Currituck, having marched sixteen miles in five hours. The weather was exceedingly cold, and camp-fires were speedily blazing about the three houses constituting the village.

The next day Colonel Draper obtained permission from the General to attempt the capture of Captain Grandy's guerrilla camp, concerning the location of which he had obtained reliable information. Taking with him one hundred and sixty men, he proceeded back on the road travelled last night as far as Sligo. Here, turning into the woods, and following an obscure country road four miles, with his revolver he impressed a farmer to act as guide the rest of the way. The camp was finally found on an island in the interior of a dense swamp, the path to it for a long distance leading over felled trees, as in the case of Sanderlin's. It consisted of nine log-huts, containing bunks for seventy-five men. These were burned, together with a quantity of pork, beef, and tea. Several muskets, a large quantity of bayonets, cartridge-boxes, belts, shoes, and rebel army clothing were brought back as spoils. On the way home Colonel Draper burned two distilleries where the guerrillas were accustomed to procure their whiskey.

The same day the gunboat *Flora Temple* arrived here. The captain had been ordered to report to General Wild at Elizabeth City; but, on landing there, he found that the place had been evacuated, and received such a reception from the inhabitants as induced him to leave instant; two transports also lay at anchor off the village. These the General loaded with contrabands and sent them to Roanoke Island. The next day Colonel Draper was sent with two hundred men across Currituck Sound to Knott's

Island, with orders to burn all the houses of guerrillas he could find, and to destroy if possible the camp of the company existing in that neighborhood. As the men were much fatigued, it was not proposed to hurry home, but, starting the next day, to march very slowly toward Norfolk, "canvassing" the country on the way. This plan, however, was destined to be suddenly changed. About the middle of the afternoon, Major White, of the Eighty-first New-York, stationed at North-West Landing, with a cavalry escort, arrived in haste at the headquarters of General Wild, with a despatch from General Ledlie, in charge of the district of Currituck, containing the information that a large rebel force had been sent down from the Blackwater to intercept the return of the colored troops, and that he was very solicitous for General Wild's safety. Under these circumstances, General Wild deemed it imprudent to remain any longer here. In half an hour the column was in marching order, and at four P.M. was under way. As we left the village, smoke was seen rising from several points on Knott's Island, showing that Colonel Draper was carrying out the order of the General, "to burn pretty freely." Our train consisted of nearly a hundred teams, and the men were worn out and foot-sore, but under the circumstances we marched very rapidly. Flanking parties were sent out at all suspicious points, and no straggling was permitted. When a halt was made, the men would drop upon the ground and instantly fall asleep. Thus pushing on, about ten o'clock we encountered the pickets of the Eighty-first New-York, a half a mile from North-West Landing, and an hour later the whole train was over the bridge, the Union line was crossed, and we were safe. Three days subsequently the entire expedition returned to Norfolk, having been absent just three weeks.

The material results of the raid may be summed up as follows: Between two thousand and three thousand slaves were released from bondage, with whom were taken along about three hundred and fifty ox, horse, and mule teams, and from fifty to seventy-five saddle-horses, some of them valuable animals. The guerrillas lost thirteen killed and wounded; ten dwelling-houses, with many thousand bushels of corn belonging to them, were burned, besides the two distilleries; four of their camps were destroyed, and one of their number was hanged; and one hundred rifles, uniforms, infantry equipments, etc., fell into our hands as spoils, with a loss on the part of the brigade of twelve killed and wounded and one man taken prisoner. Beside this, fourteen rebel prisoners and four hostages were brought in. A comparatively small number of men were enlisted—not more than one hundred in all—a large proportion of the able-bodied slaves having previously left their masters, the facilities for escaping being especially great in the region visited.

In regard to its moral and political results, however, the importance of the raid cannot be over-estimated. The counties invaded by the

colored troops were completely panic-stricken. Scores of families, for no cause but a guilty conscience, fled into the swamps on their approach. Never was a region thrown into such commotion by a raid before. Proud scions of chivalry, accustomed to claim the most abject obedience from their slaves, literally fell on their knees before these armed and uniformed blacks and begged for their lives. I was frequently asked how I, a citizen, dared to trust myself among such incarnate demons. "What shall I do to be saved?" was the question asked on every side. No sooner would the brigade enter a neighborhood than General Wild's quarters would be besieged by those wishing to take the oath of allegiance and secure the protection of the Government. Their slaves might all go—they would give them up willingly—only let their lives and property be protected. Union meetings were held in several places, and delegations sent to General Wild, proposing to do any thing "to be saved." One set of resolutions was signed by fifty-nine planters, and another by seventy-six, while the return of the expedition was preceded and followed by hundreds of North-Carolinians, hastening to Norfolk to obtain certificates of their loyalty. One hundred and twenty vehicles crossed Great Bridge in a single day, containing persons journeying thither for this laudable purpose. An army of fifty thousand blacks could march from one end of rebeldom to the other almost without opposition, the terror they would inspire making them invincible. Well might the inhabitants universally admit, as they did, that slavery was dead there, and that North-Carolina would rejoin the Union as a free State, for the march of the colored brigade over the soil consecrated it ever more to freedom. With regard to the guerrillas, I am reliably informed that they have left this part of the State. The severe chastisement they and their friends received from General Wild rendered a longer stay not advisable. Had every one of these scoundrels captured been hanged, and the house of every other one burned, such organizations would long ago have ceased to exist. To have driven the guerrillas from this section of North-Carolina, to have effectually extinguished slavery there for ever, to have induced all the inhabitants to take the oath of allegiance, is a trinity of results due to this raid.

In another respect this raid possesses historical importance. It is the first of any magnitude undertaken by negro troops since their enlistment was authorized by Congress, and by it the question of their efficiency in any branch of the service has been practically set at rest. Thoroughly obedient to their officers, during a march of three hundred miles their conduct on every occasion was truly admirable. It will have been seen that they performed in the enemy's country all the duties of white soldiers—scouting, skirmishing, picket duty, guard duty, every service incident to the occupation of hostile towns, and, best of all, fighting. Colonel Draper testifies to their excellent behavior under fire, and declares

that he could wish to lead no better men into battle; that he feels perfectly secure with them, and can depend upon them at a critical moment with as much confidence as upon white troops less accustomed to obey the commands of superiors. Such testimony from an officer distinguished for courage and daring, a man who believes that fighting is the business of a soldier, possesses peculiar value. One incident in this connection, coming within my own experience, may be properly related here: On the morning after the fight at Sandy Hook, when General Wild had determined to return and attack the guerrilla camp, the men were drawn up in line to be reviewed, and all who wished to remain behind were asked to step out. Only thirty-five—and those foot-sore and lame—did so. I was instructed by the General to find a hundred for the camp-guard, and went down the line endeavoring to persuade more to volunteer, telling them that there would be a big fight—that the guerrillas would have them at great advantage down in the swamp—that they lost a number of men yesterday, and would lose a great many more to-day, and that they had better remain behind and help take care of the camp, where it would be perfectly safe, with little to do. I got but one man out of five hundred, all the rest replying: "No, no; I want to fight the g'rrillas." At last the General was obliged to order a detail from each company for this duty. The irregular service of such a raid as General Wild's is especially suited to the nature of colored troops; and, while I doubt not they will make as good regular soldiers as any, I am confident they will prove far better guerrilla-hunters than the whites. When the rebellion shall have subsided into partisan warfare, so far from lasting for ever, as Jeff Davis threatens, our colored troops will take care that its end is soon reached. It is an instructive turn of the tables that the men who have been accustomed to hunt runaway slaves hiding in the swamps of the South, should now, hiding there themselves, be hunted by them.

TEWKSBURY.

REBEL RETALIATION.

HEADQUARTERS FORCES ON BLACKWATER, }
FRANKLIN, VA., JANUARY, 1864. }

*General Wild, Commanding Colored Brigade,
Norfolk, Va.:*

SIR: Probably no expedition, during the progress of this war, has been attended with more utter disregard for the long-established usages of civilization or the dictates of humanity, than your late raid into the country bordering the Albemarle. Your stay, though short, was marked by crimes and enormities. You burned houses over the heads of defenceless women and children, carried off private property of every description, arrested non-combatants, and carried off ladies in irons, whom you confined with negro men.

Your negro troops fired on confederates after they had surrendered, and they were only saved by the exertions of the more humane of your white officers. Last, but not least, under the

pretext that he was a guerrilla, you hanged Daniel Bright, a private of company L, Sixty-second Georgia regiment, (cavalry,) forcing the ladies and gentlemen whom you held in arrest to witness the execution. Therefore, I have obtained an order from the General Commanding, for the execution of Samuel Jones, a private of company B, Fifth Ohio, whom I hang in retaliation. I hold two more of your men—in irons—as hostages for Mrs. Weeks and Mrs. Mundin. When these ladies are released, these men will be relieved and treated as prisoners of war.

JOEL R. GRIFFIN,
Colonel.

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ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.
OPERATIONS IN JAN. AND FEB. 1864.

GENERAL THOMAS'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, }
CHATTANOOGA, March 10, 1864. }

Brigadier-General L. Thomas, Adjutant-General U. S. A., Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the operations of my command for the months of January and February, 1864, as follows:

From the first until as late as the twentieth of January, no movements of any consequence took place. Small scouting-parties, of both cavalry and infantry, were sent out from time to time, to watch the movements of the enemy, but failed to find him in any considerable force in our immediate front.

Information gained through scouts and deserters, placed Johnston's army at Dalton and vicinity, occupying the same position he had taken up after the rebel army had fallen back from Mission Ridge, November twenty-sixth, 1863, and showing no disposition as yet to assume the offensive. Desertions from the enemy still continued numerous, averaging thirty (30) per day, nearly all of whom wished to embrace the terms of the President's Amnesty Proclamation, which, with Major-General Grant's General Order No. 10, of Headquarters Military Division of Mississippi, had been freely circulated within the rebel lines for some time previous.

On the twentieth of January, General G. M. Dodge, at Pulaski, Tenn., having ascertained that a force of rebel cavalry under Roddy, was constructing flat-boats, and hiding them in Little Bear Creek, Spring Creek, and Town Creek, and also that one of Roddy's regiments was foraging on the north side of the Tennessee River, he immediately informed General Grant of these movements of the enemy, who directed me to organize an expedition at once, of sufficient force to drive Roddy away from where he was reported to be, and to destroy all boats and materials that might in any way be used by the enemy in crossing the Tennessee River. On the twenty-second, information was received that Johnson's and Morrow's brigades, of Roddy's command, had crossed the Tennessee, somewhere between Florence and

Clifton, on the eighteenth, intending to make a raid on our railroads. The guards along the railroads were cautioned against an attack from this party, and measures were immediately taken to drive Roddy across the river. Colonel H. O. Miller, Seventy-second Indiana, commanding one expedition, reports from Blue Water, twenty-sixth, *via* Pulaski, twenty-seventh, that he engaged Johnson's brigade near Florence, routed them, killed fifteen, and wounded quite a number, taking them prisoners—among them three commissioned officers; our loss, ten wounded. Brigadier-General Gillem also reports having sent out parties from along the line of the N. W. Railroad, and their having returned with Lieutenant-Colonel Brewer, two captains, three lieutenants, and twenty men as prisoners.

A party of guerrillas, numbering about one hundred and fifty men, attacked Tracy City on the twentieth, and after having three times summoned the garrison to surrender, were handsomely repulsed by our forces. Colonel T. J. Harrison, Thirty-ninth Indiana, (mounted infantry,) reports from Cedar Grove, twenty-first instant, that he had sent an expedition of two hundred men to Sparta, to look after the guerrillas in that vicinity. They divided into five parties, concentrating at Sparta, having passed over the localities of Carter's, Champ Ferguson's, Bledsoe's, and Murray's guerrillas. His (Harrison's) force remained on the "Calf-Killer" five days, and during that time killed four, (4,) wounded five or six, and captured fifteen, (15,) including a captain and lieutenant, thirty (30) horses, and twenty stand of arms.

The Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, having been completed on the fourteenth instant, and trains running regularly from Nashville to this point, steps were immediately taken to commence repairing the East-Tennessee and Georgia Railroad. The First division of the Fourth corps, Major-General D. S. Stanley commanding, was ordered, on the twenty-fourth, to take up a position north of Chattanooga, between Chickamauga Dépôt and the Hiawasse River, to protect the repairs on the railroad. General Hooker, commanding the Eleventh and Twelfth corps, was ordered to relieve Stanley's division, then stationed on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, between Whitesides and Bridgeport.

January twenty-eighth, Major-General J. M. Palmer, commanding Fourteenth army corps, with a portion of his command, made a reconnaissance toward the enemy's position on Tunnel Hill. He found him still in force at that point, and the object of the movement having been fully accomplished, General Palmer returned to Chattanooga.

February seventh, Colonel William B. Stokes, Fifth Tennessee cavalry, reports from Alexandria, Tennessee, that in pursuance to orders, he had recently scouted in the vicinity of Sparta, after certain bands of guerrillas infesting that neighborhood, and had succeeded in killing seventeen (17) and capturing twelve, (12,) besides twenty horses and mules. Another force, under Colonel O'Con-

nell, succeeded in killing twenty-three, (23.) and capturing forty of this same gang. Colonel Stokes ascertained that, when concentrated, the guerrillas in that section of the country will number six hundred men, finely mounted. A scout also brought me information of an attack by Roddy, with a heavy force, upon our troops stationed at Lebanon, De Kalb County, Alabama, on the third instant. The rebels were repulsed, and driven in confusion towards Gadsden, when, learning that Roddy was being reinforced by Wheeler, our troops withdrew to Sand Mountain, taking possession of Saltpetre Cave, near Fort Paine.

About the tenth instant, various reports having been received that the enemy under Johnson had weakened his force by sending reinforcements to Polk, then opposing the advance of our forces under General Sherman; also that he had sent troops to aid Longstreet, in East-Tennessee; and it being the desire of the Commanding General of the military division, effectually to clear out the rebel army directly opposed to our forces at Knoxville, I received orders, on the tenth instant, to prepare to start for Knoxville on the thirteenth, with such force as could safely be spared from the protection of Chattanooga and its communications, to cooperate with the army of the Ohio in driving Longstreet from East-Tennessee. The army at this period had been very much weakened by the absence of many regiments who had gone to their respective States to reorganize as veteran volunteers—a list of which I have the honor to annex hereto—so that in making my preparations, I found but a small force available. My transportation was in a very poor condition, notwithstanding all the efforts made to replace the animals lost by starvation, during the close investment of Chattanooga by the enemy; and for want of horses scarcely any of the artillery could be moved.

On the thirteenth, the East-Tennessee and Georgia Railroad was in running order to Loudon. The same day Matthias's brigade, of the Fifteenth corps, (army of the Tennessee,) arrived at Chattanooga from Huntsville, in pursuance to orders from General Grant, and was immediately placed in position at Cleveland, in reserve.

On the fourteenth, I received a communication from General Grant, countermanding the orders he had given me on the tenth, to proceed with a force from my command, to East-Tennessee, and stating that, from a conversation he had had with General Foster, he (General Grant) was convinced that all that could be accomplished by the proposed campaign, would not compensate for the hardships upon our men, and the disqualifying effects it would have upon them and our war material for a spring campaign. He then went on to say, that as I had been preparing for a move, he deemed it advisable to make one to my immediate front; the object being to gain possession of Dalton, and as far south of that as possible.

In accordance with the above instructions, every thing being in readiness, Johnson's and

Baird's divisions moved out from Chattanooga, and occupied Ringgold, Georgia, on the twenty-second, taking up a position on the ridge west of East-Chickamauga Creek, with two regiments of mounted infantry, Colonel Boone's Twenty-eighth Kentucky, and Colonel Harrison's Thirty-ninth Indiana, on the east side of the creek; the former on the right flank, and the latter on the left. Carlin's brigade, of Johnson's division, was stationed about midway between the main line and Taylor's Ridge.

Crufts's division, of the Fourth corps, moved on the twenty-second from Blue Springs, near Cleveland, to Red Clay; Long's brigade of cavalry cooperated with Crufts's column, Long's instructions being to establish communication with Crufts at Red Clay, and then push on as far as possible toward Dalton on the Spring Place road, observing well the movements of the enemy, so as to give timely warning of any attempt to turn Crufts's left flank; and should the enemy retire, to notify Crufts, so that the latter might advance from Red Clay. During the evening of the twenty-second, General Palmer notified me from Ringgold that he had reliable information that Johnston had despatched Cheatham's and Cleburne's divisions to the relief of Polk, in Alabama, who was falling back before General Sherman's column.

On the twenty-third, Davis's division of the Fourteenth corps, closed up on the balance of General Palmer's command at Ringgold; Brigadier-General Matthias, commanding a brigade of the Fifteenth corps, stationed at Cleveland, in reserve, was directed to send six regiments from his command to reinforce General Crufts, at Red Clay; Colonel Long, having established communication with Crufts, the evening before, advanced with his brigade of cavalry along the Spring Place road, driving in the enemy's videttes when within four miles of Dalton; attacking a regiment of rebel infantry which was encamped one mile beyond, driving them from their camp and capturing some prisoners. The enemy then formed, and Long withdrew his command to Russell's Mills, four miles east of Varnell's Station, on the Cleveland and Dalton Railroad, and encamped there for the night. Crufts, by instructions from General Palmer, took position on the twenty-third at Lee's house, situated at the cross-roads, on the road leading from Red Clay to Tunnel Hill. The command being at this time well concentrated in the vicinity of Ringgold, and having rennoitred thoroughly on both flanks, General Palmer advanced to feel the enemy in his position at Tunnel Hill, skirmished with him three or four miles, and finally drove him from his position entirely, to a point about one mile beyond Tunnel Hill, where he formed line, and opened on us with his battery. The main force then withdrew, and went into camp about three miles north-west of Tunnel Hill, and on the morning of the twenty-fourth the line stood as follows: Baird's division south of Taylor's Ridge, near Ringgold, with Crufts's division at Lee's house; Johnson's and Davis's divisions in advance, toward Tunnel Hill, with

Boone's and Harrison's regiments of mounted infantry, the former on the left, and Harrison's men leading the advance toward Tunnel Hill; Long's brigade of cavalry at Varnell's Station, on the Cleveland and Dalton Railroad, supported by Grose's brigade of Crufts's division. An advance was made in three columns; after the right and left columns had moved out some distance, the centre, with the mounted infantry in advance, pushed forward and met with a fire at long-range from a battery of Parrott guns, the enemy's practice being excellent, and succeeding in checking the column; the right and left columns were then set in motion, and succeeded in flanking the enemy's battery, forcing it to retire. Davis's division of the Fourteenth corps was started in pursuit, and came up with a heavy force of rebels at Buzzard's Roost, a pass through what is called Rock Face Ridge, which, as its name would suggest, is very precipitous, and is a very strong position. Johnson's division of the Fourteenth corps was advanced to the support of Davis. Position on the evening of the twenty-fourth: Davis confronting the enemy at Buzzard's Roost, supported by Johnson's division, posted a short distance west of Tunnel Hill; Crufts on his left, Crufts's headquarters, Lee's house. Baird's division of the Fourteenth corps started from Tunnel Hill at three A.M. on the morning of the twenty-fifth, to join General Crufts, on the road leading from Lee's house to Dalton, with instructions to move, in conjunction with Crufts and Long's cavalry, down the eastern side of Rock Face Ridge, and endeavor to force the enemy out of his position in the pass by threatening his right and rear, whilst Davis, supported by Johnson, attacked him in front. In the mean time, Harrison's regiment of mounted infantry (Thirty-ninth Indiana) occupied a gap in Rock Face Ridge, six miles south of Buzzard's Roost, and nearly opposite to Dalton, his instructions being to hold it as long as possible. Baird and Crufts found the enemy east of the ridge in heavy force and very strongly posted, skirmishing heavily with him until night-fall, when both divisions were withdrawn, ascertaining before leaving, that the enemy was in much stronger force than was supposed, and that, in consequence of late movements on our part, he had been obliged to order back to Dalton the reinforcements he had sent to relieve Polk in Alabama. Cleburne's division (one of those reported to have gone south) attacked Colonel Hanson's mounted infantry command at daylight on the morning of the twenty-sixth, and forced him to retire from the gap. Being convinced that the rebel army at Dalton largely outnumbered the strength of the four divisions I had opposed to it, and the movement against Johnston being a complete success inasmuch as it caused the recalling of reinforcements sent to oppose General Sherman's expedition against Meridian, I concluded to withdraw my troops to the position they had occupied previous to the reconnaissance.

Baird's division was to fall back on the evening of the twenty-fifth to Lee's Farm, and on

the twenty-sixth take position on a line of hills about a mile north of the town of Tunnel Hill, to cover the retirement of Johnson's and Davis's divisions from Buzzard's Roost; Davis being ordered to take post at his old camp in front of Rossville, leaving one brigade to support Baird, ordered to take post at Ringgold, until General Baird had sufficient time to establish his picket-lines. Johnson was ordered to take post at Tyner's Station with two brigades of his command, sending one brigade to Graysville, placing a strong guard in Parker's Gap, north-east of Ringgold, to protect Baird's left flank. Crufts was ordered to take up his old position at Ottawah and at Blue Springs, (near Cleveland,) sending a *dépôt-guard* to protect his supplies at Cleveland. Long's brigade of cavalry ordered to take post at Cleveland, and keep the left flank well patroled. Colonel Harrison, commanding Thirty-ninth Indiana mounted infantry, with the Twenty-eighth Kentucky, (mounted infantry,) Colonel W. P. Boone commanding, was posted at Lee's Tanyard, with instructions to patrol the country in the direction of La Fayette, and to picket strongly all the roads leading from Lee's in the direction of La Fayette, Resaca, and Dalton. In accordance with these instructions, Johnson withdrew on the night of the twenty-sixth to Catoosa Platform, Davis and Baird and Harrison to Ringgold; and on the twenty-seventh they all took up the positions indicated above. Crufts's and Long's cavalry also fell back to Catoosa Platform on the night of the twenty-sixth, and there took up the positions assigned them.

I have the honor to forward herewith a consolidated report of casualties; also the report of Colonel Eli Long, commanding Second brigade, Second division of cavalry; and a statement of a refugee from Dalton, showing how matters stood at that place during the late reconnoissance; the monthly returns for January and February of Colonel J. G. Parkhurst, Ninth Michigan veteran volunteer infantry, Provost-Marshal General, and that of Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Porter, Chief Commissary of Subsistence, giving the average daily issue of rations to destitute citizens during the above months.

The following regiments, etc., have reorganized as veteran volunteers since the thirty-first of December, 1863, namely:

Infantry.—Second Minnesota, Fifty-eighth New-York, Sixty-eighth New-York, Forty-fifth New-York, Tenth Illinois, Fifty-ninth Illinois, Thirty-sixth Illinois, Fifty-first Illinois, Forty-fourth Illinois, Forty-second Illinois, Eighty-second Ohio, Fifty-fifth Ohio, Twenty-first Ohio, Seventeenth Ohio, Seventy-fourth Ohio, Twenty-sixth Ohio, Forty-first Ohio, Nineteenth Ohio, Thirty-first Ohio, Thirty-third Ohio, Fifty-first Ohio, Sixty-fourth Ohio, Fifteenth Ohio, Forty-ninth Ohio, Thirteenth Ohio, Seventy-first Ohio, Sixty-fifth Ohio, Fortieth Ohio, Fifth Connecticut, Thirtieth Indiana, Forty-fourth Indiana, Thirty-first Indiana, Forty-second Indiana, Twenty-second Indiana, Thirty-third Indiana, Fifty-seventh Indiana, Fifty-first Indiana, Fifty-eighth In-

diana, Fortieth Indiana, Seventy-third Pennsylvania, One Hundred and Ninth Pennsylvania, Forty-sixth Pennsylvania, Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania, Twenty-first Kentucky, Fourth Kentucky, Eighteenth Kentucky, Twenty-third Kentucky, Third Maryland, Thirteenth Wisconsin, Thirteenth Michigan, Fifteenth Missouri, Eighth Kansas.

Mounted Infantry.—Seventeenth Indiana, Fourteenth Michigan.

Cavalry.—Fourth Kentucky, Sixth Kentucky, Third Kentucky, Seventh Pennsylvania, Fifth Iowa, First Ohio, Fourth Ohio, Third Ohio.

Artillery.—Fifth Wisconsin battery, Second Illinois battery H, Second Illinois battery I, First Ohio battery C, First Ohio battery F, First Ohio battery B, First Ohio battery G, Twelfth Ohio Independent, Thirteenth New-York Independent, First Michigan battery E, Thirteenth Indiana battery.

Detachments.—Five companies Second Massachusetts, company I Thirty-seventh Indiana, forty-seven men Thirty-seventh Indiana, fifty-six men Tenth Indiana, six companies Twenty-seventh Indiana, sixty-seven men Fifteenth Indiana, seven companies Fifth Ohio, company F Seventh Ohio, company D Twenty-fourth Ohio, sixty-two men Eighteenth Ohio, forty-one men Sixty-ninth Ohio, company I Twenty-seventh Illinois, ninety men Twenty-seventh Illinois, thirty-four men Twenty-second Illinois, company C Twenty-first Illinois, company D Tenth Maine, sixty-four men battery I and sixty-four men battery M First New-York artillery, forty men battery C First Illinois, forty-eight men battery F Fourth United States artillery, fifty-two men battery K Fifth United States artillery, forty-one men Ninth Ohio Independent, eighty-five men First Michigan engineers, eighty-four men First Missouri engineers.

Recapitulation: Fifty-two regiments infantry, two regiments of mounted infantry, eight regiments of cavalry, eleven batteries of artillery, and twenty-four detachments.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. THOMAS,

Major-General United States Volunteers, Commanding.

TABLE OF KILLED AND WOUNDED

in the Fourth, Fourteenth, and cavalry corps, army of the Cumberland, at the battle of Buzzard's Roost, near Dalton, Ga., on the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth days of February, 1864:

Fourth army corps. Killed: 2 non-commissioned officers, 3 privates; total, 5. Wounded: 1 commissioned officer, 13 non-commissioned officers, 88 privates; total, 52.—Fourteenth army corps. Killed: 3 non-commissioned officers, 6 privates; total, 9. Wounded: 6 commissioned officers, 29 non-commissioned officers, 156 privates; total, 191.—Cavalry corps. Killed: 1 commissioned officer, 2 privates; total, 3. Wounded: 1 commissioned officer, 6 non-commissioned officers, 22 privates; total, 29. Totals: killed, 1 commissioned officer, 5 non-commissioned officers, 11 privates; total, 17. Wounded, 8 commissioned

officers, 48 non-commissioned officers, 216 privates; total, 272.

TABLE OF KILLED AND WOUNDED

in the Fourth corps, army of the Cumberland, at the battle of Buzzard's Roost, near Dalton, Ga., on the twenty-fifth day of February, 1864:

First division, Fourth army corps. Killed: 2 non-commissioned officers, 3 privates; total, 5. Wounded: 1 commissioned officer, 18 non-commissioned officers, 35 privates; total, 52.

COLONEL LONG'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
NEAR LEE'S HOUSE, GA., February 27, 1864 }

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report. In compliance with orders received February twenty-first, 1864, from headquarters Department of the Cumberland, I left Calhoun, Tenn., Monday, February twenty-second, 1864, in command of six hundred (600) men, (three hundred and fifty mounted infantry and two hundred and fifty cavalry) and marched out on the Spring Place road. Monday evening I encamped near the house of Mr. Waterhouse, on Connassauga River, about thirty miles south of Calhoun. I met no enemy during the day. I left my encampment near Waterhouse's Tuesday morning, February twenty-third, at seven o'clock A.M., (having communicated with General Cruft at Red Clay the night before,) and marched toward Dalton. My advance-guard drove in the enemy's videttes when within four miles of Dalton. I immediately pushed on my column rapidly and attacked a regiment of rebel infantry which was encamped within three miles of Dalton, driving them from their camp and capturing twelve prisoners belonging to a Mississippi regiment. The enemy then formed, and I withdrew my command to Russell's Mill, distance of four miles east of Varnell's Station, and encamped for the night. There I received a communication from Major-General Palmer requesting me to advance in the morning, February twenty-fourth, in the direction of Dalton *via* Varnell's Station. I left my encampment at Russell's Mill at six o'clock A.M., February twenty-fourth, and reached Varnell's about seven, where I halted until about ten o'clock A.M., in the mean time sending small forces on the different roads leading from Varnell's. They met no enemy, and I pushed on toward Dalton, marching on a road running parallel to the Cleveland and Dalton Railroad. When within five miles of Dalton, I met with the enemy's pickets. My advance squadron drove them to within three miles of Dalton. I then fell back two miles and drew my command up in line on a ridge one mile west of the railroad, awaiting movements of the enemy. I remained in my position, where I was joined by Colonel Gross, commanding a brigade of First division, Fourth army corps. Soon after the arrival of Colonel Gross, I dismounted my command and advanced in line against the enemy, driving their skirmishers about a mile in the direction of their camp. But there I was compelled to fall back, being at

tacked by a brigade of rebel infantry, who were firing at my men from behind log huts. I fell back to the line of Colonel Gross, and soon afterward (as it was nearly dark) retired about two miles to the rear, where I encamped for the night.

The next morning, February twenty-fifth, I took a position on the left of our infantry lines, and advanced as they did. I moved up about half a mile, when my men became engaged with the enemy. I was then joined by one hundred men of the Fourth Michigan cavalry, who had been ordered to report to me by Brigadier-General Crufts. I pressed on against the enemy until I had gotten a short distance in advance of the left of our infantry lines. I then halted and remained in my position during the remainder of the day. At dark I retired about a mile to the rear, where I remained until eleven o'clock P.M., when I moved my command back on the Dalton and Varnell's Station road, about three miles from the place where we fought during the day. On the morning of the twenty-sixth I moved to Lee's house, where our infantry was encamped, and remained there until about one o'clock P.M., at which time our pickets were fired upon by the enemy's cavalry, when I marched out and drove the rebels off. I followed them about two and a half miles in the direction of Tunnel Hill, when I returned to my camp of the morning. My horses had had very little forage, not being able to draw any, and there being very little in the country, I could not have pursued the rebel cavalry vigorously if the country had admitted of it, which it did not.

During the night our infantry fell back to a place near Catoosa Platform, and I am now near my camp of yesterday.

The following is the list of casualties in my command since February twenty-second:

First Ohio Cavalry.—Sergeant George Frazier, company B, private Joel Eaton, company B, wounded.

Third Ohio Cavalry.—Captain R. B. Wood, Nicholas Wise, company I, killed; Samuel Ankerling, private, company C, Sylvester Stump, company L, Cornelius Mulchaha, privates, company B, David Hatcher, private, company L, wounded.

Fourth Ohio Cavalry.—John Tuelling, private, company C, Alexander Bernhardt, private, company K, wounded.

Fourth Michigan Cavalry.—Sergeant David Donahoe, company D, private John Caul, company D, private George Rise, company C, private William Heistine, company B, wounded.

Ninety-eighth Illinois Mounted Infantry.—Sergeant H. O. Wilkins, company D, Sergeant B. F. Blackford, company H, private J. H. Enson, company B, private J. B. Shaw, company D, private J. M. Walker, company H, private James Stackwell, company I, private Abram Barnes, company K, wounded; private William H. Hope, company E, private A. M. Anderson, company E, missing.

Total.—Two killed, nineteen wounded two missing.

I had no means of ascertaining the injury done the enemy; but it was reported that eight bodies were left on the field. I took twenty-three prisoners. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELI LONG,

Col. Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division Cavalry.

Brigadier-General WHIPPLE,

A. A. G., Department of the Cumberland.

INCLOSURE.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY, RED HILL VALLEY,
TWELVE MILES FROM CLEVELAND, TENN., Feb. 27, 1864. }

Brigadier-General William D. Whipple, Chief of Staff, Army of the Cumberland, Cleveland, Tenn. :

After I had left the vicinity of General Crufts's division and come about twenty (20) miles therefrom, he being at Catoosa Platform, a sergeant of the Fourth Michigan cavalry brought me word that General Crufts was being attacked by rebel cavalry; but as General Crufts expressed no desire for me to return, I did not go back—it being nearly night when I received the word by the sergeant, and my horses had no forage to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELI LONG,

Col. Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division Cavalry.

JOHN W. GLADDEN'S STATEMENT.

Who says he left Dalton on Saturday last. He states that the rebel losses in the battles we had at Buzzard Roost and on the east of Rocky Face Ridge, their losses were from fifty to sixty killed, and one hundred and fifty wounded, he stating that he was himself upon the field, and also heard it from officers. Their forces in all were about thirty thousand men, and that their forces which had previously started for Mobile, had all returned, and that they would not now give fur-loughs upon any consideration; also that the rebels had plenty of ammunition; soldiers stating freely if they were driven away from Dalton, large numbers of them would throw down their arms and fight no more.

Respectfully submitted. JAMES LAMON.

(Indorsed.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
CHATTANOOGA, March 8. }

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the General Commanding. JOHN M. PALMER,
Major-General Commanding.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PORTER'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, }
OFFICE CHIEF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE, }
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., March 8, 1864. }

Captain S. C. Kellogg, A. D. C., Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, Chattanooga, Tenn. :

CAPTAIN: In reply to your letter of to-day, I have the honor to inform you that the average daily issues of subsistence stores to destitute citizens for the month of January, 1864, was 686 $\frac{1}{4}$ rations, and for the month of February, 1864, the average daily issue was 2944 $\frac{7}{8}$ rations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. PORTER,

Lieut.-Colonel and Chief C. & S. C.

Report of Prisoners of War and Deserters Received and Disposed of, and Oaths administered to Citizens, during the Month of January, 1864.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Prisoners of war. Captured: 44 commissioned officers, 591 enlisted men; aggregate, 635. Disposed of: 44 commissioned officers, 591 enlisted men; aggregate, 635. Deserters received and disposed of: by Provost-Marshal General, 594; by Captain Goodwin, A. P. M. G., 414; aggregate, 1008. Oaths administered to citizens: Allegiance, 45; Amnesty, 213; aggregate, 258.

The report of prisoners of war is taken from the register in Captain Goodwin's office. The report of oaths administered, from the records of this office.

Report of Prisoners of War and Deserters Received and Disposed of, Oaths administered to Citizens, and Sales and Issues of Rations to Citizens, during the Month of February, 1864.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Prisoners of war captured: 21 commissioned officers, 182 enlisted men; aggregate, 203. Deserters: 821 received, 821 paroled on oath. Oaths administered to citizens: Allegiance, 543; Amnesty, 263; aggregate, 806. Rations: sales—number of families, 506; number of persons, 2901; issues—number of families, 1032; number of persons, 5809; total number of families, 1538; number of persons, 8710.

Nashville, Tenn.—Prisoners of war captured: 38 commissioned officers, 421 enlisted men; aggregate, 459. Disposed of: 59 commissioned officers, 603 enlisted men; aggregate, 662. Deserters: 76 received, 76 paroled on oath.

Totals.—Prisoners of war captured: 59 commissioned officers, 603 enlisted men; aggregate, 662. Disposed of: 59 commissioned officers, 603 enlisted men; aggregate, 662. Deserters: 897 received, 897 paroled on oath. Oaths administered to citizens: Allegiance, 543; Amnesty, 263; aggregate, 806. Rations: sales—number of families, 506; number of persons, 2901; issues—number of families, 1032; number of persons, 5809; total number of families, 1538; total number of persons, 8710.

Respectfully submitted.

J. G. PARKHURST,
Colonel Ninth Michigan Infantry Volunteers, and
Provost-Marshal General D. C.

By H. M. DUFFIELD,
Lieutenant and A. P. M. G.

Doc. 35.

SIEGE OF CINCINNATI.

OPERATIONS OF THE BLACK BRIGADE.

To His Excellency, John Brough, Governor of Ohio:

I beg leave to present to you, for preservation in the archives of the State, the accompanying enrolment of the "Black Brigade of Cincinnati,"

serving in the defence of that city in September, 1862.

This brigade was not formed under the authority of the State; but its labors were in the defence of her soil, and it seems but proper that some memory of it should be preserved in her records. The enrolment is not complete. It has seven hundred and six names, (706;) the brigade numbered about one thousand. Some three hundred of these, in the beginning of its service, and before an enrolment had been made, were assigned to various duties, in camp, on gunboats, and in the city, separate from the rest of the brigade; and their names were never obtained. But the enrolment is complete as to the body of the brigade, who for three weeks, as a separate and distinct force, labored upon the fortifications in the rear of Covington and Newport, Kentucky, opposite Cincinnati. The rank and file, and all the company officers except three, were colored men. There was no complete military formation; the nominal brigade, regimental and company organization had reference to the convenience of the service to which they were assigned. The requirements of the occasion, and the prejudices of the time, limited this to duty as a fatigue force. The colored men did not shrink from this duty; they gladly performed it; but they desired the privilege of defending themselves, and the works their hands had made, with arms. Organized companies of them, armed and equipped at their own expense, tendered their services to aid in the defence of the city. But this privilege was denied them, and they cheerfully performed the duty assigned.

The defeat of the national forces at Richmond, Kentucky, August thirtieth, 1862, opened the way for rebel invasion of that State to the Ohio River. There was no organized force to resist this; none to protect Cincinnati.

Major-General Lewis Wallace, at that time in command of the city, promptly commenced the organization of a citizen force for the protection of the city. In the morning papers of September second, there appeared an order from him, declaring martial law, suspending business, and directing the "citizens" to assemble at designated places in each ward, for military organization. It was well understood that this order was not intended to, and did not, include colored citizens. Numbers of these, however, offered themselves for any service in which they might be useful. This offer was accepted; but before any arrangement had been made for their employment, before any order had been given them, or request made of them, on the morning of the third of September, 1862, the police, acting in concert, and in obedience to some common order, in a rude and violent manner arrested the colored men wherever found—in the streets, at their places of business, in their homes—and hurried them to a mule-pen on Plum street, and thence across the river to the fortifications; giving them no explanation of this conduct, and no opportunity to prepare for camp life. This unwonted and cruel procedure filled their minds and the

minds of their families with alarm and terror, and called forth for them the sympathy of the citizens who witnessed it. Some of these informed General Wallace of this conduct, and remonstrated against it. He condemned it, and for the purpose of protecting the colored men and organizing them for their work, requested me to take command of them, publishing the following order:

CIRCULAR.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, }
CINCINNATI, Sept. 4, 1862.

William M. Dickson is hereby assigned to the command of the negro forces from Cincinnati, working on the fortifications near Newport and Covington, and will be obeyed accordingly. By order of Major-General LEW. WALLACE.

T. C. ELSTON, Jr., A. D. C.

Upon assuming the command, September fourth, I organized my staff, as follows:

Timothy C. Day, Assistant Adjutant-General.

J. Stacy Hill, Quartermaster.

William Woods, Commissary.

James Lupton, Volunteer Aid, Acting Camp Commandant.

Jacob Resor, Jr., James W. Cossefield, John W. Hartwell, William J. Dickson, William H. Chatfield, Alexander Neave, David A. James, Volunteer Aids.

I then proceeded to the fortifications where the colored forces were. I found them at work, on the rifle-pits and trenches about Fort Mitchel, on the Lexington road, in the rear of Covington. They had been faithfully laboring during the preceding night, and had already been commended by the engineer in charge for efficient work. They were, however, weary from long labor, and anxious about their families.

They were also alarmed because of the treatment they had received from the regiments of soldiers near them. These seemed to look upon the colored men as abandoned property, to be seized and appropriated by the first finder. They detailed squads of soldiers, who appeared among the negroes at work, selected from them the number they wanted, and at the point of the bayonet marched them off to the camps of the regiments—there to be employed as cooks, or in some menial capacity for the officers. A corporal's guard was engaged in this business when I reached Fort Mitchel.

The colored men objected to this; they justly apprehended that they might be carried off with the regiments, or abandoned in Kentucky, where their presence as freemen was one of the most grievous crimes known to that State's laws—punishable with the enslavement of them and their posterity for ever. They expressed entire willingness to labor on the fortifications under proper protection; but they desired to first return to their families, and make preparation for camp-life.

My first care was to visit the camps of all the regiments in the vicinity, and to bring from them the kidnapped colored men. Having done this and assembled them together, I marched them

back to the city, to the intersection of Sixth and Broadway streets—where I established "head-quarters"—reaching there about dusk. I then advised them that I designed forming them into a black brigade for fatigue duty; that they should be kept together as a distinct body and have assigned to them a given part of the fortifications for their work; that they should receive protection and the same treatment as white men; that the necessities of the hour required of them constant and severe labor; that I expected this to be cheerfully rendered, and that their sense of duty and of honor would cause them to obey with alacrity all orders given, and thus prevent the necessity of any compulsion; that at all events I would try them, and would, therefore, dismiss them to their homes, expecting every one of them to meet me the next morning promptly, at five o'clock, to proceed to the fortifications, there to remain until their labors were ended.

They received this promise of protection and fair treatment with grateful emotion, and assured me that they would endeavor to do their duty. They felt some apprehension that the police would arrest them; but as I had advised the city authorities of my action in the premises, and had received assurances that there would be no more arrests, I told them that they could go home without fear in this respect, and dismissed them. In this I was, however, mistaken. Scarcely had these men, wearied with thirty-six hours' constant labor, upon half-rations, and without sleep, broken ranks, when they were set upon by the police, and numbers of them, with blows and imprecations, dragged to the nearest cells. I reported the matter to General Wallace, and bore from him to Mayor Hatch, a peremptory order prohibiting the arrest of any colored man except for crime. This opened the prison-doors, and by a late hour of the evening, with the assistance of my staff and some citizens, all the men arrested had been released and returned to their homes. This order secured them exemption from arrest for some days, until Major-General Wright assumed immediate command of the city, when, for some unknown reason—perhaps because it was thought that the removal of General Wallace from the command had annulled his orders—the police, a third time, began arresting the colored men, those to whom for sickness, or other cause, I had given passes to return to the city. I again bore a peremptory order, this time from General Wright, to Mayor Hatch, commanding him not to arrest colored men except for crime. This again opened the prison-doors, and since that time, no colored man has been arrested in the city of Cincinnati, merely because he was a colored man. Whether these arrests were made by the police, of their own volition, or in obedience to orders from superiors, I know not. Each time I delivered a peremptory order from the Commanding General to Mayor Hatch, he promised obedience to it.

The number of men dismissed on the evening of the seventh was about four hundred; on the

morning of the fifth, at the given hour, five o'clock, about seven hundred men reported for duty. A number of them were detailed for special duties, and about five hundred marched with me across the river to Newport, and thence to the cemetery on the Alexandria road in the rear of Newport. A handsome national flag, presented to them by Captain James Lupton, was borne in their midst; and their march was enlivened by strains of martial music, proceeding from a band formed from the ranks of their own motion. They were cheered on the way to their work by the good words of the citizens who lined the streets, and by the waving handkerchiefs of patriotic ladies. As they passed the different regiments in line of battle, proceeding to the fortifications, mutual cheers and greetings attested the good feeling between these co-workers in the same cause.

The section of work assigned to their special care lay between the Alexandria road and Licking River, along the Cemetery ridge and Three-mile Creek. It embraced the making of military roads; the digging of rifle-pits and trenches; the felling of forests, and the building of forts and magazines. The men commenced their work in the rifle-pits on their arrival at Cemetery Ridge.

Every thing had to be improvised. The quartermaster and commissary departments required immediate attention, and gave most trouble; but in a few days all was in complete working order. The men discovered a special aptitude for camp-life, and with grass, brush, and trees made "Camp Lupton" an agreeable summer residence. New accessions were received to the ranks every day; colored men, singly, in squads and companies, from every part of Southern Ohio, joining them, until the number exceeded seven hundred, independently of the details made for special duties. Upon the section assigned to them, they continued to labor until the twentieth. During this time they worked faithfully, always doing more than was required of them, and receiving again and again the commendation of the engineers in charge, to the effect that they were the most efficient working force in the service. There was no occasion for compulsion, and for discipline but a single instance. They labored cheerfully and joyfully. They made miles of military roads, miles of rifle-pits, felled hundreds of acres of the largest and loftiest forest trees, built forts and magazines. Some of them discovered a high order of intelligence, a ready insight into the work they were doing, making often valuable suggestions. Upon one occasion, one of them suggested a change in the engineering of a military road ascending a steep hill. The value of the change was obvious when named, and admitted by the engineer; yet he ordered the road to be made as originally planned, and deprecated further suggestion.

They committed no trespass on private property. In one instance, upon changing the camp, a German asked me if they could not remain longer, as they protected his grapes!

They were not intimidated by any danger,

though compelled to labor without arms for their protection. During the few days that the soldiers stood in line of battle expecting an attack, the Black Brigade was working nearly a mile in front of the line of battle, and with nothing between it and the enemy except the cavalry scouts. Upon the occasion that it moved upon St. John's Hill, overlooking Licking Valley, so far was it in front of the line, that Colonel Jonah R. Taylor, of the Fiftieth Ohio volunteer infantry, then in command as Acting Brigadier-General of the forces nearest it, supposed it was the enemy; sounded the alarm, ordered out a battery to bear upon it, and in his trepidation actually ordered it to be fired upon; but this was prevented by the good sense of the officer in command of the battery, who refused obedience, and when pressed, fired blank cartridges, and then induced the sending of a flag of truce. This was received with becoming formality, and the fears of the redoubtable commander were allayed. The men were fully advised as to their position, but said they would go wherever they were ordered.

During the first week, they labored, as did the entire fatigue force, without compensation. During the second week, they received a dollar a day per man; and during the third week, a dollar and a half; as did, also, all the fatigue force, black and white.

Upon the twentieth, their labors were ended; the siege of Cincinnati had been raised; the banners of rebellion had receded, never to return; and the men, with happy hearts, with the goodwill of soldier and citizen, returned to the city and were dismissed to their homes; and thus closed in joy and happiness a service that had been commenced with violence, in anxiety and gloom.

I was much indebted to the intelligent and efficient aid that I received from the gentlemen composing my staff—volunteers to an arduous and then thankless duty. It will not be considered by any of them an unfair discrimination, when I particularize in a single instance. To the constant attention, by day and by night, and to the discreet supervision of James Lupton, as camp commandant, the brigade was greatly indebted for its well-being and comfort.

Many of the members of the brigade have since entered the military service. Many are there still. Some have fallen, and now sleep well amid the sands of Morris Island, and of the banks of the Mississippi; others have been taken prisoners, and their fate is enshrouded in impenetrable mystery. All have done their duty.

It is to be regretted that they were not permitted to enter the service under the auspices of their own State, whose soil they had defended; but this privilege which the authorities of their State denied them, was granted them by the sagacious, patriotic, and noble Governor of the ancient commonwealth of Massachusetts.

But there has been progress; and since then numbers of the Black Brigade have entered the service in their own State.

There can now, therefore, be no objection to preserving in the archives of the State, as a part of the history of the times, this enrolment of the first organization of colored men in the West for military purposes.

Respectfully yours,

WILLIAM M. DICKSON,
Commandant of the Black Brigade.

CINCINNATI, January 12, 1864.

Doc. 36.

OPERATIONS IN EAST-TENNESSEE.

DIARY OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH KENTUCKY REGIMENT.

PRESUMING your readers would like to know what we have been doing during the recent eight months, we offer a few notes from our diary; and we think by the time they have read our short history they will say that we have been soldiering in earnest. Our notes may prove very uninteresting, as our opportunities have not been those of a regular correspondent, as we belong to the ranks and know nothing of the movements until we have them to perform, and then we know only what we do and see.

September 18, 1863.—Our company was ordered from Cave City back to Munfordsville to rejoin the regiment. We remained at Munfordsville till the twenty-fourth of September. On the evening of the twenty-fourth we were mounted, and at four o'clock, with three cheers and hundreds of good-byes, we left the camp that had become almost as home, where we lived a cheerful soldier-life the recent ten months. Our stay at Munfordsville is the greatest oasis in our soldier-life. There every member of the regiment had often communication with his home, and his duties seemed lightened by the visitations of his friends and the sociability shown us by the citizens. It was there we worked hard ten months fortifying the place, and made it one among the strongest in Kentucky. There we did as much duty as any regiment will do; but the military flat saw proper to move us from our own works and home to a field of more active work, and put in our stead strangers, who of course do not understand Kentucky in any way better than we do. We know her geography, the advantages and disadvantages; her friends and her most dangerous enemy—the sneaking traitor that lives there. But, being perfectly willing to work in the cause of our country anywhere, and, after resting from marching so long, we left "champing the bit" for East-Tennessee.

September twenty-fifth, we joined General Manson at Glasgow, who had already begun to move out. The weather having been dry so long that the roads were very dusty and water scarce along the road, consequently our march was made with moderation. Camped near Gray's Cross-Roads.

September twenty-sixth, marched to Marrowbone by two o'clock P.M., and went into camp.

September twenty-seventh, crossed Cumberland River at Neelie's Ferry, and camped.

September twenty-eighth, marched slowly till about four o'clock in the evening, and went into camp on Illwill Hill, eight miles from Albany, Clinton County.

September twenty-ninth, at nine o'clock A.M., we passed through Albany. Albany looks as though it once had been a nice and flourishing little town; but as we rode through we could but feel sad to see a place—a nice town in our native State—laid in entire desolation. Even the court-house and public square around it, where once the citizens of Clinton County could look for a just enforcement of the laws of the land, looks as though no human concourse had gathered there for two or three years. Every building and fence is in a state of dilapidation; yards and sidewalks grown up with weeds.

Crossed the State line into Fentress County, Tennessee, about eleven o'clock A.M.

October first, passed through Jamestown, which is another place of desolation. The court-house has fallen down. A citizen of Fentress County told us that they had had no enforcement of the civil law in that county for about two years; that every man not taken by conscription was "a law unto himself." On the morning of the third we got to Montgomery, the county-seat of Anderson County. Here are visible the tracks of this monster—rebellion. The town is evacuated and every thing going to ruin. But one family in town.

October fourth, we crossed Clinch River. The country lying between Cumberland and Clinch Rivers is laid in great desolation. We had thought we had seen the desolating effects of the war before, but through this section is the worst we have found in our travels. The people have deserted the country and towns. Some, we presume, went to the South, and some to the North. Not a lick of improvement could we see. Not a new rail or board, while we could scarcely find a roof that would turn rain, or a fence that would confine stock.

October fifth, we marched within two miles of Knoxville, when we met an order from General Burnside ordering us to go into camp where we were. So after near eleven days winding our serpentine line through the dust, over mountains and through valleys, we arrived nearly in sight of Knoxville.

Our march over the mountains was quite pleasant. We were highly interested with the mountain scenery; the distant mountains through the Indian summer haze, whose towering summits capped with their autumnal cap of "sere and yellow leaves" that seemed to kiss the sky as they rustled in the breeze, and the craggy cliffs that showed their gray faces above the pines, were as pillars for the sky.

We must say that we were well pleased with our commander, General Manson, who took every thing with moderation. In getting the wagons up the mountains, the General's shoulder was as good at a wheel as any man's.

October sixth, we lay in camp making amends for the wear and tear while crossing the mountains. In the evening I obtained a pass of Major Alexander Magruder, a good officer and a gentleman, to go to Knoxville. We found every thing in better condition than we had anticipated. After riding about town a few minutes, to make a survey of its location, we inquired for the residence of Parson Brownlow, which we soon found on Cumberland street, just east of a bridge across First Creek, in the corporation designated as East-Knoxville. We could but look upon the silent domicile with reverence, though it is but a plain two-story frame, with portico, while on the east end, and above the windows, some grapevines wove their autumn wreath. At the west end is a smaller house—the old office of the Knoxville *Whig*—which is about six feet from the other; and between the two houses stand three locust trees that tip their pennants above the roof of the “Tennessee Patriot.”

October seventh, started on the march at sun-up. Passed through Knoxville, and moved up the Rutledge road eight miles and went into camp near Morris's old storehouse. Rained all day. Remained here in camp until early on the morning of the ninth, when we went back to Knoxville and went into camp on the north side of town, and remained here till the night of the twenty-second. During which time our regiment sent two large details to Cumberland Gap, and did as much foraging, scouting, and picket-duty as other regiments here.

October twenty-second, remained in camp. Nothing of interest. At nine o'clock in the night we started on the march for Loudon. Marched till two o'clock and bivouacked till daylight, when it commenced raining very hard.

October twenty-third, started on the march at daylight without breakfast, and the rain pouring down in a torrent. Marched through the rain and mud till late in the evening, when we arrived at the Loudon bridge. Went into camp as hungry, wet, and muddy as we could be; but in a short time huge fires were built—coffee boiling and meat broiling, and a fog rising from the drenched clothes of the boys, while they were growing all right again.

October twenty-fourth, in the morning our brigade crossed the river on the pontoon-bridge, joined Colonel Wolford, and went to Philadelphia. Here we found the rebels, had sharp skirmishing a short time, and they fled; drove them about five miles toward Sweetwater, skirmishing some all the way. About sundown they made rather a stubborn stand with artillery. Artillery firing was kept up on both sides till after sundown, when our force turned about and came back to Loudon. Our brigade crossed the river to the camp we left in the morning. Our command lost during the day five or six killed and wounded. We got into camp about eleven o'clock at night.

October twenty-sixth, our brigade crossed the river to Loudon and joined the division and went back to Philadelphia. Found the rebels here

again. They fell back as before to the hill where we left them on the evening of the twenty-fourth, but skirmishing more severe. The One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois cavalry charged them from the hill, in which it lost three killed and wounded. The Twenty-seventh Kentucky mounted infantry was thrown forward into line of battle on the left. Company B was thrown forward as skirmishers under a shower of shot and shell. Captain Pulliam commanding, pressed the skirmishers forward with great coolness till they were in about three hundred yards of the rebel battery, and on line with it, when General Sanders ordered us to retire. At dark we returned to Loudon as on the twenty-fourth.

October twenty-eighth, all our force at Loudon crossed over to the north side of the river, and our brigade out to Lenoir's Station. Remained here till the morning of the thirtieth.

October thirtieth, Colonel Pennebaker moved up to Leaper's Ferry with our brigade. Sent two companies across the river, and beyond Unecia on scout—company D, of the Twenty-seventh Kentucky, and one company of the Eleventh Kentucky mounted infantry, Captain Hammer commanding. They were attacked by a brigade of rebels, and after two hours' fighting, Captain Hammer fell back to the river in perfect order, and none of his men hurt. The rebels now began to close in, confident of capturing the two companies, but we began to reach across the river with our long-ranged Enfield rifles, and held them back until Lieutenant-Colonel Ward crossed over with three companies, A, H, and C. We had but one small ferry-boat to cross in. Captain Pulliam with our company, B, got in the boat and started across, and when we were about half-way across, the rebels rushed down and poured a heavy volley into the boat, killing one man. The Captain received orders to go back to the shore, which we did under a perfect shower of bullets. The rebels made several bold attempts to capture the companies across the river, but our continued volleys from both sides of the river were too hot for them. On one of their bold attempts to lay hands on their prize, Lieutenant-Colonel Ward, who is always found in the thickest danger, not knowing but he would be overpowered, told the color-bearer, Sergeant John Deferver, a young man of seventeen years, to never let the flag fall into rebel hands. When the moment grew more threatening, the Sergeant furlled the old worn flag and plunged into the rapid Holston, and while bullets dimpled the water he swam with the flag safe across. About sundown we were reinforced by the Eighth Michigan and One Hundred and Twelfth Illinois cavalry. The rebels, thinking we were too many for them, fell back. The companies across the river returned one at a time in the little ferry-boat till all were over. Then we straightened up and went into camp, and we do not think we ever saw a much darker night, and raining very hard, and had been all the evening.

October thirty-first, our brigade moved on to

Knoxville, and went into the camp we left on the night of the twenty-second.

November first, at six o'clock in the morning, our brigade moved out into town, but every thing not being ready, we were ordered to return to camp and wait till twelve o'clock. At two o'clock we moved out, crossed the river on the pontoon—the same bridge we had at Loudon—marched to Rockford, a small town on Little River, and camped for the night.

November second, crossed Little River and marched to Maryville; went into camp and remained there till the morning of the seventh, during which time we scoured the country as far down as Little Tennessee River, where Lieutenant McAdams, of the First Kentucky cavalry, gained a glorious victory by drowning, killing, capturing, and completely routing twice his own number. On the morning of the seventh, General Sanders's cavalry corps fell back across Little River to Rockford, where we remained till the morning of the fourteenth.

November fourteenth, early in the morning, the rebels made a dash on the pickets, and captured part of the Eleventh Kentucky cavalry. They soon began to press our lines all along the river with a heavy force—Wheeler's and Forrest's. About nine o'clock General Sanders ordered our forces to fall back. We fell back to Stock Creek, skirmishing all day. In the evening our regiment was put on picket, extending from Frenche's bridge, across Stock Creek, on the Martin Gap road, along the creek to its mouth, where it empties into Little River; a distance of about five miles.

November fifteenth, early in the day, the enemy made his appearance along our line, and, after several hours' skirmishing of both artillery and musketry, General Sanders ordered our skirmishers to fall back gradually. When the enemy felt our line give way he seemed to double his ambition. I was on the post at the bridge. We sent a courier to the road to get orders when to go in. After the courier arrived at division and regimental headquarters on the Maryville road, the rebels rushed in between our post and the road, so our courier could not return. After waiting full time for his return we started another. In a short time the latter returned, stating that we were entirely cut off. We struck out in a direction to strike into the Maryville road ahead of the fighting. We (sixteen in number) met an old citizen, who said he would pilot us through. Away he went through the mountains, and in the course of two hours' hard riding we got into the Maryville road just in time to get in ahead of the rebels, crowding on the rear of our marching column. Our regiment had covered the retreat all this time, and having stood picket all night, and as much as a company two days and nights, were becoming very much fatigued—were relieved by the rest of the brigade, the Eleventh Kentucky and the Forty-fifth Ohio mounted infantry. Just before reaching the heights south of the Holston, the rebels made a furious charge on the two regiments, running into

their ranks and shooting them with pistols. We fell back to the heights, where four guns of our battery were in position, supported by three regiments of infantry. Our cavalry force dismounted and formed in position. The battery then opened. Our regiment was ordered by General Sanders to take position on a very high hill on the right and near the river. After gaining its summit, and throwing forward skirmishers, we halted to take a moment's rest, when Lieutenant-Colonel Ward, walking along the line, remarked that he was proud to see the regiment get together in such good order after having fought part of two days at such intervals, and not a man hurt. Here we might note the daring courage and art as skirmishers of a number of our line-officers, shown all the way from Rockford to the Holston. On the first day, that of Lieutenant Higdon was admired by the regiment. Of to-day, that of the above-named lieutenant, Captain Hammer and his First Lieutenant Roff, who are not surpassed on the skirmish-line. Also that of Captain Ragsdale. I think General Sanders is well pleased with the officers and men of our regiment for to-day's work. It is said by some of the boys that the General remarked in the morning, that his dependence for the cover of this retreat was in Pennabaker's mounted infantry brigade. At the opening of our battery, the rebels, seeing our position and readiness to receive them, fell back. After dark our regiment moved from the hill to the rear of another hill nearer the pontoon-bridge. Here we drew rations and camped for the night.

November sixteenth, we moved forward a few hundred yards, and threw up a temporary breast-work of timbers. After dark our brigade moved across the river, through town to the Tazewell road, to our horses that were previously sent over. About midnight we mounted; moved through town to the Loudon road; had not gone far till we met General Burnside; turned back and came back to the Tazewell road; bivouacked till morning.

November seventeenth, our brigade moved through town and out on the Winter Gap or Clinton road. Here we met the enemy, and skirmished some all day; heavy skirmishing on the Loudon road. We lay in line all night; no man allowed to sleep; no fire and very cold.

November eighteenth, skirmishing commenced at daylight. The rebels made several charges, which we withstood and repulsed. In the evening they charged upon us with overwhelming numbers. The right of our line swung to the rear, the left fell back a few hundred yards till our line became parallel with the railroad and in the suburbs of the town. All in good order and to keep from being flanked. Here our line established itself perfectly secure from any flank movement by the enemy. During the day our regiment lost in killed, Orderly Sergeant Judd, company F, and Sergeant Meader, company B. Four wounded.

November nineteenth, we still maintained our line under a heavy fire, and returning the same with our long-ranged Enfield rifles, that kept the

rebels at a distance of four and five hundred yards. In the evening they set their battery on us, making some very good shots, but doing no damage. Corporal Gilbert, company B, was severely wounded in the right arm by a Minié ball. In the evening we were relieved and moved back through town to the east side. As we passed along the streets by General Burnside's headquarters, the General was standing on the corner of the street, and said: "Boys, you have had a hard time for several days, but we will make it all right in a few days." Camped in the east side of town.

November twentieth, our brigade moved over to a street leading to the Loudon road. Lay there all day ready to support our force in the rifle-pits and Fort Sanders, should the enemy charge them. They did not charge our works. Constant firing all along the line. At night we returned to camp.

November twenty-first, our brigade staid in camp all day. Rained very hard all day. After night the rebels threw several shells into town. Two or three aimed very well at General Burnside's headquarters.

November twenty-second, our brigade moved to the street we lay in on the twentieth. Staid here till late in the evening, when we came back to our horses, mounted, and our division moved up the river about four miles. About nine o'clock in the night we returned to town. Just as we started out, we were visited again by a few rebel shells.

November twenty-third, at night our division moved across the river to the heights on the south side. Twenty-fourth, we staid in and worked on rifle-pits. Very cold and rainy. Twenty-fifth, we advanced to the front, down the river, to another high hill. Worked all night, and by daylight we had a considerable fort built and guns in it. Twenty-sixth, moved a little further to the front. At night, dug a rifle-pit at right angles with the river, and in rifle range of the rebel ditches. Our work had to be done with silence to keep the rebels from firing on us. Twenty-seventh, part of Colonel Wolford's command remained in this ditch, while the rest made headquarters on what is now called Ward's Hill. This is the hill our regiment took position on, on the evening of the fifteenth—hence the name, Ward's Hill. Our regiment was the first troop that ever ascended it. Twenty-eighth, we still remained in the pit. Now three companies of our regiment—B, H, and G—Captain Ragsdale commanding. Captain Scott, Forty-fifth Ohio, commanding skirmish-line.

November twenty-ninth, long before day the rebels made a desperate charge on the north side of the river, got into the rifle-pits, and even into Fort Sanders, but were driven back with great slaughter by the Ninth army corps. Heavy firing was kept up from that till daylight. At daylight the enemy made a simultaneous charge on both sides of the river. They charged upon the pit we were in. Three companies of our regiment (B, H, and G) and the Twenty-fourth Ken-

tucky infantry were in the ditch, and two companies of our regiment (F and C) on a ridge on our left. Here, at the left end of the pit, the picket-line made a right-angle to the rear and along the ridge. So, when the enemy was pressing in front of the ditch, his right passed our left in the ditch, giving him a flank range on us, thus exposing the men in the ditch to a cross-fire. Captain Scott seeing the movement of the enemy in the hollow below the ridge, gave orders for the men in the ditch to fall back, which was done in very good order. After we had fallen back about a hundred yards, Captain Scott rode up to Captain Pulliam and told him to go back to the ditch, that he believed we could hold it yet. We started back through the open field under a galling fire from the enemy behind trees, and were already beginning to get into the ditch. As Captain Scott rode by me, I observed to him that the whole line, both right and left of us, was falling back. Then he told Captain Pulliam to fall back. We fell back about two hundred yards, which made the whole line straight, thus saving us from cross-fire. After getting straightened up, it was proposed to charge the hill and drive the rebels from it and our rifle-pit. The command was given. The whole line rushed forward with terrific yells, but as we had to go through the open field and up hill, it was a considerable task. In a short time, by the straight-forward rushing of our whole line and its constant fire, we gained the hill-top and our rifle-pit, the rebels flying to their own ditch. The loss of our part of a regiment was slight, two killed and four or five wounded. The Twenty-fourth Kentucky infantry, immediately on our right, suffered more than any one regiment with us. The courage of most of the officers and men under our immediate notice was good, used with coolness and good judgment in the thickest torrents of "loaden rain and iron hail."

The rebels having been compelled to return to their own side of the house, seemed perfectly willing to stay there. About this time orders were given to cease hostilities until the dead and wounded could be removed.

The remainder of the evening was silent. Both sides were tired from their hard day's work.

November thirtieth, we still remained in the ditches; an occasional fire. The rebels make no advances.

December first, still in the rifle-pits. Some firing all around the lines. Second and third, no fighting of any consequence; now and then a shot.

December fourth, about three o'clock in the morning Sherman's advance came up. We kept in readiness all day to move out. No advances on either side.

December fifth, after having been closely besieged twenty days, early in the morning, we prepared to march. About nine o'clock A.M., we started—Shackleford's corps—our regiment in front; crossed the river, passed through town, and moved out on the Greenville road. Marched out eight miles, capturing prisoners all the way.

Our regiment stood picket; the rebel pickets in sight of us. They fired on the two companies on the road, so they had to be drawn back across a small creek.

December sixth, about nine o'clock A.M., moved the two companies forward as advance-guard. The rebels made considerable resistance. We moved but about a mile to-day.

December seventh, moved several miles past where we were encamped on the eighth of October.

December eighth, moved on to Rutledge, county-seat of Grainger County.

December ninth, passed through Rutledge and on to Bean's Station. Here our regiment was sent out on the Morristown road to the Holston River. Here we ran upon the rebels; had considerable skirmishing; lost one man. After dark we returned to the station.

December tenth, remained at the station.

December eleventh, Colonel Pennebaker, with our brigade, went to Morristown. Made no attack on the enemy, as he was about a mile east of town. We returned to Bean's Station after night.

December twelfth, remained at the station.

December thirteenth, in the evening the enemy moved upon our pickets. Had some skirmishing. We formed line of battle, with artillery in position, to receive him, but, after some skirmishing, the rebels drew off.

December fourteenth, in the evening, the enemy moved down the valley, in solid columns, upon us. Our corps was put into position; our division—Wolford's—in front, contesting every inch of ground. Our regiment was ordered to take position in the houses. The station-house is a very large brick building. Part of the regiment were in the brick and part in the wooden houses. The rebels came down the valley, through the open fields, like a flood. As there was not a twig in the way, our boys mowed them down like harvest before the sickle. While the air was filled with bullets and shells, Colonel Wolford rode to and fro along the front line, giving the men instruction how to fight to advantage. When the right of the line was being overpowered, Colonel Wolford rode up to the house, and ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Ward to send four companies of our regiment to support the right. Our companies—B, H, G, and I—were despatched to the right. The rebels moved steadily down. Our line had to give way gradually. The other part of our regiment held the houses till dark, while they were the object of a concentrated fire from the rebel batteries—the rebel lines having now passed the houses both right and left. Here our regiment suffered more than at any time previous. By strategy, Lieutenant-Colonel Ward made his way out with the men, by leaving enough to keep up a fire from the houses, which made the rebels keep their distance till the majority made their escape by running out in small squads in rear of the houses. We fell back in line of battle slowly all night.

December fifteenth, at sun-up, our brigade

moved back the road toward the station about a mile; built a breastwork of rails. The rebels pressed down considerably till about ten o'clock A.M., then drew back out of reach, and remained silent till about sundown. They began to show themselves on the mountains, trying to move around our flanks. They had managed to get a battery on the mountains on our right, and about sundown began to hand down a few shells. After dark we commenced falling back; passed through Rutledge.

December sixteenth, fell back to Blain's Cross-Roads, near the "Ruined House."

December seventeenth, remained in line of battle; some skirmishing in the front.

December eighteenth, our regiment was relieved from the front, and moved to the rear, and went into camp, and was paid off; received two months' pay; at night, moved out about five miles to Holston, near McKinney's Ferry, near the mouth of Richland Creek.

December nineteenth, came back to Blain's Cross-Roads. Remained here till the twenty-first. Our brigade is about one third dismounted. At two o'clock on the evening of the twenty-first, the mounted part started to Tazewell. On the evening of the twenty-fourth, the dismounted part moved to the bridge at Strawberry Plains.

December twenty-fifth, the brigade all came back to Blain's Cross-Roads.

December twenty-sixth, remained in camp.

December twenty-seventh, late in the evening, our brigade moved up the Indian Ridge road to Buffalo Creek, about a mile from Orr's Ferry, on Holston River.

December twenty-eighth, sent out a scout, but soon returned; perfectly quiet.

December twenty-ninth, moved about a mile, and went into camp, with brigade headquarters, at Esquire West's. Remained here till January ninth, 1864.

January fifth, 1864, Lieutenant-Colonel Ward made an effort to veteranize our regiment. The boys made a very good turn-out; but finally, because we could not be mustered as cavalry, the regiment failed to veteranize.

January ninth, at eight o'clock A.M., our brigade started on march, but as the weather was very cold a good many of the men dismounted, and as our horses were barefooted, our march was slow. At night we camped at Blain's Cross-Roads.

January tenth, marched to within three miles of Clinch River. The weather very cold and the roads covered with ice, so it was nearly impossible to get our horses and wagon-train along.

January eleventh, crossed Clinch River at ten o'clock A.M., the river running full of ice. Came on to within two miles of Tazewell.

January twelfth, moved on toward Tazewell four miles. Remained here till the morning of the fourteenth. On the morning of the fourteenth we started on to Cumberland Gap. Passed through Tazewell at nine o'clock A.M. This is the worst destroyed town we have found. From the ruins it looks as if it once had been a nice

and flourishing town. Crossed Powell River about ten o'clock P.M. Arrived at Cumberland Gap about three o'clock P.M. Remained here till the evening of the seventeenth, having the horses shod and the men fitted up with clothing, camp and garrison equipage.

January seventeenth, at twelve o'clock, we started into Lee County, Virginia. Marched to Indian Creek, and camped for the night.

January eighteenth, moved on five miles to Ball's Bridge on Indian Creek. Remained here until the evening of the twenty-fourth. On the evening of the twenty-fourth, our brigade moved back to Cumberland Gap. Twenty-fifth, moved back the Jonesville road to Wyman's Mill. Twenty-sixth, moved back near Cumberland Gap. Twenty-seventh, moved back near Ball's Bridge. Remained here until the morning of the twenty-ninth, during which time our regiment turned its horses over to the Eleventh Kentucky mounted infantry.

January twenty-ninth, at daylight, the enemy attacked our pickets. Our brigade fell back to within a mile of the Gap. The rebels skirmished with us back to Wyman's Mill. Remained here until the thirty-first. Late on the evening of the thirty-first we moved out to the forks of the Jonesville and Mulberry Gap roads. Here we remained, having an occasional skirmish, until February eighth. On the evening of February eighth we crossed through Cumberland Gap into Kentucky.

February ninth, crossed Cumberland River at Cumberland Ford. Tenth, passed through Flat Lick. Eleventh, passed through Barbourville, and camped at Laurel Bridge. Twelfth, passed through Loudon and by Camp Pitman. Thirteenth, crossed Rockcastle River, and camped on Big Hill. Fifteenth, passed through Richmond. Here is where we were first ordered to when we were ordered to Kentucky. Sixteenth, crossed Kentucky River at Ray's Ferry. Passed through Athens. Seventeenth, passed through Winchester. Eighteenth, arrived at Mount Sterling. Went into camp about half a mile north of town. Remained here till the eighth day of April, 1864, when the regiment was ordered to Louisville. Arrived at Louisville on the eleventh of April. Here the regiment was put on garrison and provost duty.

The above are merely extracts from what we noted in our pocket diary, for no public exhibition, but for our own private use; therefore, we trust, no one will take exception or think we make them public for any individual interest. A full, minute notation of our East-Tennessee campaign would be too large for the columns of a newspaper. But we frankly confess that we experienced more of *real soldier-life* in East-Tennessee than we ever did before. Suffice it to be explanation enough to say, that Colonel Frank Wolford commanded our division, Colonel C. D. Pennebaker our brigade, and Lieutenant-Colonel Ward our regiment. Three more brave, patriotic, Union-loving, and *fighting* men do not wield a sword in the cause of the *Union*. WILLIE.

Doc. 37.

ESCAPE OF JOHN MORGAN.

GENERAL JOHN MORGAN was honored with an ovation on the seventh of January, 1864, on his arrival at Richmond. The following account of his escape from the Ohio Penitentiary, and subsequent adventures, was published in the *Enquirer*:

Their bedsteads were small iron stools, fastened to the wall with hinges. They could be hooked up or allowed to stand on the floor; and to prevent any suspicion, for several days before any work was attempted, they made it a habit to let them down and sit at their doors and read. Captain Hines superintended the work, while General Morgan kept watch to divert the attention of the sentinel, whose duty it was to come round during the day and observe if any thing was going on. One day this fellow came in while Hokersmith was down under the floor boring away, and missing him said: "Where is Hokersmith?" The General replied, "He is in my room, sick," and immediately pulled a document out of his pocket, and said to him: "Here is a memorial I have drawn up to forward to the Government at Washington; what do you think of it?"

The fellow, who perhaps could not read, being highly flattered at the General's condescension, took it and very gravely looked at it for several moments before he vouchsafed any reply; then, handing it back, he expressed himself highly pleased with it. In the mean time, Hokersmith had been signalled and came up, professing to feel "very unwell." This sentinel was the most difficult and dangerous obstacle in their progress, because there was no telling at what time he would enter during the day, and at night he came regularly every two hours to each cell, and inserted a light through the bars of their door, to see that they were quietly sleeping; and frequently, after he had completed his rounds, he would slip back in the dark, with a pair of India-rubber shoes on, to listen at their cells if any thing was going on. The General says that he would almost invariably know of his presence by a certain magnetic shudder which it would produce; but for fear that this acute sensibility might sometimes fail him, he broke up small particles of coal every morning, and sprinkled them before the cell-door, which would always announce his coming.

Every thing was now ready to begin the work; so, about the latter part of October, they began to bore. All were busy—one making a rope-ladder by tearing and twisting up strips of bed-tick, another making bowie-knives, and another twisting up towels. They labored perseveringly for several days, and after boring through nine inches of cement and nine thicknesses of brick placed edgewise, they began to wonder when they should reach the soft earth. Suddenly a brick fell through. What could this mean? What infernal chamber had they reached? It was immediately entered, and, to their great as-

tonishment and joy, it proved to be an air-chamber extending the whole length of the row of cells. Here was an unexpected interposition in their favor. Hitherto they had been obliged to conceal their rubbish in their bedticks, each day burning a proportionate quantity of straw; now they had room enough for all they could dig. They at once commenced to tunnel at right angles with this air-chamber, to get through the foundation; and day after day they bored, day after day the blocks of granite were removed, and still the work before them seemed interminable.

After twenty-three days of unremitting labor, and getting through a granite wall of six feet in thickness, they reached the soil. They tunnelled up for some distance, and light began to shine. How glorious was that light! It announced the fulfilment of their labors, and if Providence would only continue its favor, they would soon be free. This was the morning of the twenty-six day of November, 1863. The next night, at twelve o'clock, was determined on as the hour at which they would attempt their liberty. Each moment that intervened was filled with dreadful anxiety and suspense, and each time the guard entered increased their apprehensions. The General says he had prayed for rain, but the morning of the twenty-seventh dawned bright and beautiful. The evening came, and clouds began to gather. How they prayed for them to increase! If rain should only begin, their chances of detection would be greatly lessened. While these thoughts were passing through their minds, the keeper entered with a letter for General Morgan. He opened it, and what was his surprise, and I may say wonder, to find it from a poor Irish woman of his acquaintance in Kentucky, commencing: "My dear Ginral, I feel certain you are going to try to git out of prison, but, for your sake, don't you try it, my dear Ginral. You will only be taken prisoner again, and made to suffer more than you do now."

The letter then went on to speak of his kindness to the poor when he lived at Lexington, and concluded by again exhorting him to trust in God and wait his time. What could this mean? No human being on the outside had been informed of his intention to escape, and yet, just as all things were ready for him to make the attempt, here comes a letter from Winchester, Ky., advising him not to "try it." This letter had passed through the examining-office of General Mason, and then through the hands of the lower officials. What if it should excite their suspicion, and cause them to exercise an increased vigilance? The situation, however, was desperate. Their fate could not be much worse, and they resolved to go. Nothing now remained to be done but for the General and Colonel Dick Morgan to change cells. The hour approached for them to be locked up. They changed coats, and each stood at the other's cell-door with his back exposed, and pretended to be engaged in making up their beds. As the turnkey entered they "turned in," and pulled their doors shut.

Six, eight, ten o'clock came. How each pulse throbbed as they quietly awaited the approach of twelve! It came—the sentinel passed his round—all well. After waiting a few moments to see if he intended to slip back, the signal was given. All quietly slipped down into the air-chamber, first stuffing their flannel-shirts and placing them in bed as they were accustomed to lie. As they moved quietly along through the dark recess to the terminus where they were to emerge from the earth, the General prepared to light a match. As the lurid glare fell upon their countenances, a scene was presented which can never be forgotten. There were crouched seven brave men who had resolved to be free. They were armed with bowie-knives made out of case-knives. Life, in their condition, was scarcely to be desired, and the moment for the desperate chance had arrived. Suppose, as they emerged from the ground, that the dog should give the alarm—they could but die.

But few moments were spent in this kind of apprehension. The hour had arrived, and yet they came. Fortunately—yes, providentially—the night had suddenly grown dark and rainy, the dogs had retired to their kennels, and the sentinels had taken refuge under shelter. The inner wall, by the aid of the rope-ladder, was soon scaled, and now the outer one had to be attempted. Captain Taylor, (who, by the way, is a nephew of old Zack,) being a very active man, by the assistance of his comrades reached the top of the gate, and was enabled to get the rope over the wall. When the top was gained, they found a rope extending all around, which the General immediately cut, as he suspected that it might lead into the Warden's room. This turned out to be correct. They then entered the sentry-box on the wall and changed their clothes, and let themselves down the wall. In sliding down, the General skinned his hand very badly, and all were more or less bruised. Once down, they separated—Taylor and Shelton going one way, Hokersmith, Bennett, and McGee another, and General Morgan and Captain Hines proceeding immediately toward the dépôt.

The General had, by paying \$15 in gold, succeeded in obtaining a paper which informed him of the schedule time of the different roads. The clock struck one, and he knew by hurrying he could reach the down-train for Cincinnati. He got there just as the train was moving off. He at once looked on to see if there were any soldiers on board, and espying a Union officer, he boldly walked up and took a seat beside him. He remarked to him that "as the night was damp and chilly, perhaps he would join him in a drink." He did so, and the party soon became very agreeable to each other. The cars, in crossing the Scioto, have to pass within a short distance of the Penitentiary. As they passed, the officer remarked: "There's the hotel at which Morgan and his officers are spending their leisure." "Yes," replied the General, "and I sincerely hope he will make up his mind to board there during the balance of the war, for he is a great

nuisance." When the train reached Xenia, it was detained by some accident more than an hour. Imagine his anxiety, as soldier after soldier would pass through the train, for fear that when the sentinel passed his round at two o'clock their absence might be discovered.

The train was due in Cincinnati at six o'clock. This was the hour at which they were turned out of their cells, and of course their escape would be then discovered. In a few moments after it would be known all over the country. The train, having been detained at Xenia, was running very rapidly to make up the time. It was already past six o'clock. The General said to Captain Hines: "It's after six o'clock; if we go to the dépôt we are dead men. Now or never." They went to the rear and put on the brakes. "Jump, Hines!" Off he went, and fell heels over head in the mud. Another severe turn of the brake, and the General jumped. He was more successful, and lighted on his feet. There were some soldiers near, who remarked, "What in the h—l do you mean by jumping off the cars here?" The General replied: "What in the d—l is the use of my going into town when I live here; and, besides, what business is it of yours?"

They went immediately to the river. They found a skiff, but no oars. Soon a little boy came over, and appeared to be waiting. "What are you waiting for?" said the General. "I am waiting for my load." "What is the price of a load?" "Two dollars." "Well, as we are tired and hungry, we will give you the two dollars, and you can put us over." So over he took them. "Where does Miss — live?" "Just a short distance from here." "Will you show me her house?" "Yes, sir." The house was reached, a fine breakfast was soon obtained, money and a horse furnished, a good woman's prayer bestowed, and off he went. From there, forward through Kentucky, every body vied with each other as to who should show him the most attention—even to the negroes; and young ladies of refinement begged the honor to cook his meals.

He remained in Kentucky some days, feeling perfectly safe, and sending into Louisville for many little things he wanted. Went to Bardstown, and found a Federal regiment had just arrived there, looking for him. Remained here and about for three or four days, and then struck out for Dixie; sometimes disguising himself as a Government cattle-contractor, and buying a large lot of cattle; at other times, a quartermaster, until he got to the Tennessee River. Here he found all means of transportation destroyed, and the bank strongly guarded; but with the assistance of about thirty others, who had recognized him and joined him in spite of his remonstrances, he succeeded in making a raft, and he and Captain Hines crossed over. His escort, with heroic self-sacrifice, refused to cross until he was safely over. He then hired a negro to get his horse over, paying him twenty dollars for it. The river was so high that the horse came near

drowning, and after more than one hour's struggling with the stream was pulled out so exhausted as scarcely to be able to stand.

The General threw a blanket on him and commenced to walk him, when suddenly, he says, he was seized with a presentiment that he would be attacked, and remarking to Captain Hines, "We will be attacked in twenty minutes," commenced saddling his horse. He had hardly tied his girth, when "Bang! bang!" went the Minié balls. He bounced his horse, and the noble animal, appearing to be inspired with new vigor, bounded off like a deer up the mountain. The last he saw of his poor fellows on the opposite side, they were disappearing up the river bank, fired upon by a whole regiment of Yankees. By this time it was dark, and also raining. He knew that a perfect cordon of pickets would surround the foot of the mountain, and if he remained there until morning he would be lost. So he determined to run the gauntlet at once, and commenced to descend. As he neared the foot, leading his horse, he came almost in personal contact with a picket. His first impulse was to kill him, but finding him asleep, he determined to let him sleep on. He made his way to the house of a Union man that he knew lived near there, and went up and passed himself off as Captain Quartermaster of Hunt's regiment, who was on his way to Athens, Tenn., to procure supplies of sugar and coffee for the Union people of the country. The lady, who appeared to be asleep while this interview was taking place with her husband, at the mention of sugar and coffee, jumped out of bed in her night-clothes, and said: "Thank God for that; for we ain't seen any rale coffee up here for God knows how long!" She was so delighted at the prospect, that she made up a fire and cooked them a good supper. Supper being over, the General remarked that he understood some rebels had "tried to cross the river this afternoon." "Yes," said the woman, "but our men killed some un um, and driv the rest back." "Now," said the General, "I know that; but didn't some of them get over?" "Yes," was her reply; "but they are on the mountain, and can't get down without being killed, as every road is stopped up." He then said to her: "It is very important for me to get to Athens by to-morrow night, or I may lose that sugar and coffee; and I am afraid to go down any of these roads for fear my own men will kill me."

The fear of losing that sugar and coffee brought her again to an accommodating mood, and she replied: "Why, Paul, can't you show the Captain through our farm that road down by the field?" The General says: "Of course, Paul, you can do it; and as the night is very cold I will give you ten dollars (in gold) to help you along." The gold, and the prospect of sugar and coffee, was too much for any poor man's nerves, and he yielded, and getting on a horse, he took them seven miles to the big road.

From this time forward he had a series of adventures and escapes, all very wonderful, until he got near another river in Tennessee, when he

resolved to go up to a house and find the way. Hines went to the house, while the General stood in the road. Hearing a body of cavalry come dashing up behind him, he quietly slipped to one side of the road, and it passed by without observing him. They went travelling after Hines, and, poor fellow! he has not been heard of since. How sad to think that he should be either captured or killed after so many brave efforts, not only in his own behalf but also in that of the General, for the General says that it is owing chiefly to Hines's enterprise and skill that they made their escape.

When he arrived at the river referred to above, he tried to get over, intending to stop that night with a good Southern man on the other side. He could not get over, and had to stop at the house of a Union man. The next morning he went to the house that he had sought the night previous, and found the track of the Yankees scarcely cold. They had been there all night, expecting that he would come there, and had murdered every body who had attempted to reach the house, without hailing them. In pursuing this brutal course, they had killed three young men, neighbors of this gentleman, and went away, leaving their dead bodies on the ground.

After he had crossed Okey's River, and got down into Middle Tennessee, he found it almost impossible to avoid recognition. At one time he passed some poor women, and one of them commenced clapping her hands and said, "Oh! I know who that is, I know who that is!" but, catching herself, she stopped short, and passed on with her companions.

The General says that his escape was made entirely without the assistance from any one on the outside, and, so far as he knows, also without their knowledge of his intention; that the announcement of his arrival in Toronto was one of those fortuitous coincidences that cannot be accounted for; that it assisted him materially, no doubt. In fact, he says that his "wife's prayers" saved him, and, as this is the most agreeable way of explaining it, he is determined to believe it.

The above account may be relied on as correct; and, although much has been left out, yet enough is printed to stamp it as one of the most remarkable escapes in history.

AN APPEAL FROM MORGAN.

HEADQUARTERS MORGAN'S CAVALRY, {
DECATUR, GA., January 1, 1864. }

SOLDIERS: I am once more among you, after a long and painful imprisonment.

I am anxious to be again in the field. I therefore call on all the soldiers of my command to assemble at once at the rendezvous which has been established at this place.

Your country needs your services. The field of operation is wide, and the future glorious, if we only deserve it.

Remember how many of your brave comrades are still repining in a felon's cell. They call

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loudly on you for help. They expect it of you. Will you disappoint them?

Come at once, and come cheerfully, for I want no man in my command who has to be sent to his duty by a provost-marshal.

The work before us will be arduous, and will require brave hearts and willing hands. Let no man falter or delay, for no time is to be lost. Every one must bring his horse and gun who can.

JOHN H. MORGAN,

Brigadier-General Provisional Army Confederate States.

Official:

R. A. ALSTON,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting A. A. General.

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THE REBEL COMMISSARIAT.

OFFICIAL CIRCULAR.

OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSARIAT, QUINCY, FLA., }
November 2, 1863. }

It has been a subject of anxious consideration how I could, without injury to our cause, expose to the people throughout the State the present perilous condition of our army. To do this through the public press would point out our source of danger to our enemies. To see each one in person, or even a sufficient number to effect the object contemplated, is impossible; yet the necessity of general and immediate action is imperative to save our army, and with it our cause, from disaster. The issues of this contest are now transferred to the people at home. If they fail to do their duty and sustain the army in its present position, it must fall back. If the enemy break through our present line, the wave of desolation may roll even to the shores of the Gulf and Atlantic. In discipline, valor, and the skill of its leaders, our army has proven more than a match for the enemy. But the best appointed army cannot maintain its position without support at home. The people should never suffer it to be said that they valued their cattle and hogs, their corn and money, more than their liberties and honor, and that they had to be compelled to support an army they had sent to battle in their defence. We hope it will not become necessary to resort to impressments among a people fighting for their existence, and in defence of their homes and country and institutions. We prefer rather to appeal to them by every motive of duty and honor—by the love they bear their wives and daughters—by the memory of the heroic dead, and the future glory and independence of their country, to come to its rescue in this darkest hour of its peril.

A country which can afford to send forth in its defence the flower of its youth and the best of its manhood, can afford, and are in honor bound, to sustain them at any cost and sacrifice of money and property. They have sacrificed home and ease, and suffered untold hardships, and with their lives are now defending every thing we hold most sacred. Florida has done nobly in this contest. Her sons have achieved

the highest character for their State, and won imperishable honors for themselves. These brave men are now suffering for want of food. Not only the men from Florida, but the whole army of the South are in this condition. Our honor as a people demands that we do our duty to them. They must be fed. The following extracts from official letters in my possession do but partially represent the present condition of the armies of Generals Bragg and Beauregard, and their gloomy prospect for future supplies:

Major J. F. Cumming, who supplies General Bragg's army, writes, "It is absolutely and vitally important that all the cattle that can possibly be brought here shall be brought as promptly as possible;" and again, on the fifth of October, he says: "I cannot too strongly urge upon you the necessity, yes, the urgent necessity, of sending forward cattle promptly. It appears that all other resources are exhausted, and that we are now dependent upon your State for beef for the very large army of General Bragg. I know you will leave no stone unturned, and I must say all is now dependent on your exertions, so far as beef is concerned. In regard to bacon, the stock is about exhausted—hence beef is our only hope. I know the prospect is very discouraging, and it only remains with those of us having charge of this most important work to do all we can to exhaust our resources; and when we have done this, our country cannot complain of us. If we fail to do all that can be done, and our cause shall fail, upon us will rest the responsibility; therefore let us employ every means at our command." Again, on the sixth, he says: "Major A. can explain to you the great and absolute necessity for prompt action in the matter; for, Major, I assure you, that nearly all now depends on you." And on the nineteenth of October, he says: "Captain Townsend, A.C.S., having a leave of absence for thirty days from the army of Tennessee, I have prevailed on him to see you and explain to you my straitened condition, and the imminent danger of our army suffering for the want of beef." And on the twentieth October, he wrote: "The army to-day is on half-rations of beef, and I fear within a few days will have nothing but bread to eat. This is truly a dark hour with us, and I cannot see what is to be done. All that is left for us to do is to do all we can, and then we will have a clear conscience, no matter what the world may say."

Major Locke, Chief Commissary of Georgia, wrote: "I pray you, Major, to put every agency in motion that you can to send cattle without a moment's delay toward the Georgia borders. The troops in Charleston are in great extremity. We look alone to you for cattle; those in Georgia are exhausted."

Major Guerin, Chief Commissary of South Carolina, wrote: "We are almost entirely dependent on Florida, and it is of the last importance, at this time, that the troops here should be subsisted." Again, he says: "As it is, our situation is full of danger, from want of meat, and extraordinary efforts are required to prevent dis-

aster." And on the ninth of October, he says: "We have now forty thousand troops and laborers to subsist. The supply of bacon on hand in the city is twenty thousand pounds, and the cattle furnished by this State is not one tenth of what is required. My anxieties and apprehensions, as you may suppose, are greatly excited."

Major Millen, of Savannah, on the tenth of October, says: "I assure you, Major, that the stock of bacon and beef for the armies of the confederate States is now exhausted, and we must depend entirely upon what we may gather weekly. Starvation stares the army in the face—the handwriting is on the wall." On the twenty-sixth of October, he says: "From the best information I have, the resources of food (meat) of both the Tennessee and Virginia armies are exhausted. The remark now applies with equal force to South Carolina and Georgia, and the army must henceforth depend upon the energy of the purchasing commissaries, through their daily or weekly collections. I have exhausted the beef cattle, and am now obliged to kill stock cattle."

From these you perceive that there is too much cause for the deep solicitude manifested by the writers. They should excite the fears and apprehensions of every lover of his country. Truly the responsibility upon us is great, when we are expected to feed these vast armies, whether the producers will sell to us or not. The slightest reflection would teach any one that it is impossible to provide for such armies by impressments alone. The people must cheerfully yield their supplies, or make up their minds to surrender their cause. It is their cause. It is not the cause of the government. The government is theirs. The army, the government, you and I, and every one, and every thing we have, are staked upon this contest. To fail, is total and irretrievable ruin, universal confiscation of every thing, and abject and ignominious submission and slavery to the most despicable and infamous race on earth. Whoever has any other thought but to fight on, at any cost of life and property, until we achieve our independence, or all perish in the struggle, deserves to be the slave of such an enemy. But, under the guidance of Providence, our cause is safe in the hands of our army, provided we do our duty at home. But Providence will not help a people who will not help themselves. Our enemies have no hope of conquering us by arms. Their only hope is, that we will be untrue to ourselves, and in the blind pursuit of gain, lose sight of our country, and thus suffer our army, and with it our cause, to perish. How stands the case? You know the resources of Tennessee are lost to us; the hog cholera and other causes have cut short the prospect in Georgia and other States. It is ascertained that the last year's crop of bacon is about exhausted, and it is certain that the crop of this will be much shorter than that of last year. Now two large armies look almost solely to Florida to supply one entire article of subsistence. The entire surplus of this year's crop of

bacon throughout the Confederacy, even when husbanded with the utmost economy, will be inadequate to the demands of the government. This makes it the duty of every man to economize as much as possible—to sell not a pound to any one else whilst there is any danger of our army suffering, and to pledge at schedule rates his entire surplus—bacon, beef, sugar, and syrup—to the government. I solemnly believe our cause is hopeless, unless our people can be brought to this point.

I have thought it my duty to address this confidential circular to the principal men in various sections of the State, and invoke their aid and coöperation with the purchasing commissaries and government agents in their districts, in inaugurating and putting into operation some system by which our armies can be more promptly supplied, and all of our resources which are necessary secured to the government. The appeals to me are more and more urgent every day; the pressure upon our State is very great. Should she now respond to the call made upon her resources as she has upon the bloodiest battle-fields of the war, the measure of her glory will be full. But if we withhold our supplies, we cripple our army, and render it impossible for them to advance after achieving the most signal victories. The people at home must put themselves upon a war footing. This they have never yet done. They must sow and plant, and gather for the government. Then, and not till then, will the bright rays of peace break through the clouds of war which overhang us.

P. W. WHITE,
Major and Chief Commissary.

P. S.—You are specially requested not to allow this circular to go out of your possession, but to read it to such persons as you know to be true and prudent, and to begin the work contemplated immediately.

RESTRICTIONS ON FOOD.

CIRCULAR.

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT EASTERN FLORIDA, }
LAKE CITY, January 12, 1864. }

In conformity with instructions from department headquarters, of December twenty-eighth, 1863, and with the urgent request of Major P. W. White, C. S. for the State of Florida, "the removal across the borders of the State (except for army consumption) of all articles of subsistence which make part of the army ration, without special permit, is hereby prohibited, except in cases manifestly for family use, or under circumstances which relieve the transaction from the possibility of being a purchase for speculative purposes." The permit in the cases mentioned will be applied for of the District Commissaries. No purchases will be allowed in this district, either by commissaries or their agents from other districts, except under an order from Major White, C. S. for the State. Hides and tallow in the hands of speculators, middle-men, or others, will not be allowed to be removed, but

will be impressed under orders from the Quartermaster-General.

By order of Brigadier-General FINEGAN.
W. CALL, A. A. G.

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THE REBEL "BIRD OF ART."

To the Officers, Soldiers, and Citizens of the Confederate States:

SINCE the year 1839 I have devoted much thought and labor to the invention of a machine for aerial locomotion by man. The proper form and external appendages of the body were early and readily devised; but its successful operation has been delayed by the want of a suitable power to give it practical effect. That difficulty has been overcome, however, by my recent invention of an engine for a new motive power, which is admirably adapted to, and deemed amply sufficient for this object. For obvious reasons, it would be improper to publish the plan by which the great and long-sought desideratum of aerial locomotion may be attained.

Early in the year 1861, I sent a memorial to the Provisional Congress, then in session at Montgomery, asking assistance in behalf of my invention, with the view of employing it against our enemies in the existing war. At a subsequent period, a similar application was presented to that body, then assembled in this city, with a like object. At a later period still, another application in the same mode was handed to a member of the House of Representatives of the Confederate States Congress, but which never was presented to that body.

And, to complete this sketch of such efforts on my part to obtain legislative aid, in September last I memorialized the Legislature of Virginia, at that time convened in extra session in this city; but I regret to say that all of those applications failed to elicit any attention to the great importance of this invention to our country at this time. And finally, at the suggestion of Generals R. E. Lee and G. T. Beauregard, I referred the subject of my invention to the Engineer Bureau of the War Department, where it remained many weeks without investigation, and was withdrawn a few days since. And feeling a profound personal interest in the success of our cause and the future welfare of our country, I now appeal to the citizens and soldiers of the country at large for aid in raising the means to construct and put in operation the *Artis avia*, (bird of art.) By the use of a considerable number of these machines, all of the Yankee armies now upon our soil and their blockading fleets may be speedily driven off or destroyed. In the present condition of our country, it will take a large sum to construct the requisite number of Birds of Art for this object; but if this appeal should be responded to generally, none need contribute more than one dollar—a sum that every one may spare without inconvenience—in order to rid our country of the pri-

vations and perils of this fiendish war. Each machine will cost about five hundred dollars.

A short extract from my memorial to the Legislature of Virginia will serve to show how this most desirable object can be accomplished :

"Now, let it be supposed that this number (one thousand) of these Birds of Art were stationed at the distance of five miles from a hostile military camp, fortification, or armada of war-vessels; that each *Artis avis* was supplied with a fifty-pound explosive shell, and being started singly, or two or three abreast, going out and dropping those destructive missiles from a point or elevation beyond the reach of the enemy's guns, then returning to the place of departure and reloading, and thus continuing the movement at the rate of one hundred miles per hour. It will be seen that within the period of twelve hours, one hundred and fifty thousand death-dealing bombs could be thus rained down upon the foe, a force that no defensive art on land, however solid, could withstand even for a single day, while exposed armies and ships would be almost instantly destroyed, without the least chance for escape."

Reference is respectfully made to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Mississippi, the Hon. H. W. Sheffey, Speaker House of Delegates, Virginia Legislature, and General W. S. Featherston, Miss.

R. O. DAVIDSON.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
RICHMOND, VA., JAN. 1, 1862.

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RESTORATION OF ARKANSAS.

PROCEEDINGS OF A PUBLIC MEETING IN HELENA,
JANUARY 2, 1864.

In pursuance of public notice, a large and enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of Phillips County was held at the Episcopal church, in the city of Helena, on the second instant, for the purpose of electing delegates to a convention to be held at Little Rock on the eighth instant, and also to take such steps as might be deemed advisable to restore the State of Arkansas to its former peace and prosperity in the Federal Union.

Brigadier-General Buford, having been invited to attend and preside over its deliberations, appeared at twelve M., and called the meeting to order. General Buford, in stating the object of the assembly, spoke as follows :

GENERAL BUFORD'S SPEECH.

My Fellow-Citizens of the State of Arkansas :

I have learned from your own words that the majority of your legal voters never authorized the act of secession, which has destroyed your civil rights and overwhelmed you with the horrors of civil war. The unholy act having been perpetrated by ambitious and bad men, who usurped the authority of the State and made war against the United States, has placed you in an unnatural and an unfortunate position. From the enjoyment of a free government, you were forced to live under the iron rule of a satrap of

unlawful and usurped power. Instead of the mild dominion of just laws, you have felt the iron heel, and been subject to the ungoverned passions of a General Hindman !

The false calls of patriotism and love of country have seduced your sons from their true allegiance to their country, whose glorious emblem was the striped banner with its united galaxy of thirty-four stars, among which that one named "Arkansas" shone with an effulgence as bright and as pure as any in the blue field of the Union, and caused them to trample it into the dust, and erect a new one, unknown to fame, and destined to be as fatal to those who walked under its shade as that of the fabled Upas tree.

The false promises of the demagogues who seduced your sons have been unveiled, and instead of a glorious new empire, whose prosperity would outshine the old one, you have been called to witness the destruction of your civil government, with no restraints to anarchy but military power.

A false doctrine has been taught in the South for thirty years, that patriotism was confined to a section, instead of the glorious Union. An unnatural hatred has been cherished against a part of your countrymen for whom you should have felt only a brotherly love. All the parts of our Government—land of rivers and land of lakes; land of mountains and land of plains; land of forests and land of prairies; land of granite and land of gold; land of oaks and land of flowers—all, all are necessary to be united in one glorious transatlantic brotherhood, to make one great nation, capable of supporting a great free government, strong enough to withstand the shock of despotic power, which has constantly threatened us from the old world.

And now, my fellow-citizens, with thirty years of training in the school that you were a peculiar race, understood the Bible a great deal better than the rest of mankind—had a corner-stone for a new empire of more solid substance than that which upheld the old one—who could be surprised that when the flint was struck by the steel, that the fire flew—your country was in a blaze—your young men volunteered ? They thought it the duty of patriotism and the road to glory. But you had wise men and prudent mothers among you who thought differently.

You who were wise, many of you had your hearts to bleed, when your manly sons, with buoyant hearts and gay thoughts, disregarded your admonitions, and took a fatal resolution.

I am not here to reproach you, but to mourn with you. I shall not detail any of the particulars which have led a just and powerful Government to vindicate its rights, and send its armies into your State. I shall not exasperate you by detailing the barbarities of "guerrilla" warfare, nor the miseries of the Libby Prison or Castle Thunder. Neither will I try to screen from censure any of the unlawful marauding acts of some of our own troops.

I am here with you to devise measures for the restoration of the Union, I am here to help to pour oil upon the troubled waters. I am here to

maintain discipline among troops, to protect your rights, and to govern and conduct according to the immutable laws of justice and truth.

It will be a proud page of our history, if we can do an act tending to restore peace and harmony to our distracted country. Cause the time to be hastened even one day, when peace, with its blessings, shall spread its broad mantle over our land.

I am here to represent a magnanimous Government—not a party. The door is wide open for the restoration of your civil rights. No man who has not committed an overt act of hostility has claimed the protection of the Government in vain.

The revolution is an indelible fact. Its broad marks will never be effaced. Its honors and its dishonors are already written. One of the most beautiful emblems adorning the National Capitol in the old House of Representatives is the genius of history, pen in hand, standing on a time-piece. Each event is recorded as the unceasing pointer moves, and the record stands for ever and ever. We cannot recall the past. The opposers of the Government say, Give us the Constitution as it was; a bereaved mother, with a broken heart, cries, Restore me my only son slaughtered on the battle-field! Both cries are in vain. The poet answers:

"Look not mournfully into the past—
It is gone.

Wisely improve the present—
It is thine.

Go forward to meet the future with a manly heart."

The Constitution as it was has been violated, and the country disrupted, by treasonable hands. We have met together to-day to pick up its broken fragments, and happy shall we be if we are again capable of cementing together its most valuable parts. Happy, if under its reconstruction we can establish freedom, truth, and justice. Happy, if we can restore peace and concord.

An assembly of delegates from all portions of the State has been called to meet at Little Rock on the eighth day of January. It is proposed that this community be represented at that meeting, and you have been called together to deliberate and to elect delegates.

The eighth day of January awakens recollections that are dear to every American heart. May it again be made illustrious by the triumphs of peace as it has been by the triumphs of war.

The meeting was organized by the election of H. P. Coolidge and Lieutenant S. Baird, Secretaries.

On motion of Colonel Moore, it was ordered that a committee of five be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting. And on the nomination of J. M. Hanks, Esq., Colonel W. F. Moore, Judge Sebastian, Major Jackson, J. C. O. Smith, and Arthur Thompson were elected such committee.

At his own request, Judge Sebastian was excused from serving on the committee, and W. L. Otie was elected to fill his place.

While the Committee were in consultation, the

Chair invited a free and open expression of opinion from the citizens present, whereupon R. P. Sutton, Esq., H. P. Coolidge, J. F. Moore, and Colonel Noble were severally called upon, and entertained the audience with brief and pertinent remarks.

Mr. Hanks, from the Committee, reported a series of resolutions, as did also Major Jackson.

On motion of J. A. Butler, it was ordered that a committee of three be appointed to consider and harmonize the resolutions, so that only one set might be presented for the consideration of the meeting. The chair appointed as such committee Messrs. Butler, Hanks, and Jackson. After a brief consultation the Committee reported the following resolutions:

Whereas, The present condition of our once prosperous and happy State is such as requires the united efforts of all her citizens to effect its amelioration; and

Whereas, An opportunity is now presented to restore her to her former position in our glorious Union, and to put in full and successful operation the civil authority of our State; and

Whereas, A meeting of delegates from all parts of the State has been called to meet at Little Rock on the eighth instant, for the purpose of adopting the most proper and suitable measures for effecting the above-named objects; therefore,

Resolved, That we have learned with satisfaction that an opportunity is now presented of regaining our former position in the Union,

Resolved, That four delegates be appointed by this meeting, who shall attend the meeting of delegates to be held at Little Rock on the eighth instant, instructed to confer with their fellow-citizens, who shall then be present, as to the best means necessary to be adopted for putting in full and successful operation the civil machinery of our State, and securing our restoration to all our former rights and position in the Union.

Resolved, That we earnestly desire and request the Hon. J. K. Sebastian to take his seat in the United States Senate as one of the Senators from the State of Arkansas.

Resolved, That the State of Arkansas now is, and was in May, 1861, when the ordinance of secession was passed, a member of the United States of America.

Resolved, That we recognize as valid no power or authority which attempts to sever the political connection existing between any State and the United States.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolutions, the Rev. J. A. Butler was called out and advocated their adoption in a speech of an hour's duration, replete with patriotic sentiments, humor, sarcasm, and sound and convincing logic. After which the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

On motion of Mr. Morse, Mr. Butler was requested to furnish a copy of his speech for publication, which he kindly consented to do.

Upon the nomination of Colonel Moore, Rev. J. A. Butler, J. M. Hanks, Esq., J. B. Miles, and Hon. Josiah McKiel were elected delegates to the

Convention to be held at Little Rock on the eighth instant, with power to fill vacancies.

Upon its being suggested that Judge McKiel was in feeble health, and might not be able to attend the Convention, the Chair remarked that he should place a steamboat at the service of the delegates, as he considered the object of the mission of sufficient importance to warrant him in so doing.

A motion was then made and carried that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Memphis, St. Louis, and Washington papers.

Major Jackson then moved that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the chairman for the courtesies and impartial manner with which he had presided over its deliberations, and for his kindness and liberality in providing the delegates with the means of transportation to the Convention.

The meeting was eminently patriotic and harmonious, and upon the suggestion of the Chair adjourned with three hearty cheers for the American Union.

N. B. BUFORD,

Brigadier-General Commanding, Chairman.

H. P. COOLIDGE,

Lieutenant S. BAIRD, } Secretaries.

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RAID IN HARDY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND ENQUIRER ACCOUNT.

CAMP NEAR NEWMARKET, January 9, 1864.

We have just returned from a ten days' raid behind the enemy's lines. Our force consisted of a portion of Fitz Lee's cavalry division, under General Chambliss, and Rosser's brigade, under General Rosser—all under the command of Fitz Lee.

Fitz Lee's division had already been reduced by his pertinacious but ineffectual efforts to capture Averill, to but a moiety of his proper number; while Rosser's brigade had just achieved a successful tour around Meade's army, and, as a matter of course, was greatly diminished. We started with about one thousand one hundred men in all. It was raining when we started, and soon commenced snowing. Many consoled themselves for such an inauspicious beginning with the old adage that "a bad beginning makes a good end." We hoped against hope, and kept up light hearts, though at every step the weather and the roads got worse. As we entered the mountainous regions, the snow became hail, and snow and rain, and they all mixed and froze as they fell. The roads were like sheets of glass, while the little mountain streams, that the road crossed and recrossed a thousand times, with their icy battlements and buttresses at every ford, presented barriers more formidable than large rivers.

It was impossible to get the artillery and the wagon train over the first mountain. It was as much as could be expected of a horse to transport himself up and down those icy inclined

planes. So the wagon train and artillery, after waiting awhile, for more favorable weather, were sent back.

The second day the weather became worse, and on the third day it was no better. Many of the men, frost-bitten and frozen, fell out of ranks, and stopped at the farm-houses, waiting for a thaw. Fitz Lee, however, pushed on, after recruiting a day at Moorfield, in Hardy County, Virginia.

Fording the south branch of the Potomac, we entered the Moorfield Gap, in the Patterson Creek range of mountains. This range of mountains has acquired a sort of historical importance, from being regarded, by general consent, as the dividing line between Union and secesh. All the gaps in the mountain, including pig-paths and highways, have been blockaded by the Yankees with falling timber, except those that they have garrisoned. Removing the obstructions which were found there, our column gradually succeeded in worming itself through this gap.

As the head of the column emerged and came in view of the Patterson Creek Valley, to the astonishment and delight of every one, a train of forty wagons was discovered, meandering "its slow length along." On it came, right into our ravenous jaws.

In the rear of the train marched an infantry guard of one hundred men. As soon as they passed our front, Rosser's brigade darted down the mountain side after them, leaping fences and ditches in their course, and galloping with headlong fury over the frozen swamps that filled the valley.

Every wagoner in the train could see Rosser, with his brigade, dashing like a thunderbolt down the mountain side after them, with a war-whoop that penetrated to their very souls as it echoed and reechoed along the valley. Presto, cheque! and immediately, as if by the power of a magician, the unsuspecting train that was pursuing the even tenor of its way, became a surging, chaotic mass.

Driver after driver leaped from his post of duty and ran to the woods. The mules, however, in many cases did not abate their speed, but, as if shunning a fate that consigned them to the short rations of Dixie, redoubled their energy and refused to be halted. All the wagons were captured, and about sixty of the guard, who at first ran without firing, until they had gotten a position on a hill-side, flanked by an impassable ditch, and here they made quite a stubborn resistance for a while.

That same evening General Chambliss went up the creek a short distance, and, having invested a stockade fort of the enemy, garrisoned with twenty men, obtained its surrender.

The next morning we proceeded down the valley of Patterson's Creek, collecting all the cattle and horses that could be found—the Yankee garrison at Williamsport having set fire to their fort and escaped to the mountains when we approached.

The next day we invested Burlington, where

the Yankees had constructed a fort impregnable to an enemy armed with merely small arms.

Here again they set fire to their fort and took to the woods. We succeeded, however, in capturing fifteen or twenty of them.

General Lee then sent his cattle and disabled men toward Romney, and with the rest of his command, now reduced to little over four hundred men, proceeded toward Ridgeville, where he encamped. The next morning, at four o'clock, we took up the line of march for New-Creek, but by the time we reached the top of Nobby Mountain, within seven miles of New-Creek, the weather became so intolerable that we turned back, and coming on through Romney, thence through gorges and over mountains of ice, toiling for several days, we reached the valley.

The object of the expedition was, I believe, to get cattle. Six hundred of these and about three hundred horses, thirty wagons, and three hundred and twenty mules—not to mention about one hundred Yankees—were the fruits of this expedition. When it is remembered what natural obstacles were encountered and overcome, what a Siberian icebergian spell of weather reigned during the whole trip, it will be a matter of surprise that the trip was made at all, without considering the importance of its results. Dr. Johnson said: "The wonder is not that bears dance so well, but that they dance at all." So it may truly be said of this expedition, that the wonder is not that it was done so well, but that it was done at all.

BRUTUS.

Doc. 42.

BATTLE IN NEW-MEXICO.

Fort Sumner, New-Mexico, Saturday, {
January 30, 1864. }

On the fourth day of this month, at half-past eleven o'clock, the bugle sounded, "To arms! to arms!" which roused every man in camp. Our company was out on a thirty days' scout at the time, only having left six men of the company (B, Second cavalry, California volunteers) in camp, but the six were in their saddles in double-quick, and off. The party consisted of one Lieutenant (infantry) and six men of company B, Second cavalry, California volunteers, three men of company D, Fifth United States infantry, twenty-five Apache Indians, and three Mexican citizens.

At ten minutes to twelve o'clock we started down the river Pecos, and soon found the cause of alarm. One hundred and twenty Navajo Indians had been within two miles of the fort, and stolen all the Apache horses and mules, and were driving them off as leisurely as though they had paid for them. We rode for twelve miles at a brisk gallop, when we arrived at the top of a small ridge, and lo and behold! the whole party of hostile Navajos were in full sight about one mile below. When we came in sight of the enemy, we made a halt, and waited for all the Apache Indians to come up and ar-

range their arms and tie up their heads for the fight. We, the soldiers, made all necessary arrangements to have our cartridges as convenient as possible, when the word was heard: "All ready!"

It is well known that the Navajos can whip the Apaches (our allied forces) two to one. So the soldiers formed in the centre and the Indians (Apaches) around us, so that the enemy could not see any thing but Apaches. We were within one hundred and fifty yards of them on the full charge, when the signal was given: "To the right and left." The Apaches charged right and left, and we in the centre; and the first thing that Mr. Johnny Navajo knew of us, we were upon them like a thousand of bricks. The fight commenced simultaneously on right and left and centre. The Navajos made a stand for one volley from our carbines, and they made the air black with arrows for about two minutes, and then they saw so many of their men falling, and none of us, they took to their heels and run for dear life. But it was no go, for we kept close to them, and kept giving them the benefit of our breech-loading carbines. Their bows and arrows were like so many straws; for after the first volley we found that we had the long range on them, and we made use of it. Their arrows are harmless over thirty yards, and they had no rocks to get behind, the battle being on an open plain, so that we chose our own distance and gave them fits. The Navajos gave evidence of great excitement. At the commencement of the fight they shot all their arrows over our heads, and after that they never got any chance to shoot us at all. This accounts for the great victory and loss of no men. We followed them six miles, shooting them down on all sides.

Just as the sun was going behind the hill, we were ordered to cease firing and return home. We went over the battle-ground, and found by the simple rule of addition, that out of one hundred and twenty Indians, we had killed sixty-two. This we call good work, and for which we were complimented by the commanding officer at Fort Sumner.

I will here say, by way of explanation, that the Apache Indians spoken of, are a lot of Indians of the Apache tribe, that came in and gave themselves up voluntarily, and are fed at the expense of the Government. They number four hundred and eighty. They go out on all occasions and fight the Navajos if the soldiers are going; if not, they stay at home. They fight well with the soldiers.

Doc. 43.

THE GUERRILLAS IN KENTUCKY.

A PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR BRAMLETTE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, FRANKFORT, KY., {
January 4, 1864. }

The frequent outrages perpetrated in various parts of the State by lawless bands of marauders can, in a large degree, be traced to the active

aid of rebel sympathizers in our midst, or their neglect to furnish to military commandants the information in their possession, which would lead to the defeat and capture of such marauders.

Sympathizers with the rebellion who, while enjoying protection from the Government, abuse the leniency extended to them by concealing the movements of rebel guerrillas, by giving them information, affording them shelter, supplying them with provisions, and otherwise encouraging and fomenting private raids, are in criminal complicity with all the outrages perpetrated by the marauders whom they secretly countenance.

It is in the power of persons whose sympathies are with the rebellion, to prevent guerrilla raids, almost invariably, by furnishing to military officers of the United States, or State of Kentucky, the information which experience has proved them to be, as a general thing, possessed of.

If all would unite, as is their duty, in putting down guerrillas, we would soon cease to be troubled with their raids. A neglect to afford all assistance and information which may aid in defeating the designs of marauding parties can but be construed as a culpable and active assistance to our enemies.

I, therefore, request that the various military commandants in the State of Kentucky will, in every instance where a loyal citizen is taken off by bands of guerrillas, immediately arrest at least five of the most prominent and active rebel sympathizers in the vicinity of such outrage for every loyal man taken by guerrillas. These sympathizers should be held as hostages for the safe and speedy return of the loyal citizens. Where there are disloyal relatives of guerrillas, they should be the chief sufferers. Let them learn that if they refuse to exert themselves actively for the assistance and protection of the loyal, they must expect to reap the just fruits of their complicity with the enemies of our State and people.

THOMAS E. BRAMLETTE.

Doc. 44.

REBEL BARBARITIES.

GENERAL THOMAS'S ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, }
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., JANUARY 6, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6.

It having been reported to these headquarters that, between seven and eight o'clock on the evening of the twenty-third ultimo, within one and a half miles of the village of Mulberry, Lincoln county, Tennessee, a wagon which had become detached from a foraging train belonging to the United States, was attacked by guerrillas, and the officer in command of the foraging party, First Lieutenant Porter, company A, Twenty-seventh Indiana volunteers, the teamster, wagon-master, and two other soldiers who had been sent to load the train, (the latter four unarmed,) captured: They were immediately mounted and

hurried off, the guerrillas avoiding the roads until their party was halted about one o'clock in the morning, on the bank of Elk River, where the rebels stated they were going into camp for the night. The hands of the prisoners were then tied behind them, and they were robbed of every thing of value about their persons. They were next drawn up in line, about five paces in front of their captors, and one of the latter, who acted as leader, commanded, "Ready!" and the whole party immediately fired upon them. One of the prisoners was shot through the head and killed instantly, and three were wounded. Lieutenant Porter was not hit. He immediately ran, was followed and fired upon three times by one of the party; and finding that he was about to be overtaken, threw himself over a precipice into the river, and succeeding in getting his hands loose, swam to the opposite side, and although pursued to that side and several times fired upon, he, after twenty-four hours of extraordinary exertions and great exposure, reached a house, whence he was taken to Tullahoma, where he now lies in a critical situation. The others, after being shot, were immediately thrown into the river; thus the murder of three men, Newell E. Orcutt, Ninth independent battery Ohio volunteer artillery, John W. Drought, company H, Twenty-second Wisconsin volunteers, and George W. Jacobs, company D, Twenty-second Wisconsin volunteers, was accomplished by shooting and drowning. The fourth, James W. Foley, Ninth independent battery Ohio volunteer artillery, is now lying in hospital, having escaped by getting his hands free while in the water.

For these atrocious and cold-blooded murders, equalling in savage ferocity any ever committed by the most barbarous tribes on the continent, committed by rebel citizens of Tennessee, it is ordered that the property of all other rebel citizens living within a circuit of ten miles of the place where these men were captured, be assessed, each in his due proportion, according to his wealth, to make up the sum of thirty thousand dollars, to be divided among the families who were dependent upon the murdered men for support, as follows:

Ten thousand dollars to be paid to the widow of John W. Drought, of North Cape, Racine County, Wisconsin, for the support of herself and two children.

Ten thousand dollars to be paid the widow of George W. Jacobs, of Delevan, Walworth County, Wisconsin, for the support of herself and one child.

Ten thousand dollars to be divided between the aged mother and sister of Newell E. Orcutt, of Burton, Geauga County, Ohio.

Should the persons assessed fail within one week after notice shall have been served upon them, to pay in the amount of their tax in money, sufficient of their personal property shall be seized and sold at public auction to make up the amount.

Major-General H. W. Slocum, United States

volunteers, commanding Twelfth army corps, is charged with the execution of this order.

The men who committed these murders, if caught, will be summarily executed; and any person executing them will be held guiltless, and will receive the protection of this army; and all persons who are suspected of having aided, abetted, or harbored these guerrillas, will be immediately arrested and tried by military commission.

By command of Major-General THOMAS.
WILLIAM D. WHIPPLE, A. A. G.

Doc. 45.

THE NEW REBEL CONSCRIPTION.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
RICHMOND, January 9, 1864.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 3.

I. The following Acts of Congress and Regulations are published for the information of all persons concerned therein.

ACTS.

AN ACT to prevent the enlistment or enrolment of substitutes in the military service of the confederate States.

The Congress of the confederate States of America do enact, That no person liable to military service shall hereafter be permitted or allowed to furnish a substitute for such service, nor shall any substitute be received, enlisted, or enrolled in the military service of the confederate States.

[Approved December twenty-eighth, 1863.]

AN ACT to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes.

Whereas, in the present circumstances of the country, it requires the aid of all who are able to bear arms;

The Congress of the confederate States of America do enact, That no person shall be exempted from military service by reason of his having furnished a substitute; but this Act shall not be so construed as to affect persons who, though not liable to render military service, have, nevertheless, furnished substitutes.

[Approved January fifth, 1864.]

II. Persons rendered liable to military service, by operation of preceding Acts, are placed on the same footing with all others hitherto held liable by acts of Congress.

III. Persons herein rendered liable to military service are required to report as volunteers or conscripts, without delay, to the enrolling officers; and all who delay beyond the first day of February, 1864, will be considered as having renounced the privilege of volunteering, and held for assignment according to law.

IV. Enrolling officers will proceed as rapidly as practicable in the enrolment of persons herein made liable to military service. Previous to enrolment as conscripts, all such persons will be

allowed to volunteer in companies in service on the sixteenth of April, 1862, provided the company chosen does not at the time of volunteering reach the maximum number allowed, and upon such company being selected, the volunteer will receive from the enrolling officer a certificate to the effect that he has so volunteered; and no volunteer will be received into any company except on such certificate. Persons who fail to make their selections at the time of enrolment, will be assigned according to the enrolling regulations.

V. Persons who report to the enrolling officers will be enrolled, and may be allowed a furlough of ten days before reporting to the camp of instruction.

VI. All persons, whether volunteers or conscripts under this order, will pass through the camp of inspection of the State to which they belong, and be forwarded thence to the companies which are selected, or to which they may be assigned.

VII. The Bureau of Conscription is charged with adopting proper regulations for the enforcement of this order.

VIII. All exemptions heretofore granted are subject to revision, under instructions from the Bureau of Conscription, and if found to be improper or unauthorized by law, will be revoked.

By order.

S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector-General.

Doc. 46.

FIGHT ON LOUDON HEIGHTS, VA..

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

CAMP ON LOUDON HEIGHTS,
LOUDON COUNTY, VA., January 10, 1864. }

OUR new camp on Loudon Heights was, just before the early dawn this morning, baptized in blood. Precisely at half-past four o'clock this morning, Mosby's rebel battalion, himself in person at their head, avoiding our pickets on the roads, crossed the fields and dashed into our camp with a fiend-like yell. They poured a volley of bullets into the tents where our officers and men lay sleeping, wounding many at the first fire. Many of the tents of officers and men were soon surrounded by mounted and dismounted cavalry, and a demand for instant and unconditional surrender made.

This demand was answered by a shout of defiance from our boys, as they rushed from their tents, half-naked, in the midst of their assailants, and with their trusty carbines and revolvers drove back the astonished rebels, who had promised themselves such an easy victory over the "sleeping Yankees." The rebels rallied, and so did our men, as best they could, and a "rough and tumble" fight of fifteen minutes ensued, when Mosby sung out: "Retreat, boys; they are too many for us!" And the discomfited Major and his midnight assassins made a precipitate flight in the direction of Hillsborough. The rebels fought with the most desperate vindictive-

ness, which was only equalled by the coolness and undaunted valor of our gallant boys, who fought, I will venture to say, as scarcely ever men fought before, partially surprised, as indeed they were. To show the *animus* of the rebels, I will here state a fact, which, as a faithful chronicler of events, it pains me to record.

Corporal Henry C. Tritch, and others of Captain Frank Gallagher's company, declare that at the first assault of the rebels Captain William R. Smith called out to his men: "Give the — Yankees no quarter, but secure the arms and horses." "Horses" was the last word he ever uttered, for at that instant a Yankee bullet went whizzing through his heart, and he fell lifeless from the saddle. His dead body now lies in its white winding-sheet of snow on the spot where it fell, a few feet from the tent in which I write. A few yards from Captain Smith lies cold in death, in a pool of his own now frozen blood, the body of Lieutenant Colson, of Baltimore, and one of General Trimble's rebel staff, as will appear from the following pass found upon his person:

"CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, July 27, 1863.

"Guards and pickets will pass Lieutenant Colson, Major-General Trimble's staff, in and out at pleasure.

"By order of General R. E. LEE.

"H. B. BRIDG,

"Commanding, Major and Provost-Marshal, Army Northern Virginia."

A photograph of a beautiful young lady was also found, on which was written in pencil—"For brother Willie, from Florence."

Further on, on the edge of the camp, lie three dead rebel soldiers, name and rank unknown.

Three prisoners are also in our hands, two of them severely if not fatally wounded; of the latter, one is Lieutenant William Turner, of Baltimore. He says his uncle, Captain Turner, recently commanded the United States war vessel Ironsides, at Charleston.

The name of the other wounded rebel soldier is Paxton, who resides near Leesburgh, in this county.

Many of the wounded rebels are lying in farm-houses between this place and Hillsborough.

Our own loss is four killed and fifteen wounded, among the latter of whom is Captain G. W. F. Vernon, of company A, who is severely, but I rejoice to say not fatally, wounded in the head. Lieutenant Rivers, I regret to state, is severely wounded in the foot.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

HARPER'S FERRY, VA., January 11, 1864.

MR. EDITOR: Since the rebel General Early attempted to make that raid down the Shenandoah Valley, but which, you remember, he *didn't* make, for the simple reason that he *couldn't* make it—a small force of our cavalry, commanded by Major Cole, numbering in all not over eighty men, have been stationed in Loudon Valley, near the Potomac, on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains, about a mile and a

half distant from this village. The principal object of this disposition of Cole's men was to protect the suspension-bridge over the Shenandoah River, and to guard against any surprise which might be attempted by the guerrillas in Loudon Valley upon our main force in Harper's Ferry. The battalion had gone into winter quarters, and were very comfortably situated. A line of pickets was kept thrown out across the valley, and every one thought that all approaches to the camp were securely guarded, and that a surprise was just about an impossibility. But the affair which took place on the tenth taught us that to be seriously mistaken is not a thing so impossible after all.

Before daylight Sunday morning, while our cavalymen were sound asleep in their quarters, about two hundred of Mosby's cut-throats, under command of one Captain Smith, formerly a resident in Loudon Valley, made a sudden dash into the camp of Major Cole, fired a volley into the tents where our men were sleeping, killing and wounding several, and for a few minutes having things pretty much their own way. But let it be known hereafter—if the fact has not already received publicity—that the brave and hardy men commanded by the gallant Major Cole are soldiers whom nothing can daunt, and who will shrink in no encounter, however desperate. They are, and have been for some time, the terror of the guerrillas in this region, and in fighting them rarely get quarter, nor expect nor ask it.

So, when under the cover of darkness the guerrillas made their dash yesterday morning into Cole's camp, the rebel commander cried: "Take no prisoners, men! Give the d—d Yankees no quarter. Shoot every d—d son of a b—h down!" It was evident to Cole's men that they were indeed in a somewhat uncomfortable predicament—that their situation was unquestionably a desperate one; they were taken at a great disadvantage, they were contending against numbers almost thrice their own, and they were fighting the most desperate men in the rebel army. But our cavalymen had met Mosby before, and knew him well, and a knowledge of the fact that to surrender to these guerrillas was to surrender life itself, nerved them to the most desperate and pertinacious resistance.

With weapons in hand, our men rushed forth from their tents, half naked, and engaged the rebels in a hand-to-hand encounter. Meantime a messenger had been despatched to Major Pratt, now in command of the Thirty-fourth Massachusetts infantry, which is still stationed here in this village. In fifteen minutes after Major Pratt had received the intelligence the Thirty-fourth was on the "double-quick." But the rebels becoming aware of the approach of our infantry, immediately took to the road and fled up the valley, leaving ten of their dead and four of their wounded. Cole's men immediately mounted and pursued the enemy, but I believe they were unable to come up with them.

Nearly all of the prisoners taken by the rebels succeeded in making their escape to Loudon

Heights, where they concealed themselves among the rocks and cliffs of the mountain. The weather being extremely cold, and the sides of the mountain being covered with snow and ice, the men who thus escaped being barefooted and almost destitute of clothing, suffered severely, and a number had their feet badly frozen; yet, strange to say, nearly all of them came into camp laughing and joking over the adventures of the night. Certainly, never before have I met with such a rough and hardy set of fellows.

In this affair we lost four men killed and about fifteen wounded. The rebels, owing to the brave resistance made by Cole's men, and the early arrival of the Thirty-fourth, succeeded in taking only three of our horses. Captain Smith, the leader of the rebels in this expedition, was killed in this manner: It appears that one of our cavalrymen having been awakened by the firing, went out of his tent to see "what was up." He was met by three rebels, who demanded his revolver. He gave it up. They asked him if he had any more. He said he had in his tent. They ordered him to get them and give them up. He entered his tent, and, taking his carbine, escaped from the back side, and running along behind the string of horses, reached the other end of the camp just in time to see Captain Smith when he gave his men orders to "give no quarters." Of course, the cavalryman "drew head" on the reb, and let the approaching daylight into the body of the Captain, who would give no quarter and got none himself.

The manner in which the camp was surprised was thus: The rebels, by taking a circuitous route, succeeded in flanking our pickets, and getting in the rear of the camp. Then, taking a cow-path, they stole, in single-file, up to the camp. They were challenged by the guard. The commander of the rebels then dismounted, and, on approaching the guard, instead of giving the countersign, inquired where Major Cole's quarters were. Suspecting that all was not right, the guard replied that he did not know, and then attempted to discharge his carbine and give the alarm; but his piece unfortunately "missed fire." He was then immediately secured, and the dash was made on the camp; but, thanks to the coolness and bravery of Cole's men, the "rebs" got the worst of the affair in the end.

On the day following the engagement, the rebels sent a flag of truce, asking for the bodies of Captain Smith and two lieutenants who were killed. I am told that Major Cole's reply was, that if Mosby wanted the bodies of his killed, he'd better try to surprise his camp once more.

The weather continues very cold, and the snow still covers the ground. Colonel Wells, formerly commander of the brigade stationed at this place, has been ordered to preside at a court-martial. Supply-trains run on the Winchester and Potomac Railroad as far as Haul Town. It is said that General Early, with a considerable force, is still at Winchester, and that he has gone into winter quarters there. H. E. T.

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
HARPER'S FERRY, VA., January 10, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report the following list of killed and wounded in the Independent battalion Maryland cavalry, Major Cole commanding, during an attack made on the camp on Loudon Heights, Va., by Mosby's and White's forces, at three o'clock A.M. on the tenth of January, 1864:

Killed.—Sergeant J. J. Kerns, company B; private George Buford, company D.

Wounded.—Company A: Captain G. W. F. Vernon, wound of head and left eye; Orderly Sergeant L. Zimmerman, flesh-wound of the left leg; private D. W. Carnes, gunshot, compound fracture of right leg; private H. F. Null, wound of abdomen; private I. Craighton, flesh-wound of left leg; private E. Goodwin, gunshot, compound fracture of left leg; private Samuel Stone, wound of abdomen.

Company B: Lieutenant Samuel Rivers, flesh-wound of left foot; Orderly Sergeant J. C. Stouffer, flesh-wound of left hip; Sergeant C. W. Ham, flesh-wound of left arm; private Samuel Rivers, gunshot, compound fracture of left thigh; private Gottlieb Foos, wound of shoulder and left lung; private B. F. Fillen, wound of right shoulder; private A. Sosy, wound of abdomen.

Company C: Private Weaver, flesh-wound of left thigh.

Company D: Private R. Cross, wound of right hip; Henry Howard, flesh-wound of right thigh.

The above I believe to be a correct list of the casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM HAYES,

Surgeon U. S. A., Medical Director.

Brigadier-General J. C. SULLIVAN,

Commanding First Division, Department of West-Virginia.

Doc. 47.

PROCLAMATION OF GENERAL BANKS,
ORDERING AN ELECTION IN LOUISIANA.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }
NEW-ORLEANS, JANUARY 11, 1864. }

To the People of Louisiana:

I. In pursuance of authority vested in me by the President of the United States, and upon consultation with many representative men of different interests, being fully assured that more than a tenth of the population desire the earliest possible restoration of Louisiana to the Union, I invite the loyal citizens of the State, qualified to vote in public affairs, as hereinafter prescribed, to assemble in the election precincts designated by law, or at such places as may hereafter be established, on the twenty-second day of February, 1864, to cast their votes for the election of State officers herein named, namely, Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Auditor of Public Accounts, who shall,

when elected, for the time being, and until others are appointed by competent authority, constitute the civil government of the State, under the constitution and laws of Louisiana, except so much of the said constitution and laws as recognize, regulate, or relate to slavery, which being inconsistent with the present condition of public affairs, and plainly inapplicable to any class of persons now existing within its limits, must be suspended, and they are therefore and hereby declared to be inoperative and void. This proceeding is not intended to ignore the right of property, existing prior to the rebellion, nor to preclude the claim for compensation of loyal citizens for losses sustained by enlistments or other authorized acts of the Government.

II. The oath of allegiance prescribed by the President's proclamation, with the condition affixed to the elective franchise by the constitution of Louisiana, will constitute the qualification of voters in this election. Officers elected by them will be duly installed in their offices on the fourth day of March, 1864.

III. The registration of voters, effected under the direction of the Military Governor and the several Union associations, not inconsistent with the proclamation or other orders of the President, are confirmed and approved.

IV. In order that the organic law of the State may be made to conform to the will of the people and harmonize with the spirit of the age, as well as to maintain and preserve the ancient landmarks of civil and religious liberty, an election of delegates to a convention for the revision of the constitution will be held on the first Monday of April, 1864. The basis of representation, the number of delegates, and the details of election will be announced in subsequent orders.

V. Arrangements will be made for the early election of members of Congress for the State.

VI. The fundamental law of the State is martial law. It is competent and just for the Government to surrender to the people, at the earliest possible moment, so much of military power as may be consistent with the success of military operations; to prepare the way, by prompt and wise measures, for the full restoration of the State to the Union and its power to the people; to restore their ancient and unsurpassed prosperity; to enlarge the scope of agricultural and commercial industry, and to extend and confirm the dominion of rational liberty. It is not within human power to accomplish these results without some sacrifice of individual prejudices and interests. Problems of state, too complicated for the human mind, have been solved by the national cannon. In great civil convulsions the agony of strife enters the souls of the innocent as well as the guilty. The government is subject to the law of necessity, and must consult the condition of things rather than the preferences of men, and if so be that its purposes are just and its measures wise, it has the right to demand that questions of personal interest and opinion shall be subordinate to the public good. When

the national existence is at stake, and the liberties of the people in peril, faction is treason.

The methods herein proposed submit the whole question of government directly to the people—first, by the election of executive officers faithful to the Union, to be followed by a loyal representation in both houses of Congress; and then by a convention which will confirm the action of the people, and recognize the principles of freedom in the organic law. This is a wish of the President. The anniversary of Washington's birth is a fit day for the commencement of so grand a work. The immortal Father of his Country was never guided by a more just and benignant spirit than that of his successor in office, the President of the United States. In the hour of our trial, let us heed his admonitions!

Louisiana, in the opening of her history, sealed the integrity of the Union by conferring upon its government the valley of the Mississippi. In the war for independence upon the sea, she crowned a glorious struggle against the first maritime power of the world by a victory unsurpassed in the annals of war. Let her people now announce to the world the coming restoration of the Union, in which the ages that follow us have a deeper interest than our own, by the organization of a free government, and her fame will be immortal!

N. P. BANKS,
Major-General Commanding.

Doc. 48.

EXPEDITION INTO VIRGINIA.

THE expedition embarked from Point Lookout on the morning of the twelfth of January, 1864, under command of Brigadier-General Marston, accompanied by Adjutant-General Lawrence and other members of his staff. It consisted of three hundred infantry and one hundred and thirty men of the Second and Fifth United States cavalry, under command of Lieutenants John Mix and Clark.

A landing was effected at Kinsale, Virginia, on the Yeomico River, at an early hour, and thirty of the cavalry were detached to accompany the infantry. The remainder of the cavalry, numbering about one hundred, proceeded direct to Warshaw Court-House, Richmond County, where they found a large quantity of rebel government stores, consisting of pork and bacon, which they took possession of and destroyed. A quantity of grain was also destroyed, and a rebel major and several other prisoners, who were in command of the post, were taken prisoners, the appearance of our troops being so sudden and unexpected, that they were unable to make their escape.

After destroying all the government property at Warshaw, they proceeded direct to the Union wharf on the Rappahannock River, and communicated with the gunboats stationed there. From thence they went down the river, crossed Farnham's Creek, where they met a small party of

rebel cavalry, with whom some slight skirmishing took place, but they were driven off, and an extensive bridge over the creek burned. At four A.M., on the morning of the thirteenth, they encamped on the lower side of Farnham's Creek, having travelled about sixty-two miles in the space of little over twelve hours.

After five hours of rest and refreshment for both man and horse, they were again in their saddles, and at nine A.M. started for Little Waltham, where they had some more skirmishing with a small force of rebel cavalry, whom they routed, and destroyed several hundred bushels of grain and some vegetables in the possession of the military authorities.

From Little Waltham the command proceeded to Lancaster Court-House, where the main body halted, and Lieutenant Dickinson, of the Fifth cavalry, was sent to Kilmarnock, a place about ten miles distant, whilst another detachment was sent out to destroy an extensive tannery, where they gave to the torch a large stock of leather, hides, machinery, oil, etc. Lieutenant Dickinson encountered a party of rebel cavalry, with whom he skirmished for some time, severely wounding and capturing a private of the Ninth Virginia cavalry. He returned the same morning.

On the afternoon of the thirteenth, it was deemed prudent to bivouac for the night, in order to rest their horses, and pickets were sent out to guard against surprise. At ten o'clock at night, however, they were roused by distant firing, when they were soon in their saddles again, and proceeded to a point on the Wicomico River, where they anticipated forming a junction with the infantry command. They communicated with the fleet, and found all quiet.

On the morning of the fourteenth, the expedition moved up the Wicomico River to Rubetts, where a wharf, sixty-six feet long, was built, and at half past ten o'clock the same night, the whole command reëmbarked, taking with them twenty-five prisoners, sixty horses, twenty mules, sixty-five head of cattle, and one hundred and six sheep. They lost one man killed, and returned to Point Lookout on the morning of the fifteenth, all highly delighted with their three days' sojourn in Dixie. The infantry rendered efficient service in constructing the wharf for their reëmbarkation, and the whole expedition was carried out according to the original plans of General Marston without any misunderstandings.

Lieutenants Dickinson and Denney, of the Fifth cavalry, and William Everett, a citizen volunteer, who accompanied them, are highly complimented for their bravery and valuable services.

Commodore F. A. Parker, of the Potomac flotilla, and Lieutenant Provo, commanding the Anacostia, and now commanding the flotilla in the vicinity of Point Lookout, heartily coöperated with General Marston, and rendered most valuable aid in effecting the embarkation and reëmbarkation.

Doc. 49.

PRINCIPLES OF THE STRONG BAND.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL,
CHICAGO, ILL., JAN. 14, 1864.

At a meeting of the Board of Control of the Strong Band, held at their rooms on the fourth day of January, 1864, it was unanimously resolved, that the following be published as the aim, object, and intent of the Strong Band, to wit:

The aim of the Strong Band is to assist the Federal Government in putting down the present infamous rebellion, in maintaining the Constitution of the United States, in enforcing the laws, and in reëstablishing the Union on the basis of universal freedom, with the territorial boundaries it possessed before the revolt.

The object of the Strong Band is to introduce into every department of the Government the most rigid system of retrenchment and reform, compatible with a vigorous and successful prosecution of the war; to restore the institutions of the Republic to their original purity, as founded by the patriots and sages of the Revolution, and declared in the preamble of the Constitution to be "To form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity."

The intent of the Strong Band is to use every honorable means to elevate to place and power only such true and loyal patriots as have the ability to direct, and the firmness and will to enforce all measures necessary to accomplish these ends; our only test for each candidate being, Is he honest? is he capable? is he strictly loyal? And that we may be able to accomplish these ends, we will enrol in our organization all true and loyal patriots who seek and will labor for the best interests of our country and its institutions.

By these means we hope to perpetuate civil and religious liberty; to preserve our country hereafter from every convulsion, and to make it an asylum for the oppressed of all nations—"the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

And as the President's Proclamation, under authority of Congress, emancipating the slaves in the insurgent States, has, to that extent, substantially abolished slavery in those States; and, as a great measure, has received the cordial approval of the mass of the loyal people of this country; and as, in our opinion, there is no power to change or alter the relations of the several States to the Union; those relations having been suspended only while the people of such States were in armed resistance to the Federal Government; and as we believe that the perfect, thorough, and entire abolition of slavery, in all the States and Territories, is indispensable to the future peace and perpetuation of the Union, and the best interests of our whole nation, therefore, we will cordially support such plan of reconstruction, consistent with these views, as reduced

to practice, will secure homogeneousness of institutions, on the basis of universal liberty, and transmit to all posterity an ocean-bound Republic, the beacon light of human rights, and the asylum for the oppressed of the whole world.

By order of the Board.

JOHN WILSON,
Commander-in-Chief.

J. ASA KENNICOTT,
Secretary.

Doc. 50.

FORREST'S RAID IN TENNESSEE.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

Memphis, January 16, 1864.

I HAVE to-day had a conversation with a man from the interior, who accompanied General Forrest on his late expedition to Jackson, Tenn., and back again. He was conscripted by Forrest, near Medon, about fifteen miles south of Jackson, and deserted with several others at the crossing of the Tallahatchie on the enemy's return trip to Mississippi.

Forrest crossed the M. and C. Railroad at Saulsbury early in the second week of December, going north into Tennessee, and having in command less than four thousand men. His motions were conducted with great despatch and all possible secrecy; and to conceal his intentions from the Unionists, demonstrations were made on the railroad at Collierville and other points by Generals Chalmers, Lee, and Richardson. This last attack on Collierville, it will be remembered by the readers of this correspondence, was energetically made by the rebels, and most gallantly repulsed by our troops. But although Forrest succeeded in making his crossing at the place named, their efforts to conceal the movement were ineffective, and his arrival at Jackson, and the fact that he was using nearly every muscle in his army to get himself speedily fortified, were known in Memphis in fifteen hours after their occurrence. The old earth-works that were thrown up at that place during its former successive occupation by the rebels and Unionists were repaired and new ones built, so as to cover an attack from any direction. While this work was being done, and after its completion, heavy scouting-parties were kept constantly in the saddle, patrolling the country for twenty miles around, and daily bringing in hundreds of conscripts and deserters, droves of cattle, and large quantities of forage. It seems that he was in no instances disturbed in these proceedings before Christmas-eve.

A junction with Forrest was not made at any time by either Chalmers, Lee, or Richardson, nor was it either attempted or desired by them. They remained south of and threatening the railroad, so as to take advantage of any offensive movement on our part against Jackson; and although forces other than Forrest's individual command were constantly arriving and departing, the rebel strength at that place never ex-

ceeded six thousand or seven thousand—not twelve thousand or fifteen thousand, as reported at the time by your correspondent.

On the twenty-fourth, a movement from the direction of Columbus, Ky., was discovered by a rebel scouting-party near Union City; and now we come to the explanation of the dispositions made by General Hurlbut to capture the rebel force at Jackson. Brigadier-General A. L. Smith, with six thousand men, one third of whom were cavalry or mounted infantry, was ordered to proceed eastward from Columbus, and then to take a position south-east of Jackson. This was the demonstration mentioned above as having been discovered by the rebels. General Smith succeeded in getting nearly to the point at which he would have had to turn south, when the roads were found to be impassable for either man, beast, or vehicle. After several ineffectual attempts to proceed further, he was forced to relinquish the trip and return to Columbus.

Five days after the order was given for General Smith's advance, one brigade of infantry, under Brigadier-General Mower, and the First brigade of the cavalry division, under Colonel Mizener, were ordered to proceed north from Corinth and coöperate with General Smith. This time was allowed to elapse so that the coöperating forces might arrive at the desired points at or near the same time. Colonel Hatch's cavalry brigade was, by orders of the same date, moved eastward from Collierville to La Grange, to operate either west, east, or north from that point. The Seventh Illinois cavalry, five hundred strong, under Colonel Prince, had previously been moved to Bolivar, and, on the twenty-fourth, a portion of his regiment became engaged with one thousand of Richardson's troops.

Finding his force overpowered, Colonel Prince fell back to Summerville, where they remained for the night. Next morning, (twenty-fifth,) he again moved forward, and finding his advance opposed, made a precipitous attack, but in a moment found himself to be entirely surrounded. Fortunately the rebel forces were so situated that their lines could not be concentrated, and our little band, consequently, had double chances for cutting their way through. This they did in gallant style, but not in a body. Every man took his chance; and when, after an hour's fighting, all but the dead, wounded, and captured had succeeded in getting through, of five hundred who went into the fight, not more than two hundred are with the regiment. This great disparity was not caused, however, by either death, wounds, or capture. The men had got scattered, and for four or five days after the fight, kept coming in in squads, until the actual loss of the regiment turns out to be less than forty. Of the individual experiences of several of this regiment more will be said after a while. We lost in this engagement four wagons loaded with provisions and a few horses. Most of the led horses, however, and those of the killed and wounded, made a gallant charge upon their own account, broke through the enemy's line, and reported in a body

and in good order at La Grange for further duty. These horses should be promoted and have an extra pad in their saddles. Had it not been for this stampede, many more men would have been killed or captured. Taking advantage of the confusion caused by this unexpected onset, the larger portion of the regiment dashed forward, and succeeded in getting through with but little fighting and few accidents.

As soon as Forrest discovered, from the disposition made of our troops, that he was about to be caught in a trap, he set himself to work to effect his escape. Abandoning the works at Jackson, he sent a part of his command in a south-east direction to work out their own salvation. With two thousand five hundred men and two thousand conscripts, he moved down toward Bolivar, the point at which the railroad to Jackson crosses the Hatchie River, and, while Richardson's men were engaging the Seventh Illinois cavalry, he was making all speed in crossing over.

Once across the Hatchie River, his way was unobstructed until he approached the line of the M. and C. Railroad. Passing near Middleburgh, he turned westward, and, moving so as to avoid too close contact with La Grange, took a course leading to Moscow. But on leaving Bolivar a small force was sent in advance to find a safe crossing on Wolf River. This party came within eight miles of Memphis, but finding the river too wide for their pontoons, proceeded eastward along that river to test the crossings at other places. Detecting these movements on the part of the enemy, General Hurlbut ordered all the bridges and trestle-work to be destroyed. This was done except in one case. The officer in command at Lafayette failed to execute the order for some unknown reason, the result of which disobedience of orders will be seen directly. It may be worth while to state that the highlands, which start from the Mississippi River at Randolph, stretch out toward the north boundary of the State of Mississippi, and passing down near the centre of that State, do not touch the river again until they reach Vicksburgh. All the land between these highlands and the river is very swampy and liable to overflow, except the bluffs at Memphis and a few unimportant points below. The reader will now understand why we have so many bridges and so much trestle-work to take care of.

When within a mile of Lafayette, the party alluded to discovered five or six cavalry near a farm-house. Their horses were hitched to the fence, and the cavalry were lounging about unconscious of the nearness of the enemy. Leaving a score of men to watch this outpost, the rebels took a roundabout course, and found that the crossing at this place was vulnerable. Forrest was immediately notified, and the main body made for that point, after throwing out a picket near Moscow to contest our advance from La Grange. They arrived, and commenced crossing at about two p.m., and by sunset they were all over—rebels, conscripts, beef cattle, and all. A

part of Richardson's force took a position near Moscow to cover the rear of the retreating army, and Forrest proceeded toward Collierville.

General Grierson was still at La Grange. As soon as he was notified of the fact that the rebels were crossing at La Fayette, the Third brigade, cavalry division, was ordered to the cars to proceed to that point. The order was promptly executed, and as soon as possible the brigade was transferred to a point about two miles west of Moscow. It was now dark. A line of battle was immediately formed, and moved forward through the swamps and undergrowth with difficulty. Heavy firing was heard in advance, and the boys pushed anxiously ahead. Upon nearing La Fayette, which was aglow with the light of burning houses, it was found that a part of the Ninth Illinois cavalry was already there, and had been skirmishing with Forrest's rear-guard. He, with his conscripts and plunder, was going west on the line of the railroad, and was supposed to be already at Collierville. It was now near midnight, and every thing seemed to indicate a fight at that place in the morning.

At two o'clock our column was pushed forward, and by daylight reached Collierville. But the enemy was gone. The place had been attacked on the previous afternoon, and had been ably defended by about one hundred convalescents. The rebels had then retreated southward without any effort in force to take the place, and the trifling demonstration which was repulsed by a handful of sick men was all that occurred. But it turns out that it was Richardson's force that made the attack on Collierville, for the purpose of drawing our attention in that direction, while the main body of Forrest's army went south from La Fayette with their conscripts, cattle, etc., and got safely across the Tallahatchie. It was at this crossing that my informant and his companions deserted. Colonel Mizener, with a brigade of cavalry, attempted to intercept the enemy, between La Fayette and Holly Springs, but they had too much start, and the attempt failed. At this date, Forrest, Lee, Chalmers, and Richardson are in North-Mississippi, and our forces are encamped at their former positions on the railroad. The failure to capture Forrest, and his whole command, was owing solely to the bridge not having been destroyed in compliance with General Hurlbut's orders.

On the first instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, the force sent from Collierville to intercept the enemy before he could reach Holly Springs, arrived at Mount Pleasant, where it was learned that the rear-guard of the rebels had, a few hours before, passed south. Pushing ahead vigorously, our troops followed them to Hudsonville, twenty miles further. By this time it had been discovered that Chalmers had moved north from Paducah, and formed a junction with Forrest, whose force was thus augmented to six thousand. Our single brigade had consequently to hold its ground and await reinforcements. These arrived next day, Colonel Mizener's brigade having been sent down from Collierville. For two days

the pursuit was continued, but necessarily with caution, as Forrest's force was known to be yet superior to ours.

When near Holly Springs, reliable information was brought in that the enemy's main column, reinforced by Ferguson's division, had left the Taylor plantation, twelve miles west from Holly Springs, and were yet moving south, having ten hours start of us. The pursuit was here abandoned, and our column, tired out by nearly two weeks of unceasing active service, turned back, and moved by easy stages toward Collierville and Memphis.

It is known that, on the seventh instant, the entire rebel force was near Camden, Miss. It is likely they will remain there until they eat up the two hundred beeves they stole in this raid. There can be no doubt that if General Hurlbut's orders had been properly executed at La Fayette, Forrest and his whole force would now have been our prisoners.

During the fight at Summerville, between the Seventh Illinois cavalry and a part of Richardson's troops, Colonel Prince, in trying to rally his men, became separated from the main body, and, after the regiment had cut its way out, managed to pass through the enemy's lines and escape alone to Summerville. At that place he was concealed by a Union citizen, and at night was guided between the rebel pickets, and arrived safely at La Grange. A number of his men were also concealed and fed for two or three days by citizens of the same town, and were assisted in making their way through the rebel pickets by the same true-hearted patriots.

Lieutenant McIntire, of the Ninth Illinois cavalry, relates that just as the fight near Summerville commenced he arrived on the ground with a despatch from General Grierson to Colonel Prince. Finding himself surrounded and unable to escape, he sprang from his horse and crawled under a house; but fearing that this might not be a safe place, he crept to a cotton-gin, a short distance off. In the gin he found a large heap of cotton-seed. Jumping into the heap, he covered himself with the seed, so as to have only his head out, over which he pulled a basket. Here the lieutenant was feeling comparatively safe, when an officer of the Seventh bulged in the door, with a dozen rebels at his heels. The officer ran up-stairs and hid under some loose boards in the floor.

The rebels put a guard around the house, and began a vigorous search. Up-stairs and down they went several times, and every hiding-place but the right one was examined. They knew that the officer was there some place, and they were determined to have him. Presently, the heap of cotton-seed caught their attention, and forthwith they began plunging their sabres into it. The heap was probed in all directions, but providentially without touching the Lieutenant's body. At last, one of them, exasperated beyond endurance at their ill-success, vented his anger on the basket over the Lieutenant's head, by striking it a furious blow with the sword. Had

the latter not kept a vigorous hold to the handle, it would have been knocked a rod. Just then some occurrence outside caused them to hurry away, and both officers escaped.

In the great hurry in which the rebels made their crossing at La Fayette, there was necessarily much confusion and straggling. By some means an officer of Forrest's staff became separated from the main column, and after our occupation of the place he came riding up in the dark and inquired for headquarters. The sentinel pointed out the house just occupied by General Grierson. Starting in the direction indicated, he was encountered by Major Starr of the Seventh Illinois, to whom he repeated the inquiry. "What headquarters?" asked the Major. "Why, d—n it, General Forrest's, of course," replied the rebel. "This way, then," said the Major, and to his unspeakable surprise he was escorted to the presence of General Grierson. M.K.

Doc. 51.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

ORDER RELATING TO COLORED TROOPS

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, HEADQUARTERS
IN THE FIELD, FOLLY ISLAND, S. C.,
January 14, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8.

The following order from the War Department is published for the information and guidance of all concerned :

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON CITY, }
December 23, 1863.

ORDERED : That Major-General Gillmore, commanding the department of the South, be, and he is hereby, authorized :

First. To enlist and organize all the colored troops that can be recruited within his department, the said enlistments to be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the service and of the War Department, relating to the organization of colored troops, and such further orders as may from time to time be given by the Department.

Second. General Gillmore is authorized to appoint a board for the examination of white persons to officer the regiments and companies so raised by him, and to make provisional appointments of the persons passed by said board, and appointed by him, reporting their names to this department for its approval, and, if approved, such persons will be commissioned by the President, as in other cases of colored troops. He may also appoint a mustering officer, and have the officers and troops mustered in at such times as he may deem proper.

Third. The troops so raised may consist of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and in such proportion as General Gillmore may deem most beneficial for the service; their pay and allowance to be in accordance with the act of Congress and the rules and regulations of the service respecting colored troops, but a bounty may be allowed, not to exceed the sum of ten dollars,

payable out of the fund for procuring substitutes, as in the case of recruits in the department of Virginia.

Fourth. All other authorities for raising colored troops, within the department aforesaid, shall be subject to the direction of Major-General Gillmore, until further orders.

Fifth. That General Gillmore is authorized, under the foregoing regulations, to procure recruits from Key West, or in the States of Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, not, however, so as to interfere with the engineer service at Key West.

Sixth. All the colored troops now in the department of the South, or that may be recruited therein, or that shall be sent forward, may be organized in such brigades, divisions, and corps as General Gillmore may deem most advantageous to the service, he making report to Major Foster, Chief of Bureau in the War Department for organizing colored troops.

Seventh. The colored troops to be called United States troops, and be numbered by regiments, in consecutive order, as organized.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

By command of Major-General Q. A. GILLMORE.

ED. W. SMITH,

W. W. BURGER,

Assistant Adjutant-Generals.

Doc. 52.

GENERAL VANCE'S EXPEDITION.

RICHMOND EXAMINER ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, Jan. 29.

We have some interesting particulars of the recent expedition of the North-Carolina forces into East-Tennessee, which terminated so disastrously, and resulted, among other misfortunes, in the capture of General Vance, who was in command.

General Vance crossed the Smoky Mountain at the head of Lufky, with about three hundred and fifty-five cavalry, two pieces of artillery, and one hundred and fifty Indians. The force had great difficulty in crossing; the soldiers had to take the horses out of the wagons to get down the mountain over a perfect sheet of ice for three miles. After getting to the foot, part of the command was left, while General Vance, with about one hundred and seventy-five men, started to Sevierville on a reconnaissance. When in about two miles, he heard of a Yankee train of wagons being there. Our small force immediately charged and captured seventeen wagons, one hundred mules, and twenty-six prisoners. The enemy were then within four miles of our force, and General Vance at once started out with the captured property. This was about three P.M. The General thought it was impossible to get back over the Smoky Mountain, and endeavored to make his way to the Cataloocha road, on the head of Cosby Creek. He immediately despatched to Thomas (who was the se-

nior officer in command) to send Colonel Henry, with the balance of the command and artillery, by the road around the base of the mountain, to meet him on Cosby. The force with General Vance travelled that night until twelve o'clock, when they found the road in their front blockaded. They then had to lay by until daylight, when they cut out the blockade, and reached Cosby about one P.M.; but, instead of finding Henry there, they found a despatch from him saying that, upon consultation with Colonel L. Thomas, he had concluded the route was impracticable, and would fall back across the Smoky Mountain. So there was General Vance, with the captured property, prisoners, etc., and only about one hundred and seventy-five men. These had not been on the creek one hour before they were attacked by a Yankee cavalry force about four hundred strong. Our command was completely dispersed, the property recaptured, half the men taken prisoners, among them General Vance and part of his staff. The fight occurred on Thursday, the fifteenth, about half-past two P.M.

Our men were perfectly panic-stricken, and made no fight at all. The General escaped from the house where he was, and got across the creek, and was endeavoring to get to the advanced-guard, when he was captured. The enemy did not stop at all, but dashed on toward the front.

One of our officers in the affair writes as follows:

"We succeeded in rallying the men on a little point, which was a pleasant position, but the men were so frightened, that they only stood one fire and broke. It was the worst stampede I ever saw or heard of. Nearly every man lost his horse."

Doc. 53.

SEIZURE OF REBEL PROPERTY.

GENERAL BUTLER'S ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, DEPARTMENT
OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH-CAROLINA, FORTRESS
MONROE, VA., Jan. 16, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10.

To correct a misapprehension which seems to exist with the officers of this command as to their powers and duties in taking property for military purposes, and their accountability therefor; to afford just protection to peaceful and quiet citizens, from unauthorized and lawless acts, and to enable them to obtain speedy redress and remuneration therefor, if found loyal; to allow the taking in an orderly manner only, such property and material as may be necessary and useful for military purposes, or to deprive the enemy thereof, likely to fall into their hands, or if found in the hands of those in rebellion, or aiding the enemy; to give full force and effect to the example whenever it is found necessary to punish summarily offences, by the destruction of the property of offenders;

It is ordered:

I. That private property of a peaceable inhabitant shall be seized only when needed for the use of the troops, either for shelter, transportation, fuel, or food, or from known enemies, to be turned over to the agents of the Treasury.

Secondly. It may be taken or destroyed, in order to deprive the enemy thereof, when in danger of falling into his hands, or to prevent its use by the enemy.

Thirdly. It may be destroyed, as a summary punishment for offences, such as discharging a musket by a citizen, from his house, upon a body of troops, or setting poisoned food before soldiers, or murder within a house, or using the house and property to secrete murderers, or as a rendezvous for felons and the like.

In each of these cases the act can be done only by the order of a commissioned officer, in command of an army, expedition, separate detachment, or post.

II. It has been brought to the notice of the Commanding General, that there is a reluctance on the part of officers seizing property, either as a military necessity or upon orders, to give to the party claiming certificates, showing such seizure, thereby leaving themselves liable to the imputation of having carried away property which they have not in fact taken, and exposing the United States to claims sometimes unfounded, and always exorbitant. There should be no hesitation in giving such certificates. It does not add to the responsibility of the officer, but, on the contrary, is a protection both to himself and the Government. No officer should do an act which he is not willing to certify having done. It is therefore the duty of every officer, taking any property from any peaceable citizen, whether loyal or disloyal, to give a certificate to the party, claimant, or person from whom it is taken, place where and person from whom taken, with the name, regiment, and company, as the case may be, in full of the officer actually making the seizure; whether that seizure is made upon that officer's own responsibility, or under orders from his superior, and to make a report of the same to his immediate commander.

Such certificate should also state whether the property taken is that of a loyal or disloyal citizen, to the best of the information of the captor.

III. In case it becomes necessary, for military purposes, to destroy any houses, buildings, or other property, a certificate stating the cause of the act should be given by the officer making the order, or doing the act, to the person claiming, or it should be affixed to the nearest prominent object, if practicable, and in each case a report made to the immediate commander of the act done and of the certificate given.

Any officer taking property of a citizen for any purpose whatever, whether loyal or disloyal, without giving such certificate to the claimant, or destroying any property, without such certificate, and reporting the act as above provided, shall be deemed to be, and held guilty as for unauthorized and causeless plunder and embezzle-

ment of the property taken, or for an unjustifiable destruction of property, as the case may be. In such cases, the Commanding General will not too much invoke the aid of a court-martial in punishing the offenders.

IV. Cases of difficulty have arisen where the negroes, formerly slaves, joining the troops of the United States on marches and expeditions, with intent to come within our lines for protection, bring with them property of their former masters.

While the theory adopted by some officers that all the property in the rebel States belongs to the negroes, because it is the product of their labor, is theoretically true, yet it is not such a truth as can be made the foundation of government action. Therefore negroes, while they are to be induced to join our marches and expeditions, are not to be allowed to bring with them any other than those personal effects which have belonged to them, or such property as the officer commanding may order.

If it becomes necessary to take means of transportation from their masters, it is to be receipted for by the officer in command, as in other cases, stating the purpose for which such transportation is taken.

V. Competent officers make good soldiers; efficient officers can prevent outrage and plunder on the part of their men. All officers will be held strictly responsible for the acts of their men, and will be held to make good all plundering by the troops under their immediate command.

In punishing the offences of plundering, the inquiry at these headquarters will be, not which men did the act complained of, but who was the immediate commander of the men liable for the outrage.

VI. All property, seized as above provided, must be accounted for, or turned over to the quartermaster or provost-marshal, to be taken up on their accounts, or the officer under whose command it is taken will be held liable for embezzlement.

By command of Major-General BUTLER.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 54.

FIGHT NEAR DANDRIDGE, TENN.

CAMP NEAR STRAWBERRY PLAINS, }
EAST-TENNESSEE, JANUARY 19. }

Wood's division of Granger's corps drove the rebel cavalry out of Dandridge January fifteenth; Sheridan's division came up the sixteenth. There was sharp skirmishing the evening of the sixteenth, but the enemy was driven back. There was a tough fight Sunday, lasting from three o'clock p.m. till dark. La Grange's brigade of cavalry, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth, Ninety-third, and First Ohio infantry—One Hundred and Twenty-fifth commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Moore, Ninety-third and First by the major of the Ninety-third—were the forces chiefly engaged

on our part. The infantry regiments were on picket; and the forces in the order from left to right as named above.

In addition to this a section of a battery was posted on a hill in rear of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth. The rebels came on in strong force, five to one. The cavalry videttes were soon driven in; then the infantry outposts, supported by the outpost reserves, were hotly engaged; and finally, and indeed very soon, the grand reserves went in, and the fight became general and severe. Our troops fought desperately, especially the infantry. The outposts, as skirmishers, excelled praise. Captain Bates, of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Ohio, commanding skirmishers on the right of that regiment, made a charge, and, gallantly supported by the Ninety-third and the First on his right, drove the rebels nearly a quarter of a mile back, clear to their main body. Infantry skirmishers on the left also fought most stubbornly; but the cavalry being driven back, they were flanked and forced back to the grand reserve. In the open ground, looking up the road to Bull's Gap, was a semi-circular depression, a sort of natural rifle-pit, in which the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth, grand reserve, had been posted. This proved to be the key to the whole position. The men fired by volley, and were only exposed as they rose up to deliver their fire. The ground not only sheltered them, but concealed their strength from the enemy, who tried by artillery, infantry, and sharpshooters posted in tree-tops to dislodge them. And, though flanked on the right and left, they—"Tigers" General Wood named them at Mission Ridge, and they deserve the name—held their ground till dark, and then retired across a ravine, and took up a new position, from which they poured in a volley, which ended the progress of the rebels for that day. There they remained, until Colonel Garrard, with his splendid regiment, dismounted, advanced, and occupied the ground. The regiment was then, by order of Colonel Garrard, posted on the crest of the hill next in rear, where it was relieved near midnight by the Fifteenth Wisconsin.

The stubborn fighting of the infantry alone saved the town from capture, and, perhaps, the entire command from defeat, for preparations for retreat had been going on all day, and the troops engaged were not reinforced for fear of bringing on a general engagement, for which we were not ready. The retreat was made over two routes, our forces falling back across the Holston to Strawberry Plains.

Newmarket was occupied by the rebels yesterday. The forces here are ready for any emergency, and expect an attack from Longstreet, who has been heavily reinforced. Still, if the enemy is as strong as reported, you need not be surprised to hear of us next at Knoxville.

Doc. 55.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF ARKANSAS.

THE following are the instructions of President Lincoln to General Steele in reference to the re-organization of Arkansas:

EXECUTIVE MANNOR, WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1864.

Major-General Steele:

Sundry citizens of the State of Arkansas petition me that an election may be held in that State, at which to elect a Governor; that it be assumed at that election, and thenceforward, that the Constitution and laws of the State, as before the rebellion, are in full force, except that the Constitution is so modified as to declare that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; that the General Assembly may make such provisions for the freed people as shall recognize and declare their permanent freedom and provide for their education, and which may yet be construed as a temporary arrangement, suitable to their present condition as a laboring, landless, and homeless class; that said election shall be held on the twenty-eighth day of March, 1864, at all the usual places of the State, for all such voters as may attend for that purpose; that the voters attending at each place at eight o'clock in the morning of said day may choose judges and clerks of election for that purpose; that all persons qualified by said Constitution and laws and taking the oath presented in the President's proclamation of December eighth, 1864, either before or at the election, and none others, may be voters; that each set of judges and clerks may make returns directly to you, on or before the — day of — next; that, in all other respects, said election may be conducted according to said modified Constitution and laws; that, on the receipt of said returns, when five thousand four hundred and six votes shall have been cast, you can receive said votes, and ascertain all who shall thereby appear to have been elected; that, on the — of — next, all persons so appearing to have been elected, who shall appear before you at Little Rock, and take the oath, to be by you severally administered, to support the Constitution of the United States and modified Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and be declared by you qualified and empowered to immediately enter upon the duties of the offices to which they shall have been respectively elected.

You will please order an election to take place on the twenty-eighth of March, 1864, and returns to be made in fifteen days thereafter.

A. LINCOLN.

Doc. 56.

REBEL ARMY IN VIRGINIA.

GENERAL LEE'S ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, }
January 23, 1864.

THE Commanding General considers it due to

the army to state that the temporary reduction of rations has been caused by circumstances beyond the control of those charged with its support. Its welfare and comfort are the objects of his constant and earnest solicitude, and no effort has been spared to provide for its wants. It is hoped that the exertions now being made will render the necessity but of short duration; but the history of the army has shown that the country can require no sacrifice too great for its patriotic devotion.

Soldiers! you tread, with no unequal steps, the road by which your fathers marched through suffering, privation, and blood to independence.

Continue to emulate in the future, as you have in the past, their valor in arms, their patient endurance of hardships, their high resolve to be free—which no trial could shake, no bribe seduce, no danger appall—and be assured that the just God who crowned their efforts with success, will, in his own good time, send down his blessings upon yours.

R. E. LEE,
General.

Doc. 57.

GENERAL GRAHAM'S EXPEDITION.

GENERAL BUTLER'S DESPATCH.

FORTRAN MONROE, VA., January 25, 1864.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

SIR: Brigadier-General Graham, by my direction, went with three armed transports and a competent force to the Peninsula, made a landing on the James River, seven miles below Fort Powhatan, known as the Brandon Farms, and captured twenty-two of the enemy, seven of the signal corps, and brought away ninety-nine negroes. They also destroyed twenty-four thousand pounds of pork, and large quantities of oats and corn, and captured a sloop and schooner, and two hundred and forty boxes of tobacco, and five Jews, preparing to run the blockade, and returned without the loss of a man.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General Commanding.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

NORFOLK, VA., Tuesday, January 26, 1864.

One of the most brilliant exploits that has been chronicled for some time past, was accomplished yesterday by some of our troops, whose bravery is only equalled by their patriotism. Late on Sunday afternoon a gunboat expedition started from this city, composed of the army gunboats Gen. Jessup, Smith Briggs, and Flora Temple. The whole was under the command of General Graham. Before daylight, on the following morning, the boats had proceeded as far up the James River as Brandon, (which is near Harrison's Landing,) without the least opposition.

From the Gen. Jessup a detachment of men were landed, under charge of Captain Lee, of the Harbor Police. Two other detachments were sent ashore, under Captain Harris, of one of the boats, and Captain Brown, of the Twenty-first Connecticut regiment. Supported by the latter, the men of Captain Lee penetrated the interior

of the country to the distance of three miles. Here was a signal-station of the rebels, which it was their intention to capture. Dividing the men in two bodies, Captain Lee assigned one of them to remain with Lieutenant Bullard, of General Graham's staff, in front of the station, while he with his squad marched around to the rear.

The manœuvre was a complete success. So skilfully was it managed, that the rebels in the station were not aware of the presence of the Union troops, until they were within less than fifty yards of them. The surprise was so sudden, that they did not attempt to make any hostile demonstration whatever, but quietly and gracefully yielded themselves up as prisoners. With them were taken a large number of signalling flags, telescopes, rifles, and other equipments. The captain in command of the station was away at the time on a visit to Petersburg, and had left a sergeant and six men in charge during his temporary absence.

At Brandon, a confederate agent for the collection of forage and provisions was captured, with two overseers. From a plantation near by, about one hundred and thirty negroes, field hands, were taken. These were not the only trophies; for, while these active and exciting operations were going on, Lieutenant Harris, the commander of the Gen. Jessup, captured a blockade-runner schooner heavily laden with tobacco, jewelry, state bonds, and specie, belonging to some Jews. In addition to this, a smaller vessel, a sloop, was taken. The captures are fully worth twenty thousand dollars.

The expedition reflects great credit upon General Graham and Captain Lee, and all the officers and men engaged in it, when we take into consideration the hazardousness of the undertaking, and the care, sagacity, and bravery displayed in carrying it successfully through. The rebels were caught napping, and they must feel sore to think that they were outwitted.

Doc. 58.

RE-ORGANIZATION IN TENNESSEE.

GOVERNOR JOHNSON'S PROCLAMATION.

NASHVILLE, January 26, 1864.

WHEREAS, in consequence of the disloyalty of a large majority of the persons filling the offices established by the constitution and laws of Tennessee, and of the majority of the people of the State, and as part of the legitimate fruits of secession and rebellion against the Government of the United States, the people of Tennessee have been deprived for nearly three years of all free, regular, and legitimate government, and they are now without a Governor chosen in the ordinary way, Legislature, representation in the Congress of the United States, and without courts, judges, chancellors, and the various legitimately authorized county officers:

And Whereas, it is believed that a majority of the people of the State are ready and desire to return to their allegiance to the Government

of the United States, and to recognize and restore the State Government to the exercise of its rightful functions, as a State of the American Union, under the Constitution of the United States; and as an initiatory step in such reorganization and restoration, it is determined to open and hold an election on the first Saturday in March next, in the various precincts, districts, or wherever it is practicable so to do, in the respective counties of the State, as prescribed by the laws and Constitution of the State, to wit: Justices of the peace, sheriffs, constables, trustees, circuit and county court clerks, registers, and tax collectors.

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me, and for the purpose of bringing the State of Tennessee within the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees to each State a republican form of government, I do order said elections to be holden in the various counties on the first Saturday in March next, for the officers aforesaid, and none other.

But, inasmuch as these elections are ordered in the State of Tennessee, as a State of the Union under the Federal Constitution, it is not expected that the enemies of the United States will propose to vote, nor is it intended that they be permitted to vote or hold office.

And in the midst of so much disloyalty and hostility as have existed among the people of this State toward the Government of the United States, and in order to secure the votes of its friends and exclude those of its enemies, I have deemed it proper to make known the requisite qualifications of the electors at said elections. To entitle any person to the privilege of voting, he must be a free white man, of the age of twenty-one years, being a citizen of the United States and a citizen of the county where he may offer his vote six months preceding the day of election, and a competent witness in any court of justice of the State by the laws thereof, against a white man; and not having been convicted of bribery or the offer to bribe, of larceny or any other offence declared infamous by the laws of the State, unless he has been restored to citizenship in the mode pointed out by law. And he must take and subscribe, before the judges of the election the following oath:

"I solemnly swear, that I will henceforth support the Constitution of the United States, and defend it against the assaults of all its enemies; that I will hereafter be, and conduct myself as a true and faithful citizen of the United States, freely and voluntarily claiming to be subject to all the duties and obligations, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of such citizenship; that I ardently desire the suppression of the present insurrection and rebellion against the Government of the United States, the success of its armies, and the defeat of all those who oppose them, and that the Constitution of the United States, and all laws and proclamations, made in pursuance thereof, may be speedily and permanently established and enforced over all the peo-

ple, States, and Territories thereof; and further, that I will hereafter heartily aid and assist all loyal people in the accomplishment of these results. So help me God."

And all the judges, officers, and persons holding the election, before entering upon their respective duties, in addition to the oath now required by the laws of the State, shall take and subscribe the same oath, and also that they will permit no one to vote who has not taken and subscribed the oath above set forth, or refuses to do so.

The provisions of the Code, in regard to inspectors and judges of election, are as follows:

Section 841. The County Court, at the session next preceding the day of election, shall appoint three inspectors or judges for each voting place to superintend the election.

Section 842. If the county court fail to make the appointment, or any person appointed refuse to serve, the sheriff, with the advice of three justices of the peace, or if none be present, three respectable freeholders, shall, before the beginning of the election, appoint said inspectors or judges.

Section 843. If the sheriff, or other officer whose duty it is to attend at a particular place of voting, under the foregoing provisions, fail to attend, any justice of the peace present, or if no justice of the peace be present, any three freeholders, may perform the duties prescribed by the preceding section, or, in case of necessity, may act as officers or inspectors.

Now, whereas, in many of the counties there are no county courts, sheriffs, or justices of the peace, and in others the persons now and heretofore filling these offices are disloyal, and therefore disqualified, in all such counties some respectable citizen of the county will be appointed to hold said elections, appoint the judges, clerks, and other officers, either by himself or his deputies, and administer the oath to such officers, and receive the votes and make due returns to the office of Secretary of State. All other steps will be taken looking to the election of the other officers, Federal and State, as soon as practicable.

In testimony whereof, I, Andrew Johnson, Military Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, at this Department, on the twenty-sixth day of January, A.D. 1864.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the Governor,

EDWARD H. EAST,
Secretary of State.

Doc. 59.

SPEECH OF HOWELL COBB.

DELIVERED AT ATLANTA, GA., JAN. 28, 1864. I

WHEN I look back, my friends, to the last few months, I confess that the present moment is one corresponding with that bright sun that has blessed us in the past few days with his benignant

says; I feel energy anew arising up in my heart, and a new inspiration appealing to the manhood of every citizen of our Confederacy, stimulating him to renewed efforts in the great cause in which we are engaged. When I look to your army, I find that its ranks are being filled up day by day, and the roll of honor increasing with every morning and evening's sun. The spirit of these brave men is unbroken. Would that our people throughout the land could gather the inspiration as it rises around the camp-fires of our army. Despair would cease among them, and despondency give way before a bright and promising sun.

My friends, I come to-night to address myself to Georgians. Deeply as every portion of our people are interested in the present condition of the country, to none does it come with more and deeper interest than to the people of Georgia. I am a Georgian, proud of my native State. I was born upon her soil, nurtured in her bosom, educated in her faith. All that I am, all that I hope ever to be, I owe to her. Beneath her soil sleep the bones of my fathers and those of my own offspring, and, sooner or later, I must lie down by their side. I love this old commonwealth. The affections of my heart gather around this old State. I love her mountains and her valleys; I love her history in the past and in the present, and I hope I shall love it in the future; but, thank God, I have a heart big enough to love every inch of soil over which floats the proud banner of our Southern Confederacy.

To you, then, my brethren of Georgia, I come to-night to make an appeal. Your soil is invaded, your homes are threatened. Do you wish to know what it is to have a Yankee army encamped in the heart of your State? Do you wish to realize the desolation which would follow the track of a merciless and cruel enemy? If so, go to Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and let their burned villages, their desolate homes, their property of every kind destroyed, teach you the lesson. Do you hope to fare better than your brethren of those States? Is there burning in your hearts a whining spirit of Unionism, by which you hope to commend yourselves to the tender mercies of this heartless foe? I tell you to-night that the few poor, miserable persons—dishonored in name and reputation—who have sought in this way to save themselves from the effects of Yankee rapacity, have been everywhere treated with the same cruelty and outrage that have been visited upon the true and loyal men. I do thank God that they have been treated in this way, and if there be any such traitors to our cause within the borders of my native State, I pray heaven that they may be treated in like manner.

No, my friends, ours is a common fate and a common destiny, and I thank God that it is so. We must all be free, or all be slaves. We must all live or all perish. If you read the history of the outrages which the Yankees perpetrated in Virginia and Tennessee, you will see that it must be so. Do you love your property? It has

been destroyed and trampled under foot. Do you love your dwellings? They have been reduced to ashes. Do you love your wives and daughters? They have been dishonored and outraged wherever this infamous invader has planted his foul footsteps upon Southern soil. If there be the hearts of men beating in your bosoms, I appeal to you, by the discharge of your duty in this hour of your trial, see to it that this desolation—this dishonor—comes not upon you and your household.

Is there a man within the hearing of my voice, whether Georgian or not, who does not feel that it is his duty, the duty of his neighbor, and the duty of every man within the limits of the Confederacy, to go forward as his country calls for and demands his services in the field? You ask me, shall the other great interests of the country be abandoned? I say, No. Your agricultural, mechanical, and other interests should be attended to and preserved, and neither your President, your Congress or your generals, nor any portion of your country, demand any such sacrifice at your hands. When men talk about calling every body into the field, and abandoning all other interests of the country, they talk wildly, and raise a phantom that they may fight it. You ask me what number of men our country needs at this time? I cannot tell you. I am not possessed of the information to give you an answer upon which you may act.

I have told you who cannot answer this question. There is one other class—high, honorable, worthy of your respect and confidence—equally unable to answer this question. They are the men who are called upon to sit in *habeas corpus* courts. The man whose patriotism has sunk so low as to want a *habeas corpus* court to decide whether he is to go into the army or not, does not deserve the liberty which is won by the strong arms of others.

My friends, do you remember about two years and a half ago, when the summons came pealing in your ears that your country was invaded, and calling upon her sons to go in her defence? What was the response? You saw, then, your noble brethren gathering around the flag of their country—brave and true men—old and young—beardless boys and gray-headed fathers. In those days briefless lawyers sat quietly in their offices, and honest judges were never summoned to try cases before *habeas corpus* courts. There was no hunting down judges of superior courts to get them to decide whether brave men should go in defence of their country, or let the infamous invader run wildly over it. Those brave boys were the first who left for the defence of their country; and where are they now? My countrymen, many of them sleep in their graves, many are in hospitals, many go about the country on crutches, and many are gathered to-night around the camp-fires—all true, generous, noble souls—who have labored from that hour to the present, and are yet willing to labor in driving back the invader. Why are judges now holding their courts out of season? It is to try the *Æ*

deas corpus case of a man the liberty of whose country has been trampled upon—whose rights have been disregarded—a hale, healthy, hearty man, who is able to go to the field, but never has been, and asks the judge to sit at chambers to free him from the service which he owes his country. I believe my brethren of the bar have what they call a black letter book, and I tell you all the authorities upon it are cited.

Who, then, I say, shall decide the question? You cannot. I cannot, but the Constitution of your country has declared who shall decide it—in whose hands such power and such discretion shall be intrusted. I care not whether you are the friend or the enemy of your President. I care not whether you are in the list of his devoted friends or among those who have raised up a standard of opposition to him. I come not here to-night to eulogize or praise, but to speak of our duty. We have a President selected by our own unanimous voice, chosen for the discharge of high and responsible duties. Into his hands we have committed this power. That he may have sometimes erred none will deny. His worst enemy will not say that he has been false to his trust. Upon him the Constitution and laws of your country have devolved the responsibility of saying who shall and who shall not be called into the field. No other tribunal can decide that question. We must leave this power to him, or all must be lost. I ask you to-night as patriots, as men who love your country and are desirous of preserving your liberties, when your President summons you to the field, will you respond to the call? Georgians, will you go? Will you falter? Shall it be written of you in the future history of your country, that when the enemy was upon one border of your country, and the other threatened by that enemy; when your soil was the theatre of this war; your homes, your families and firesides involved in the issue, you remained quiet at home, and trusted your defence in the hands of those brave men of other States, who are this night in the faithful discharge of their duty? It cannot, it must not be. Better meet the enemy at the door-sill than wait for him at the hearth-stone. Better stand by the side of those brave men in the front, than meet the desolation that will come upon you after their shattered ranks shall have been driven back. I trust that you will, and that we shall have no more of that complaining spirit which has led some to shun the service which they owed to their country.

My friends, not only must we go forward to the field in the discharge of this duty, but there are other duties to be performed by those who will not be called to the field. Our planters and our farmers have their duty to perform, and this is one of deep responsibility. These brave men must be fed. I apprehend there is not a man, woman, or child within the hearing of my voice who does not respond with all his heart when I declare, again, this army must be fed. These brave men have enough to endure, enough to suffer, without the sufferings of hunger. The

planters and the farmers of the country, and I apprehend I have the pleasure, to-night, of addressing many of them, must come up to the work. Your country calls upon you to make sacrifices. I shall not attempt to mince words to you; I say sacrifices; and your duty requires you to make them. You tell me that the government should have your produce; all you ask is just compensation. How much better are you than the enemy? If the enemy could furnish us with corn and meat, they would do so for a just compensation. You demand, again, just compensation for your produce. Have you ever asked yourselves what would be a just compensation to that soldier who has lost an arm or leg, or who, a few months ago, was strong and hearty, but now with tottering steps goes through our streets, soon to be a victim for the grave?

Tell me, my fellow-planter, what would be a just compensation to him? Where is the treasury to pay him for his loss? Who is to give just compensation to his widowed wife and orphaned children? Talk not, my friends, of just compensation. Let us hear no more of this from farmers going to county meetings and setting down the last dollar which they can put upon the price of their produce. For whom does your government demand this produce—for whom does it ask it? For your sons—those brave soldiers that cheerfully went forth at the first call of your country. Do you love your corn, your bacon, and your wheat more than you love the children of your own loins? You sent them to encounter dangers and death upon the battlefield. They, with their comrades, stand as sentinels to-night to guard and defend you and your property, and they ask of you provisions to feed them. Do you pause to count up the cost and ascertain how much profit you can make before you will sell them? If your government can pay you just compensation, have confidence to believe that it will be done. Suppose it cannot pay but one half, or one fourth of what your provisions are worth in the market, I appeal to you as men, as patriots, as men in whose hearts beat the warm instincts of humanity, will you hug your corn and your meat to your bosom, while your soldiers are hungering in the field?

Had you rather sell your provisions a half-dollar higher in the bushel or pound, or had you not rather give it to them than that it should be written in history that while your granaries and your meat-houses were full, your brave defenders could not keep off the enemy because they could not be fed? You must come up to your duty. I appeal to you as men loving your country and your kindred. Complain not if the strong arm of the law shall put its clutches upon your property, if you refuse to do at this hour what duty demands at your hands. I know not what others may do; I speak only for myself; but, as God is my judge, so long as my country intrusts me with the command of any portion of these brave men, they shall not starve, if there be provisions in the country and I can get them, law or no law. I tell you, my friends, you may de-

nounce me as revolutionary; I may outrage the sensibilities of some who love their property dearly; but liberty is dearer to me than property, and the brave men who defend that liberty are dearer to me than the men who withhold the provisions from them. They may denounce me for this sentiment, as I denounce them for their conduct; the result is, that we will entertain for each other mutual disgust.

I do not pretend to deny that many officers of the government have done wrong, and committed outrages. I do not justify them; but it is better to endure some of these wrongs and bear these outrages than to lose liberty and all. What is that property of yours worth if the enemy gets possession of your country? What are your rights in the hands and under the control of the minions of Lincoln? You must choose between our own people and our own government, and the people and the government of your enemy. There is no middle ground. One or the other must have your provisions. One or the other must be supplied from your granaries. These brave soldier boys of our own kith and kindred must either feed upon your meat and bread, or the Yankees must feed upon them, and I tell you frankly if you refuse to let the government have your provisions, and you could be separated in one portion of the land by yourselves, I would not care how soon the Yankees got possession of both them and you.

There is but one class of men in our community meaner than the speculator and extortioner, and that is the man who is unwilling to let his produce go for the support of our brave soldiers in the field. What better are you than speculators and extortioners, who cling to your provisions with a starving army upon your border? What is the speculator and extortioner but the man who loves gold and property more than life and liberty? Is not that your case? And do you think that you satisfy the demands of your country and of your own conscience, because you agree with others in this denunciation of Yankees? If there is any man in this wide world who hates the Yankee race worse than I do, I am sorry for him, because he must have devoted his whole heart to the work; but I tell you, and the history of this war will bear me out in the assertion, that many true-hearted Southern men were born at the North, and some of the vilest Yankees that ever disgraced this earth were born at the South.

There is another duty which we are called upon to perform. Not only must these brave men be clothed and fed and supported in the field, but their families must be provided for and taken care of at home. When I see a soldier's wife, whose little ones are dependent upon her labor for support, go into one of the stores of Atlanta, and she is asked to pay from ten to twenty dollars per bushel for meal, and corresponding prices for other articles necessary for the support and comfort of that family, I am compelled in my heart to say there is some great wrong somewhere. I know if you go to the merchant he

will tell you he has to pay so large a price that he cannot afford to sell for less. Go to the man he bought it from, and the same story is told, and so on. It is not for me to decide who is to blame. I know not at whose door the fault lies, but it must rest somewhere; the responsibility must rest upon the conscience of some man that can be reached. I confess frankly to you, that with all my confidence in our cause, with all my devotion to it, my heart sinks within me when these scenes are passing before my view. I ask myself the question: Can a kind Providence, a God of mercy and justice, bless a people among whom these wrongs are perpetrated; these outrages practised?

I know, my friends, that our people have done well by the soldiers' families; I know that in many counties ample provisions have been made for their support, but in others only a small yearly pittance has been provided, which will scarcely pay the expense of going to market and obtaining a week's supply for the family. See to it that no soldier's wife or child shall suffer and you be responsible for it. To those who have much or have accumulated much, to them I appeal—to their liberality, their generosity—to their sense of justice. Let it be written of us as it was written of others in the olden time: "He that had gathered much had nothing over, and he that had gathered little had no lack." Let this be the rule of your conduct.

You ask me, then, what of the condition of my country? My friends, I say it all depends upon yourselves. I have never, in so short a space of time, thought so much of the condition of the country in reference to the dangers by which we are surrounded and the duties we are called upon to perform. You ask me now in reference to the dangers. Tell me first, are you doing any thing in reference to the discharge of your duty? Has your spirit been aroused and excited by those dangers? Are you prepared to give your life, if need be, to your country, and go to the field, if required? Are you prepared to furnish from your granaries the provisions necessary to feed our armies? Answer me these questions and then I can tell you what of the night. If you answer me that you are ready to discharge these duties, then I can answer that all is well.

It is the answer of our brave soldiers in the field. There is with them no spirit of despondency. They are unbroken in spirits; firm, true, and steadfast to the cause in which they are engaged. They stand there as a band of brothers, fearless and defiant of danger. Tell me of the thousands and thousands that the enemy have concentrated for the spring campaign. I tell you that all Yankeedom, assisted by abolition sympathizers throughout the civilized world, cannot conquer and subjugate the South if you are true to yourselves and your country.

Therefore, choose you this night! Your fate is in your own hands. Are you looking forward with a hope which has no residing place in your conviction, and is only fitting through your mind, that, perhaps, after all, some foreign inter-

forence will come to our rescue to save and preserve us from the enemy? Banish it from your minds; it is a wild and visionary dream; it is a false delusion. The sympathy of the world is against you. If you are cowards, you will falter and faint when the fact is announced to you; if you are brave men, it will arouse in your hearts the spirit of true manhood, which you have inherited from your revolutionary fathers and mothers, and make you truer than ever to your country and her cause.

Do you look forward with some hope to what has been termed the conservative element of the North, and expect to be preserved and protected by it from Lincoln's power and dominion? Banish the fatal delusion. Conservatism at the North lies prostrate in the dust. In their mad efforts to take away our liberties, they have lost their own. They are as powerless to aid you as they are to protect themselves. You must either submit to Lincoln and abolitionism, or, by your own unaided arm, with the blessing of a kind Providence, win your liberty and your independence. Think not that there is a power at the North to restore to you the Constitution and the Union as they were, even if you were prepared to accept it. You must either be freemen or you must submit to Lincoln, and he has given you his terms.

I put the picture before you. Do you stagger before it, or does it arouse within you anew the spirit of resistance, the spirit of freemen, worthy of the ancestry from which we sprung? Look at these things; consider well of them, and let us, with hearts purged and purified with afflictions, appeal to Him who alone can give victory and success to our arms.

Doc. 60.

AFFAIR IN ST. ANDREW'S BAY, FLA.

REAR-ADMIRAL BAILEY'S REPORT.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP SAN JACINTO, }
KEY WEST, JAN. 27, 1864.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: It affords me pleasure to report to the department that the promise made by Acting Master William R. Brown, commanding the bark *Restless*, at the conclusion of his last report concerning the destruction of the extensive salt works in the vicinity of St. Andrew's Bay—namely, that he would complete the work so handsomely begun—appears to have been kept.

He reports that he went on board the stern-wheel steamer *Bloomer*, with two officers and forty-seven men belonging to the *Restless*, and proceeded up the bay, against very unfavorable circumstances of darkness, wind, and tide, some ten miles above St. Andrew's, where his force was, and destroyed some ninety additional salt works, together with all the boilers, kettles, and buildings attached to them; whereupon the enemy commenced the destruction of some two hundred more which were in advance of our party, and thus saved us from all further trouble

except skirting along the bay for the distance of fifteen miles, to make sure that the work of destruction had been well performed by them.

Deserters from Captains Anderson and Robinson's companies reported subsequently that both officers and men had broken up and gone home, as the destruction of the salt works which they were ordered to guard had been so complete, and six of them have enlisted in the navy, after taking the oath of allegiance.

Acting Master Brown again speaks in terms of commendation of the officers and men engaged in this service, including Acting Ensign Cressy and the five men composing the crew of the steamer *Bloomer*. Respectfully,

THEODORUS BAILEY,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding R. G. Blockading Squadron.

Doc. 61.

BATTLE OF GETTYSBURGH.

NEW-YORK, March 1, 1864.

THE battle of Gettysburgh is the decisive battle of this war. It not only saved the North from invasion, but turned the tide of victory in our favor. The opinion of Europe on the failure of the rebellion dates from this great conflict. How essential, then, that its real history should be known! Up to this moment no clear narrative has appeared. The sketches of the press, the reports of Generals Halleck and Meade, and the oration of Mr. Everett give only phases of this terrible struggle, and that not very correctly. To supply this hiatus, I send you a connected and, I hope, lucid review of its main features. I have not ventured to touch on the thrilling incidents and affecting details of such a strife, but have confined myself to a succinct relation of its principal events and the actors therein. My only motive is to vindicate history—do honor to the fallen and justice to the survivors when unfairly impeached.

General Meade took command of the army of the Potomac on Sunday, the twenty-eighth of June, at Frederick, Maryland. On Monday, as he states, the army was put in motion, and by Tuesday night the right flank had reached Manchester and the left occupied Emmettsburgh. General Buford's cavalry had advanced as far as Gettysburgh, and reported that the confederate army was debouching from the mountains on the Cashtown road. Upon this intelligence General Reynolds was ordered to advance on Gettysburgh with the First and Eleventh corps, which he reached early on the first of July, and found Buford's cavalry already engaged with the enemy—the corps of General Hill. Rapidly making his dispositions, General Reynolds joined in the conflict, and soon fell mortally wounded. The command of the field then devolved on General Howard, of the Eleventh corps, who maintained his position till about two o'clock P.M., when the enemy was heavily reinforced by the arrival of Ewell's corps. The battle now raged fearfully between Hill's and Ewell's corps on one side, and

the First and Eleventh corps on the other, till about four p.m., when General Howard was compelled to yield to the superior numbers of the enemy and fall back, losing many prisoners—nearly four thousand—to the south side of Gettysburgh. His position was eminently critical, when, to the great relief of both the General and our valiant troops, a division of the Third corps, under the immediate command of General Sickles, arrived, and the fighting for that day was at an end. It should be mentioned that the Third corps was stationed at Emmettsburgh, by order of General Meade, with a view to protect that important point; but information continuing to reach General Sickles that the First and Eleventh corps were in great danger,* he decided to assume the grave responsibility of moving to their relief without orders. Leaving two brigades at Emmettsburgh, he made a forced march of ten miles, in spite of the heat and dust, in three hours, and had the satisfaction to be hailed by General Howard on his reaching the field with the flattering phrase, "Here you are, General—always reliable, always first!"—a generous tribute from one soldier to another. General Slocum, of the Twelfth corps, had arrived a short time before; but his corps was then some four miles distant. In the early part of the evening (Wednesday) a conference of the leading generals took place, when some insisted on falling back toward Taneytown, while others urged the expediency of maintaining their present position as offering rare advantages for the inevitable and decisive contest that must occur on the following day. It appears that General Meade had issued a circular (of which I saw several copies) on the morning of Wednesday, July first, to all his corps commanders, stating that his advance had accomplished all the objects contemplated—namely, the relief of Harrisburgh and Philadelphia—and that he would now desist altogether from the offensive. He proposed to post the whole army in line of battle on Pipe Creek, the right flank resting on Manchester and the left on Middleburgh, involving an entire change of front, and there await the movements of the enemy. The position which General Meade had selected for the final struggle between the two armies was some fifteen miles distant from Gettysburgh, where fate willed that it should occur. Whether this important circular ordering him to fall back reached the lamented Reynolds before he became engaged at Gettysburgh it is difficult to say. It could not have failed to reach General Sickles; but he happily determined to push on to the rescue of the First and Eleventh corps, already engaged. It is strange that General Meade should make no mention in his report of this singular and most important fact: that he issued a plan of campaign on Wednesday, July first, directing his

whole army to retire and take up the defensive on Pipe Creek almost at the moment that his left flank was fiercely struggling with the right wing of the enemy. This proves how often the plans of a general are frustrated by unlooked-for contingencies.

General Meade broke up his quarters at Taneytown, as he states, at eleven p.m. on Wednesday, and reached Gettysburgh at one a.m. Thursday, July second. Early in the morning he set to work examining the position of the various army corps. It is hardly true to say that he imitated the example of all prudent commanders on the eve of a battle, and made a complete survey of the ground he occupied.

It was on these occasions that the genius of the First Napoleon revealed itself; for at a glance he saw the advantages of his own position and the assailable point of the enemy. It seems that General Lee was somewhat more astute than Meade in this; for in his report he states what he deemed "the most favorable point" for his attack. "In front of General Longstreet," (opposite our left wing,) Lee remarks, "the enemy held a position from which, if he could be driven, it was thought our army could be used to advantage in assailing the more elevated ground beyond, and thus enable us to reach the crest of the ridge. That officer, then, was directed to carry this position." It is plain enough that Lee regarded the point where our left was posted as the key to our position, and if that could be taken from us our defeat was inevitable. It is not to be supposed that General Meade refused to see this; but as he makes no mention of it in his report, I propose, for the sake of the future historian of the battle, to tell what I know about it.

Near this important ground was posted the valiant Third corps, and its commander, General Sickles, saw at once how necessary it was to occupy the elevated ground in his front toward the Emmettsburgh road, and to extend his lines to the commanding eminence known as the Roundtop, or Sugarloaf Hill. Unless this were done, the left and rear of our army would be in the greatest danger. Sickles concluded that no time was to be lost, as he observed the enemy massing large bodies of troops on their right, (our left.) Receiving no orders, and filled with anxiety, he reported in person to General Meade and urged the advance he deemed so essential. "Oh!" said Meade, "generals are all apt to look for the attack to be made where they are." Whether this was a jest or a sneer Sickles did not stop to consider, but begged Meade to go over the ground with him instantly; but the Commander-in-Chief declined this on account of other duties. Yielding, however, to the prolonged solicitations of Sickles, General Meade desired General Hunt, Chief of Artillery, to accompany Sickles and report the result of their reconnaissance. Hunt concurred with Sickles as to the line to be occupied—the advance line from the left of the Second corps to the Roundtop Hill—but he declined to give any orders until he had reported to General

* Besides numerous reports, the following brief communication reached him, which accidentally fell into my hands: "July 1, Gettysburgh. General Sickles: General Doubleday (First corps) says: For God's sake, come up with all speed. They are pressing us hard. H. T. Lee, Major, A. D. C."

Meade, remarking, however, that he (General Sickles) would doubtless receive orders immediately.

Two P.M. came, and yet no orders. Why was this? Other orders than those expected by General Sickles were, it appears, in preparation at headquarters. It has since been stated, upon unquestionable authority, that General Meade had decided upon a retreat, and that an order to withdraw from the position held by our army was penned by his Chief of Staff, General Butterfield, though happily its promulgation never took place. This order is probably on record in the Adjutant-General's office.

Meanwhile the enemy's columns were moving rapidly around to our left and rear. These facts were again reported to headquarters, but brought no response. Buford's cavalry had been massed on the left, covering that flank with outposts, and videttes were thrown forward on the Emmetsburgh Road. While awaiting the expected orders, Sickles made good use of his time in levelling all the fences and stone walls, so as to facilitate the movements of his troops and to favor the operations of the cavalry. What, then, was the surprise of Sickles to see of a sudden all the cavalry withdrawn, leaving his flank entirely exposed! He sent an earnest remonstrance to General Meade, whose reply was that he did not intend to withdraw the cavalry, and that a part of this division (Buford's) should be sent back. It never returned. Under these circumstances, Sickles threw forward three regiments of light troops as skirmishers and for outpost duty. The critical moment had now arrived. The enemy's movements indicated their purpose to seize the Roundtop Hill; and this in their possession, General Longstreet would have had easy work in cutting up our left wing. To prevent this disaster, Sickles waited no longer for orders from General Meade, but directed General Hobart Ward's brigade and Smith's battery (Fourth New-York) to secure that vital position, and at the same time advancing his line of battle about three hundred yards, so as to hold the crest in his front, he extended his left to support Ward and cover the threatened rear of the army.

These dispositions were made in the very face of the enemy, who were advancing in columns of attack, and Sickles dreaded lest the conflict should open before his dispositions were completed. At this juncture he was summoned to report in person at headquarters to attend a council of corps commanders. His preparations were of such moment and the attack so near that General Sickles delayed attending the council, while giving all his attention to the carrying out of his orders. A second peremptory summons came from General Meade, and, leaving his unfinished task to the active supervision of General Birney and General Humphreys, Sickles rode off to the rear to headquarters. Before he had reached there, the sound of cannon announced that the battle had begun. Hastening rapidly on, he was met by General Meade at the door of his quarters, who said: "General, I will not ask you to

dismount; the enemy are engaging your front; the council is over." It was an unfortunate moment, as it proved, for a council of war. Sickles, putting spurs to his horse, flew back to his command, and, finding that Graham's brigade was not advanced as far as he desired, he was pushing that brigade and a battery forward about a hundred yards, when General Meade at length arrived on the field. The following colloquy ensued, which I gathered from several officers present: "Are you not too much extended, General?" said Meade. "Can you hold this front?" "Yes," replied Sickles, "until more troops are brought up; the enemy are attacking in force, and I shall need support." General Meade then let drop some remark, showing that his mind was still wavering as to the extent of ground covered by the Third corps. Sickles replied: "General, I have received no orders. I have made these dispositions to the best of my judgment. Of course I shall be happy to modify them according to your views." "No," said Meade, "I will send you the Fifth corps, and you may send for support from the Second corps." "I shall need more artillery," added Sickles. "Send for all you want," replied Meade, "to the artillery reserve. I will direct General Hunt to send you all you ask for." The conference was then abruptly terminated by a heavy shower of shells, probably directed at the group, and General Meade rode off. Sickles received no further orders that day. There is no doubt, I may venture to add, that Sickles's line was too much extended for the number of troops under his command; but his great aim was to prevent the enemy getting between his flank and the Roundtop alluded to. This was worth the risk, in his opinion, of momentarily weakening his lines. The contest now going on was of the most fierce and sanguinary description. The entire right wing of the enemy was concentrated on the devoted Third corps; for the object of Lee, as he states, was "to carry" the ground which Sickles occupied, and which both generals evidently regarded as of the highest importance. While this terrific combat was raging on our left, Lee ordered Ewell "to attack" our right wing, and Hill "to threaten" our centre, both with the object, as he says in his report, to divert reinforcements from reaching our left, which, as we have seen, Longstreet was "directed to carry." Well may General Meade, in his report, say, "The Third corps sustained the shock most heroically;" for they fought like lions, against tremendous odds, for nearly an hour before the Fifth corps came up under Sykes, who was immediately put in position by General Sickles to the left of the Third corps, and General Sykes was desired to relieve Ward's brigade and Smith's battery on the Roundtop, and hold the line from thence to Birney's left, (First division, Third corps.) Strange to say, this movement was not promptly carried out, and there was imminent danger of losing the Roundtop, for Longstreet was making desperate exertions to "carry it." Fearing this result, Sickles sent orders to General Crawford, of the Fifth

corps, to reinforce Ward's brigade, but he declined to move without orders from his own corps commander, Sykes; but Captain Moore, of Sickles's staff, at length overcame his scruples, and he reached the disputed point just in time to prevent its falling into the enemy's hands. Considering our force unequal to the exigency, Sickles called on the heroic troops of the Second corps for support, and they gave it with a will. The struggle now became deadly. The columns of Longstreet charged with reckless fury upon our troops; but they were met with a valor and stern fortitude that defied their utmost efforts. An alarming incident, however, occurred. Barnes's division, of the Fifth corps, suddenly gave way; and Sickles, seeing this, put a battery in position to check the enemy if he broke through this gap on our front, and General Birney was sent to order Barnes back into line. "No," he said; "impossible. It is too hot. My men cannot stand it." Remonstrance was unavailing, and Sickles despatched his aids to bring up any troops they met to fill this blank. Major Tremaine, of his staff, fell in with General Zook, at the head of his brigade, (Second corps,) and this gallant officer instantly volunteered to take Barnes's place. When they reached the ground, Barnes's disordered troops impeded the advance of the brigade. "If you can't get out of the way," cried Zook, "lie down and I will march over you." Barnes ordered his men to lie down, and the chivalric Zook and his splendid brigade, under the personal direction of General Birney, did march over them right into the breach. Alas! poor Zook soon fell, mortally wounded, and half of his brigade perished with him. It was about this time—near seven P.M.—that Sickles was struck by a cannon-ball that tore off his right leg, and he was borne from the field.

It was now pretty clear that General Meade had awakened to the fact which he treated with such indifference when pressed on him by Sickles in the morning—that our left was the assailable point, if not the key to our position; for he began to pour in reinforcements whose presence in the beginning of the action would have saved thousands of lives. "Perceiving great exertions on the part of the enemy," says Meade's report, "the Sixth corps (Sedgwick's) and part of the First corps, (Newton's,) Lockwood's Maryland brigade, together with detachments from the Second corps, were all brought up at different periods, and succeeded, together with the gallant resistance of the Fifth corps, in checking and finally repulsing the assault of the enemy, who retired in confusion and disorder about sunset, and ceased any further efforts." If this remarkable concentration of troops was necessary, at last, to save the left of our army, it is almost incredible that the single corps of General Sickles was able to withstand the impetuous onset of Longstreet's legions for nearly an hour before any succor reached it.

On Friday, July third, the enemy renewed their efforts to carry out the original design of Lee by overthrowing our left wing, and Long-

street was reinforced by Pickett's three brigades, and further supported by one division and two brigades from Hill's corps.

In addition to this heavy mass of infantry, the entire artillery of the rebel army was concentrated against our left. After his oversight of the day before, it may be supposed that General Meade was better prepared to defend his left, and had made adequate preparations. About one P.M. the enemy opened a furious cannonade upon our left and left centre, which continued some two hours, with occasional responses from us. At about three P.M., the enemy moved forward in column, and once more essayed to carry our position on the left. It was during this conflict that General Hancock, commander of the Second corps, a gallant soldier and accomplished officer, was wounded by a musket-ball and obliged to retire. He contributed greatly by his energy and valor to the success of the day. Meanwhile our artillery opened with vigor and inflicted great damage. After a severe and prolonged struggle, the enemy at length fell back and abandoned the contest. "Owing to the strength of the enemy's position," says Lee's report, "and the reduction of our ammunition, a renewal of the engagement could not be hazarded." Hence it is plain that our good fortune in preserving our position on the left gave us the victory at Gettysburg; and yet General Meade, not having sufficiently examined the ground before the battle, disregarded the repeated warnings of that sagacious officer, General Sickles, as well as the report of his own Chief of Artillery, General Hunt, who concurred in all the suggestions of the commander of the Third corps. Without meaning to do injustice to General Meade, it must be admitted that his report of this great battle is at such variance with all the statements which have appeared in the press, that it is due not only to history, but to the indomitable prowess of our heroic army, that every fact sustained by concurrent testimony should be given in order to fully establish the truth. I reserve for any suitable occasion abundant documentary evidence to support the facts furnished.

On Saturday, July fourth, both armies continued to face each other during the entire day; without either manifesting a disposition to attack. "The enemy," says Meade, "drew back his left flank, but maintained his position in front of our left," as if always conscious that our vulnerable point was there, and they were loth to retire from it. On the night of the fourth, Lee, finding his ammunition exhausted, and his subsistence imperilled, decided to withdraw, and he began his retreat toward Williamsport, with four thousand of our prisoners, and all his immense trains. On the morning of the fifth, this event became known, and General Meade despatched the Sixth corps in pursuit, together with some squadrons of cavalry. "The fifth and sixth of July were employed," says Meade's report, "in succoring the wounded and burying the dead." The enemy made good use of all this precious time in pushing on toward Williamsport as rapidly as possible; and it was fortunate for them that

detachments were not detailed for these solemn and affecting duties, and that our whole army was not launched in prompt and eager pursuit. They were burdened by heavy trains filled with plunder, without ammunition, and woefully demoralized. Had the half of our army, flushed with success, fallen on them in flank or rear, or anywhere, or any how, General Lee might have got across the Potomac, but his army never. "The trains, with the wounded and prisoners," says Lee's report, "were compelled to await at Williamsport (about the eighth of July) the subsiding of the river and the construction of boats. . . The enemy had not yet made his appearance." The rebel army must have trembled with anxiety lest the dreaded Yankees should heave in sight before they could escape over the swollen Potomac, which Providence seemed to have destined as the place of their surrender. It was not till the twelfth of July, that our army, too long delayed, came up; but, unfortunately, the enemy had nearly finished their preparations for flight. "An attack," says Lee, "was awaited during that and the succeeding day. This did not take place, though the two armies were in close proximity." Why it did not take place, the country has never yet understood. General Meade, in his report, gives no explanation. The press of the day stated that General Meade again held councils of war at this supreme moment, and that several of his generals opposed falling on the crippled enemy. All we know is that Lee, having completed his preparations, slipped quietly over the river on the morning of the fourteenth. "The crossing was not completed until one P.M.," says Lee, "when the bridge was removed. The enemy offered no serious interruption, and the movement was attended with no loss of *material* except a few disabled wagons and two pieces of artillery, which the horses were unable to drag through the deep mud." It seems that General Meade and the recalcitrant members of the council of war finally made up their minds to attack. "But on advancing on the morning of the fourteenth," reports General Meade, "it was ascertained he (the enemy) had retired the night previous by the bridge at Falling Waters and the ford at Williamsport."

In striking confirmation of the sketch now given of this important battle, it may be interesting to quote a few brief extracts from the diary of a British officer, who was a guest of General Lee during the campaign in Pennsylvania, and which was published in *Blackwood's Magazine*, in September last. The writer was an eye-witness of the battle of Gettysburg, and the hearty praise he lavishes upon the confederate troops and their generals, shows that all his sympathies were with the South, and he takes no pains to conceal his prejudices against the North. Speaking of the moment when the columns of Longstreet had been finally repulsed by our left, on Friday afternoon, July third, he says: "It is difficult to exaggerate the critical state of affairs, as they appeared about this time. If the enemy or his general had shown any enterprise, there is

no saying what might have happened. General Longstreet talked to me," he narrates, "for a long time about the battle. The General said, the mistake Lee had made was in not concentrating the army more and making the attack with thirty thousand men instead of fifteen thousand. It is impossible to avoid seeing," adds the English officer, "that the cause of this check to the confederates lies in their utter contempt for the enemy." He continues: "Wagons, horses, mules, and cattle, captured in Pennsylvania—the solid advantages of this campaign—have been passing slowly along this road (Fairfield) all day, (July fourth.) So interminable was this train, that it soon became evident that we should not be able to start. As soon as it became dark, we all lay around a big fire, and I heard reports coming in from the different generals that the enemy was retiring, and had been doing so all day long. But this, of course, could make no difference to General Lee's plans. Ammunition he must have, as he had failed to capture it from the enemy, according to precedent. Our progress," he continues, "was naturally very slow, indeed, and we took eight hours to go as many miles."

I will close these extracts with the following graphic sketch of a "stampede" which occurred on Monday, July sixth, about seven P.M., and demonstrates most unequivocally the utter demoralization of the confederate army:

"About seven P.M.," the writer states, "we rode through Hagerstown, in the streets of which were several dead horses and a few dead men. After proceeding about a mile beyond the town, we halted, and General Longstreet sent four cavalrymen up a lane, with directions to report every thing they saw. We then dismounted and lay down. About ten minutes later (being nearly dark) we heard a sudden rush—a panic—and then a regular stampede commenced, in the midst of which I descried our four cavalry heroes crossing a field as fast as they could gallop. All was now complete confusion—officers mounting their horses and pursuing those which had got loose, and soldiers climbing over fences for protection against the supposed advancing Yankees. In the midst of the din I heard an artillery officer shouting to his cannoneers to stand by him and plant the guns in a proper position for enfilading the lane. I also distinguished Longstreet walking about, hustled by the excited crowd, and remarking, in angry tones, which could scarcely be heard, and to which no attention was paid, 'Now, you don't know what it is—you don't know what it is!' While the row and confusion were at their height, the object of all this alarm, at length, emerged from the dark lane in the shape of a domestic four-wheeled carriage, with a harmless load of females. The stampede had, however, spread, increased in the rear, and caused much harm and delay."

It is to be hoped that the above narrative will be regarded as dispassionate, as it is meant to be impartial. Some slight errors may have crept in; but this may possibly stimulate others to come forward with a rectification. Had General

Meade been more copious in his report, and less reserved as to his own important acts, the necessity for this communication would not have existed.

HISTORICUS.

A REJOINDER.

The article of "Historicus," on the battle of Gettysburgh, closes by saying: "Some slight errors may have crept in, but this may possibly stimulate others to come forward with a rectification." It is hoped, therefore, that the following short "rectification" may find a place in your columns.

The first statement of "Historicus" to which I give my attention is the indirect assertion that the arrival of the Third division of the Third corps, about four o'clock in the afternoon, on the field, put an end to the conflict on the first of July, and relieved the First and Eleventh corps from imminent peril. The facts are, that there was no fighting, save light skirmishing, after three o'clock in the afternoon, and that General Sickles's command did not make its appearance till nearly six o'clock. One division of the Twelfth corps, under General Geary, which "Historicus" says was four miles in the rear of the battle-field, had already been placed by General Hancock in or near the position taken up by the Third corps on its arrival. I may remark here that "Historicus" studiously avoids mentioning General Hancock's name in his account of the operations of July first—a very strange mistake for an "eye-witness." When General Sickles arrived at Gettysburgh, General Howard was not the commanding officer, and had not been for some time. He was first superseded by General Hancock, by virtue of the written order of General Meade, and afterward by the arrival of General Slocum, his superior in rank. The account is very much like the play of Hamlet with the part of the Prince of Denmark omitted.

The next statement which I notice is, that a conference of "leading generals" took place, when some insisted on falling back on Taneytown, etc. It would be interesting to know, who the "leading generals" referred to, were. It is said, indeed, that General Howard, who enjoys in the estimation of the public—I will not say how justly—the honors of the day, had decided to retreat from Gettysburgh. But it is certainly true, that the leading general, Major-General Hancock, entertained no such proposition, after he assumed command, and long before the arrival of General Sickles, had selected the lines of battle, on which the troops were established as they came up. The left of that line was Roundtop Hill, and its general direction was that of the ridge connecting Roundtop, Cemetery, and Culp's Hills, and was held by the Second and Third corps.

"Historicus" now endeavors to create the impression that the ridge or elevated ground connecting the left of the Second corps was far to his front.

I assert that General Sickles moved from the ridge described by "Historicus," and precipitated

the battle on most unfortunate ground. It hardly seems possible that one who has ever seen the ground can gainsay this.

When General Sickles moved forward his corps, on the afternoon of the second of July, from its appropriate place in the general line, he excited the astonishment of the thousands of lookers on. It was a magnificent sight, but excited the gravest apprehension, and the writer well recollects the remarks made at the time by some prominent officers. The right of his line was entirely disconnected from the Second corps, leaving an interval of from one half to one quarter of a mile. General Gibbon, commanding the Second corps, at this moment threw forward into this interval two regiments of infantry and a battery, which were nearly destroyed when the shock fell on Sickles's corps. A like interval was left between the right of the Fifth corps and the left of the Third. In this position, with no connection on his right or left, General Sickles became engaged. Had the Second and Fifth corps been moved up to conform to this line, the battle would have been delivered in front of the strong features of the ground, and could hardly have helped being disastrous.

Through the intervals above described the enemy penetrated with determination, pressing on until they were checked nearly on the original line—on the one flank by the Fifth corps and on the other by the Second. In the attempt to extricate General Sickles from his unfortunate position, these two corps lost nearly three thousand men.

"Historicus" asserts that General Sickles called on the heroic troops of the Second corps for support, etc. The truth is this: One division of the Second corps, under Brigadier-General Caldwell, was sent to report to Major-General Sykes, of the Fifth corps, and was posted by one of his staff-officers. This division became heavily engaged with the force of the enemy that had turned Sickles's flank, and was overpowered. The blow then fell on General Ayres's division, of the Fifth corps, which lost over fifty per cent of its numbers, holding its position most obstinately.

General Zook, so highly complimented by "Historicus," commanded a brigade of Caldwell's division.

When night fell, our lines were where they were first established, and where the next day's attack was received; but the gallant dead of the Third corps were so far to the front that large numbers of them remained within the enemy's lines until after Lee retreated.

I have no disposition to pursue further the examination of "Historicus's" article. I have endeavored to show that, instead of saving the army, General Sickles nearly ruined it by a sad error—an unaccountable one. He must have known that to hold the lines he assumed the grave responsibility of moving on to, necessitated an entire change of the position of the troops on his right and left, and this at the moment when the enemy had already massed his columns for the attack. Pray where would the most zeal-

ous defender of General Sickles have placed the Second corps in such a contingency? Not on the ground that it held on the third against Longstreet. That was no place for it, nor is there a just defence for the movements of General Sickles.

ANOTHER EYE-WITNESS.

Doc. 62.

GENERAL DANA'S PROCLAMATION.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, TEXAS, }
PASS CAVALLO, Jan. 30, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14.

It is known to the world that, on the eighth day of December, ultimo, the President of the United States published a proclamation which touched the heart and inspired the tongue of every lover of liberty on the civilized earth. Its burden is pardon and liberty.—“Thy sins be forgiven thee.” “Let the oppressed go free.”

Such parental care of a people has not been exhibited to the world since the patriarchal days of old—not since the Saviour of men cried to the multitude: “Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

In order that the deluded and oppressed people of this State may be enlightened and informed on the subject, and may rejoice at the dawning of day from behind the black night which has surrounded them in darkness which might be felt and enabled the evil spirits to work upon them, it is directed that a sufficient number of copies of the President's Proclamation be printed, at these headquarters, to supply whatever demand there may be for the same, coming from each and every company in the command; and all officers and men are desired to use every opportunity which properly presents itself, to distribute them in the interior of the State.

It is further ordered that all persons, now or hereafter within the lines, who have ever claimed to be citizens of the United States, or of the so-called confederate States, or who have aided or comforted the rebels in their hostility against the United States, and who have not, since the commencement of the rebellion, taken an oath renewing their allegiance to the United States, may have the opportunity of enjoying the full benefits of the said proclamation, by voluntarily taking the oath therein contained.

The provost-marshal is required to take a census of the population now within the lines, in order that such persons as may not wish to enjoy the benefits of the proclamation, may be known, and be assigned a convenient place of residence where they will not have opportunity to do injury to the cause for which we fight. He will proceed, in the most thorough manner possible, and will give public notice of his orders and regulations to consummate the end in view, and will report, on the tenth day of February, proximo, the list of those persons who refuse the benefits of the proclamation.

By order of Major-General N. J. T. DANA.

Doc. 63.

TREATMENT OF SOUTHERNERS.

GENERAL W. T. SHERMAN'S LETTER.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE, }
VICKSBURG, JANUARY 31. }

Major R. M. Sawyer, A. A. General, Army of the Tennessee, Huntsville:

DEAR SAWYER: In my former letter I have answered all your questions save one, and that relates to the treatment of inhabitants, known or suspected to be hostile, or “secesh.” This is in truth the most difficult business of our army, as it advances and occupies the Southern country. It is almost impossible to lay down rules, and I invariably leave this whole subject to the local commanders, but am willing to give them the benefit of my acquired knowledge and experience.

In Europe, whence we derive our principles of war, as developed by their histories, wars are between kings or rulers, through hired armies, and not between peoples. These remain, as it were, neutral, and sell their produce to whatever army is in possession.

Napoleon, when at war with Prussia, Austria, and Russia, bought forage and provisions of the inhabitants, and consequently had an interest to protect farms and factories which ministered to his wants. In like manner, the allied armies in France could buy of the French inhabitants whatever they needed, the produce of the soil or manufactures of the country. Therefore, the rule was and is, that wars are confined to the armies, and should not visit the homes of families or private interests.

But, in other examples, a different rule obtained the sanction of historical authority. I will only instance that, when, in the reign of William and Mary, the English army occupied Ireland, then in a state of revolt, the inhabitants were actually driven into foreign lands, and were actually dispossessed of their property, and a new population introduced. To this day, a large part of the north of Ireland is held by the descendants of the Scotch emigrants, sent there by William's order and an act of Parliament.

The war which prevails in our land is essentially a war of races. The Southern people entered into a clear compact of government, but still maintained a species of separate interests, history, and prejudices. These latter became stronger and stronger, till they have led to a war which has developed fruits of the bitterest kind.

We of the North are, beyond all question, right in our lawful cause, but we are not bound to ignore the fact, that the people of the South have prejudices which form part of their nature, and which they cannot throw off without an effort of reason or the slower process of natural change. Now, the question arises, Should we treat as absolute enemies all in the South who differ from us in opinion or prejudice, kill or banish them; or, should we give them time to think, and gradually change their conduct so as to conform to the new order of things, which is slowly and gradually creeping into their country?

When men take arms to resist our rightful authority, we are compelled to use force, because all reason and argument cease when arms are resorted to. When the provisions, forage, horses, mules, wagons, etc., are used by our enemy, it is clearly our duty and right to take them, because otherwise they might be used against us.

In like manner, all houses left vacant by an inimical people are clearly our right, or such as are needed as storehouses, hospitals, and quarters. But a question arises as to dwellings used by women, children, and non-combatants. So long as non-combatants remain in their houses and keep to their accustomed business, their opinions and prejudices can in no wise influence the war, and, therefore, should not be noticed. But if any one comes out into the public streets and creates disorder, he or she should be punished, restrained, or banished either to the rear or front, as the officer in command adjudges. If the people, or any of them, keep up a correspondence with parties in hostility they are spies, and can be punished with death or minor punishment.

These are well-established principles of war, and the people of the South, having appealed to war, are barred from appealing to our Constitution, which they have practically and publicly defied. They have appealed to war, and must abide its rules and laws. The United States, as a belligerent party claiming right in the soil as the ultimate sovereign, have a right to change the population, and it may be and is both politic and just, we should do so in certain districts. When the inhabitants persist too long in hostility, it may be both politic and right we should banish them and appropriate their lands to a more loyal and useful population. No man will deny that the United States would be benefited by dispossessing a single prejudiced, hard-headed, and disloyal planter, and substitute in his place a dozen or more patient, industrious, good families, even if they be of foreign birth. I think it does good to present this view of the case to many Southern gentlemen, who grew rich and wealthy, not by virtue alone of their industry and skill, but by reason of the protection and impetus to prosperity given by our hitherto moderate and magnanimous Government. It is all idle nonsense for these Southern planters to say that they made the South, that they own it, and that they can do as they please—even to break up our Government, and to shut up the natural avenues of trade, intercourse, and commerce.

We know, and they know, if they are intelligent beings, that, as compared with the whole world, they are but as five millions are to one thousand millions—that they did not create the land—that their only title to its use and usufruct is the deed of the United States, and if they appeal to war, they hold their all by a very insecure tenure.

For my part, I believe that this war is the result of false political doctrine, for which we are all as a people responsible, namely, that any and

every people have a right to self-government; and I would give all a chance to reflect, and when in error to recant. I know, slave-owners finding themselves in possession of a species of property in opposition to the growing sentiment of the whole civilized world, conceived their property in danger, and foolishly appealed to war; and by skilful political handling, involved with themselves the whole South on the doctrines of error and prejudice. I believe that some of the rich and slaveholding are prejudiced to an extent that nothing but death and ruin will extinguish, but hope that as the poorer and industrial classes of the South realize their relative weakness, and their dependence upon the fruits of the earth and good-will of their fellow-men, they will not only discover the error of their ways, and repent of their hasty action, but bless those who persistently maintained a constitutional government, strong enough to sustain itself, protect its citizens, and promise peaceful homes to millions yet unborn.

In this belief, whilst I assert for our Government the highest military prerogatives, I am willing to bear in patience that political nonsense of slave rights, State rights, freedom of conscience, freedom of press, and such other trash, as have deluded the Southern people into war, anarchy, bloodshed, and the foulest crimes that have disgraced any time or any people.

I would advise the commanding officers at Huntsville, and such other towns as are occupied by our troops, to assemble the inhabitants and explain to them these plain, self-evident propositions, and tell them that it is for them *now* to say, whether they and their children shall inherit the beautiful land which, by the accident of nature, has fallen to their share. The Government of the United States has in North-Alabama any and all rights which they choose to enforce in war, to take their lives, their homes, their lands, their every thing, because they cannot deny that war does exist there, and war is simply power unrestrained by constitution or compact. If they want eternal war, well and good—we will accept the issue and dispossess them, and put our friends in possession. I know thousands and millions of good people who, at simple notice, would come to North-Alabama and accept the elegant houses and plantations now there. If the people of Huntsville think differently, let them persist in war three years longer, and then they will not be consulted. Three years ago, by a little reflection and patience, they could have had a hundred years of peace and prosperity, but they preferred war; very well, last year they could have saved their slaves, but now it is too late—all the powers of earth cannot restore to them their slaves any more than their dead grandfathers. Next year their lands will be taken; for in war we can take them, and *rightfully*, too; and in another year they may beg in vain for their lives. A people who will persevere in war beyond a certain limit, ought to know the consequences. Many, many people, with less pertinacity than

the South, have been wiped out of national existence.

My own belief is, that even now the non-slaveholding classes of the South are alienating from their associates in war. Already I hear crimination. Those who have property left, should take warning in time.

Since I have come down here, I have seen many Southern planters who now hire their negroes, and acknowledge that they knew not the earthquake they were to make by appealing to secession. They thought that the politicians had prepared the way, and that they could part in peace. They now see that we are bound together as one nation, by indissoluble ties, and that any interest or any people that set themselves up in antagonism to the nation, must perish.

While I would not remit one jot or tittle of our nation's rights, in peace or war, I do make allowances for past political errors and false prejudices. Our national Congress and Supreme Courts are the proper arenas in which to discuss conflicting opinions, and not the battle-field.

You may not hear from me again; and if you think it will do any good, call some of the people together, and explain these my views. You may even read to them this letter, and let them use it, so as to prepare them for my coming.

To those who submit to the rightful law and authority, all gentleness and forbearance; but to the petulant and persistent secessionist, why, death is mercy, and the quicker he or she is disposed of, the better. Satan, and the rebellious saints of heaven, were allowed a continuance of existence in hell merely to swell their just punishment. To such as would rebel against a government so mild and just as ours was in peace, a punishment equal would not be unjust.

We are progressing well in this quarter. Though I have not changed my opinion that we may soon assume the existence of our national Government, yet years will pass before ruffianism, murder, and robbery will cease to afflict this region of our country.

Truly your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General Commanding.

Doc. 64.

OPERATIONS IN NEW-MEXICO.

CAMP FLORELLA, NEAR FORT CANBY, }
N. M., January 26, 1864. }

THE culminating point in this expedition has been reached at last by the very successful operations of our troops at Cañon de Chelly. Colonel Kit Carson left Fort Canby on the sixth instant, with a command of four hundred men, twenty of whom were mounted. He had a section of mountain artillery with him, and taking the road *via* Puebla, Colorado, he started for Cañon de Chelly. He gave orders to Captain Pheiffer, with his command of one hundred men, to enter the cañon at the east opening, while he himself intended to enter it at the "mouth," or west opening, and by this movement he expect-

ed that both columns would meet in the cañon on the second day, as it was supposed to be forty miles in length.

Captain Pheiffer's party proceeded two days through the cañon, fighting occasionally; but although the Indians frequently fired on them from the rocky walls above, the balls were spent long before they reached the bottom of the cañon, which, in many places, exceeded one thousand five hundred feet in depth. It was a singular spectacle to behold. A small detachment of troops, moving cautiously along the bottom of one of the greatest cañons on the globe, (the largest is in Asia, I believe,) and firing volleys upward at hundreds of Navajoes, who looked, on the dizzy heights above them, like so many pigmies. As they advanced, the cañon widened in places, and various spots of cultivated lands were passed, where wheat, maize, beans, melons, etc., had been planted last year; while, more than a thousand feet above their heads, they beheld neat-looking stone houses built on the receding ledges of rocks, which reminded the beholder of the swallows' nests in the house-caves, or on the rocky formation overhanging the "sea-beat caves." Further on, an orchard containing about six hundred peach-trees was passed, and it was evident that the Indians had paid great attention to their culture.

On the second day, a party from Colonel Carson's column met the Captain in the cañon, and returned with him to Colonel Carson's camp. A party from the Colonel's command had in the mean time attacked a party of Indians, twenty-two of whom were killed. This had a dispiriting effect on many others, who sent in three of their number under a white flag. Colonel Carson received them, and assured them that the Government did not desire to exterminate them, but that on the contrary the President wished to save and civilize them; and to that end General Carlton had given him instructions to send all the Navajoes who desired peace to the new reservation on the Rio Pecos, where they would be supplied with food for the present, and be furnished with implements, seeds, etc., to cultivate the soil. They departed well satisfied, and Colonel Carson immediately ordered Captain A. B. Carey, Thirteenth United States Infantry, with a battalion, to enter the cañon and make a thorough exploration of its various branches, and at the same time to be in readiness to chastise any body of hostile Navajoes he might encounter, and to receive all who were friendly and who wished to emigrate to the new reservation. Captain Carey, during a passage of twenty-four hours through a branch of the cañon hitherto unexplored, made an exact geographical map of this terrible chasm, and discovered many side cañons hitherto unknown. About one hundred Indians came in to him and declared that "the Navajoe nation was no more;" that they were tired of fighting and nearly starved, and that they wished to be permitted to advise their friends and families in the mountains; many of whom were willing to leave the land for ever and go to a

country where they would be cared for and protected. They said they understood agriculture, and were certain they would make comfortable homes on the Pecos. This was, of course, only the opinion of some; others would prefer to remain and culture the soil on which they were born, and live at peace with the territory. However, the latter were positively informed that unless they were willing to remove they had better not come in, and moreover, that the troops would destroy every blade of corn in the country next summer.

On the twentieth of January, Colonel Carson came to Fort Canby, and about six hundred Indians had collected there; but when the wagons arrived to remove them only one hundred wished to go, and the remainder desired to return to their villages and caves in the mountains, on pretence of bringing in some absent member of their families. Colonel Carson very nobly and generously permitted them to choose for themselves; but told them, if ever they came in again they should be sent to Borque Redondo, whether willing or not. Colonel Carson himself took the Indians to Santa Fé, and will remain absent about a month. Since his departure many Indians came in and agreed to go to the reservation.

I think the Colonel foresaw this, as no person understands Indian character better than he does. Captain A. B. Carey, Thirteenth infantry, commanding in his absence, will see that all Indians coming in will be removed, and I think, before April next, if the present good feeling exists, we shall have accomplished the removal of the entire tribe. Captain A. B. Carey, after successfully marching through the cañon and noting its topography, reached Fort Canby on the eighteenth instant, and relieved Captain Francis McCabe, First New-Mexico cavalry, who commanded in the absence of Colonel Kit Carson.

A military execution took place at Fort Canby on the eighteenth instant. Private John Caulfield was shot to death by a detachment of his regiment, in presence of all the troops at the post, who were paraded under arms on the occasion.

Caulfield had been tried and sentenced for shooting a Mexican soldier of his own regiment, and the Department Commander ordered his execution in three days from the date of reception of the general order at Fort Canby. He died without a struggle, his heart having been pierced with six bullets.

As the Navajo expedition is now entirely successful, it is but justice to the officers and men of the First cavalry of New-Mexico, and to Colonel Christopher Carson and his staff, to say that they have all acted with zeal and devotion for the accomplishment of that great desideratum—the removal of the Navajos. Cut off from the enjoyments of civilized life, deprived of its luxuries, comforts, and even many of its necessities, and restricted to the exploration of a wilderness and the castigation of an army of savages, who defied them and endeavored to find

a shelter among the cliffs, groves, and cañons of their country; in pursuing them to their haunts they have encountered appalling difficulties, namely, want of water, grass, and fuel; often exposed to the merciless fury of the elements and to the bullets and arrows of a hidden foe. In the face of these difficulties they have discovered new rivers, springs, and mountains in a region hitherto unexplored, and penetrated by companies into the very strongholds of the enemy, who fled farther west as our columns advanced, and on various occasions the dismounted cavalry have, by rapid and unparalleled night marches, surprised that enemy, capturing his camp and securing his flocks and herds, at a time when he imagined himself far beyond our reach, and really when he occupied a country never before trodden by the foot of a white man.

Much of the credit is due to the perseverance and courage of Colonel Kit Carson, commanding the expedition, whose example excited all to great energy and inspired great resolution; but it may not be out of place to remark that it is now demonstrated beyond a doubt that, while the troops of New-Mexico have long borne the reputation of being the best cavalry, they have proved themselves on the present campaign to be the best infantry in the world.

General James H. Carlton, who knows, perhaps, and understands the material for an army as well as any general in our army, has directed the formation of a New-Mexican brigade; and when the savage foe is removed, that brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Kit Carson, would surely reflect credit on the Territory and on the Department Commander, who, in every sense, deserves the stars of a Major-General.

J. M. C.

Doc. 65.

DESTRUCTION OF THE STEAMER DARE.

ADMIRAL LEE'S REPORT.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
OFF WILMINGTON, N. C., January 8.

SIR: The new and swift steamer Dare attempted yesterday morning to get into Wilmington by this entrance; was chased off by the Montgomery and Aries; ran herself ashore, above Georgetown, bilged, filled, and became a complete wreck. This was her first trip. Inclosed is her charter to run cotton.

The annexed list shows that the Dare is the twentieth steamer destroyed or captured by the Wilmington blockaders since the middle of July last, making an average loss of one steamer for every nine days to the blockade-runners, under whose discouraging losses illegal trade with Wilmington is rapidly diminishing.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,
yours,

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding N. A. S. &
Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

WILMINGTON, N. C., January 9, 1864.

It is my purpose to narrate in this letter the facts concerning the chase and destruction of the blockade-runner steamer *Dare* by the United States steamers *Montgomery* and *Aries*, resulting in the capture of the executive officer, one engineer, and seventeen men from the *Montgomery*, and one ensign, the captain's clerk, and seven men from the *Aries*, by rebel cavalry on the coast.

It seems that at early dawn on the morning of the eighth, the *Montgomery* discovered a steamer apparently attempting to get away from the blockading fleet, after an unsuccessful attempt to get into Wilmington during the night. Chase was immediately given, when the steamer hoisted the rebel flag, and soon after the *Aries* hove in sight and joined in the chase. Notwithstanding the well-known speed of the two vessels, it was evident that the rebel was getting the best of it. Several shots were fired at her, and it was afterward proved that one took effect in one of her paddle-boxes. Later in the chase a strong and favorable breeze for the Union steamers came up, and with full sail and steam it was certain that the blockade-runner could not get away. She was determined not to be captured, however; and, after all hope of escape was gone, she headed in for the land and was run ashore thirteen miles north-east of Georgetown Light, S. C. The *Montgomery* and *Aries* immediately lowered their boats, and with armed crews boarded her, not, however, until all hands on board had gained the land.

The surf at the time was running very high, and the sea was striking the grounded vessel heavily, thus making the matter of boarding extremely dangerous and difficult. Had it not been for this, the steamer could have been taken off and made useful to our Government. After setting her on fire, the officers and crew made to the boats. A very trying time for the boats' crew now ensued. The surf was so high that it was almost impossible to push from the burning vessel. Six boats had escaped the danger when it was discovered that a boat from the *Aries* had been swamped, and all hands were floundering in the water. George H. Pendleton, Acting Master and Executive Officer of the *Montgomery*, in charge of a launch, at once returned to the rescue of the unfortunate men, and succeeded in taking five from the surf. Having accomplished this noble and daring act, he was again nearing his steamer, when others were seen in the waves. Turning once more to the good work, his boat soon became unmanageable, and was thrown on the beach.

It was impossible to render them any help. We could only feel thankful when we saw that they were safe on land.

Night coming on, the *Montgomery* and *Aries* lay by at anchor until morning, with the hope of recovering the unfortunate officer and men. It was then, however, discovered that they had unfortunately been captured during the night by

rebel cavalry, as several hundred were seen on the coast in the morning.

At daybreak the United States schooner *George Manghan*, blockading an inlet near by, came up to the scene of action, and, owing to her light draught of water, was enabled to go close in shore and shell the rebel cavalry and coast-guard.

The destroyed vessel proved to be the English steamer *Dare*, a splendid side-wheel vessel of seven hundred tons, and was from Nassau, bound for Wilmington.

Her cargo apparently was not large, and from the facts gathered it is highly probable that some important and distinguished rebel persons were on board, and the only object of the vessel was to get them safe into rebeldom.

The *Dare* was chased a distance of sixty miles. It is possible that some of the unfortunate boat's crew may have been lost, but it is to be hoped that all are alive. The bravery and nobleness of conduct on the part of Acting Master George H. Pendleton is commendable in the very highest degree. Third Assistant Engineer George M. Smith, of the *Montgomery*, and Mr. — Parkman, Captain's Clerk, of the *Aries*, and one ensign of the same vessel, whose name I have not learned, are among the captured.

I have also to state the circumstances attending the destruction of the blockade-runner *Bendigo* but a few days since. It seems that this vessel got ashore some miles down the coast from the blockading fleet, and was discovered by the flag-ship *Fa-Kee*, with Admiral Lee on board, and immediately opened fire upon her, and was soon after joined by the *Montgomery*. Both vessels now fired at the *Bendigo*, and by evening several shots had taken effect. Early the next morning the *Bendigo* was boarded by a boat expedition from the *Montgomery*, *Iron Age*, and *Daylight*, in charge of Acting Master George H. Pendleton, and was destroyed. Four valuable blockade-runners—the steamers *Ceres*, *Antonica*, *Bendigo*, and *Dare*—have in this way been destroyed off Western Bar, Wilmington, since the sixth day of December. The question may naturally be asked, how it is that so many blockade-runners are now so suddenly and rapidly being destroyed while running into port.

In my mind the question is easily answered. It is well known that the lightship which has been stationed off Fryingpan Shoal, which is the dangerous approach to Wilmington, was blown off in a gale of wind; and while these four steamers have been destroyed, no lightship has been at this place.

That the blockade-runners have made this light a most important point from which to take bearings, etc., and have been governed by it altogether while running in or out, is most evident. Without it, they are obliged to take the land as a guide, and in so doing at night get in shoal water and aground, and are then discovered by our gunboats and destroyed.

The *Montgomery* has just arrived here from destroying the *Dare*. The *Aries* remained be-

hind, and it is hoped that when she returns something will be known of the captured officers and men.

I will only add that the Montgomery participated in the destruction of three of the steamers mentioned in this letter.

Doc. 66.

CAPTURE OF THE ANNIE THOMPSON.

ST. CATHERINE'S SOUND, GA., Feb. 6, 1864.

On Saturday, January fifteenth, we were startled by the cry of "Sail ho!" and what could be more welcome to a blockader that is short of provisions; but, to our astonishment, it came from the direction of the Medway River; and when this was known, the excitement was beyond description. There, not over nine miles, in what is known as Milliken's Creek, lay the identical craft we had been watching for about six weeks, and we were to lose her after all. No! says our Executive, we will try and see what can be done. Volunteers were in abundance, all hands wishing to say they had done something for their country's cause; the boat was ready for the start, and the order was countermanded, as the vessel went out of sight behind Milliken's Point. "Now, boys, our prize has slipped." "No, she has not," says Executive, "for you will see her again." "Yes, and that will be all the benefit we'll derive from her," says one of the boys. "There she is again, in full sight; call away the first cutter!" and off started our Irish smack, with twelve men and an officer for the expected prize.

After a hard pull of about an hour, we came up to within a mile of the stranger; at this point, we set our colors, which were greeted with as loud a cheer as ever resounded over the waters of St. Catherine's. When within musket-shot, the two bow-oarsmen take in their oars, and pick up their muskets, ready for the first suspicious movement on board of the would-be blockade-runner. We ran alongside, and jumped on board, with pistol in hand. Four men being on board, our officer inquires: "What vessel is this?" "The sloop Annie Thompson." "Where from?" "Sunbury." "Where are you bound?" "Nassau." "Where is she owned?" "Savannah."

"You are a prize to the United States bark Fernandina. Boys, set our colors."

There, not over one thousand yards, was the village of Sunbury, guarded by a rebel picket of ten men, who witnessed the capture of one of their craft at their very door-sills.

Of the four men found on board, two claimed to be passengers and two claimed to be crew; and they state that they were trying to run the blockade on the previous night, but had grounded and were unable to get her off. The captain, fearing a capture, left at daylight, taking with him all of the nautical instruments belonging to the vessel. The pilot has run the gauntlet several times; but he, like the captain, thought he

would skedaddle. The crew represent the cargo to consist of thirty-eight bales of upland cotton, forty-five boxes tobacco, and twenty-five barrels spirits of turpentine. The vessel is about forty tons, and is built of Georgia pine, and, with cargo, will probably realize something like thirty thousand dollars. This vessel is rather a queer specimen of shipbuilding, and by looking at this novelty one can easily see what men will undertake (meaning the passengers) to escape the tyrannical rule of the Southern Confederacy.

Doc. 67.

EXPEDITION INTO ALABAMA.

OPERATIONS OF THE FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Feb. 12, 1864.

On the twenty-fifth of last month, the pontoons which had been in Mud Creek were ferried down the Tennessee, to Larkins Ferry, by the Eighth Missouri. The construction of a pontoon-bridge was at once commenced under the superintendence of Captain Jenny, Engineer of General Sherman's staff. By nine o'clock of the twenty-sixth the bridge was completed, the work having been done during the night by the pioneer corps of the First and Second divisions. General Logan had intended to take the personal command of the expedition, but on the eve of its departure was taken suddenly ill, and the command devolved upon Brigadier-General Morgan L. Smith.

Twelve miles south of the Tennessee, at this point, is a ridge of mountains running nearly parallel to the river, and known as Sand Mountain. Between it and the Tennessee is a low quicksand bottom, that in rainy weather becomes very muddy. This valley was heretofore pretty thickly settled, and at the time I speak of had a considerable population. Since the commencement of the rebel conscription, a number of rebel officers with small squads of troops have been in the valley for the purpose of conscripting the inhabitants liable to military duty. Considerable numbers have been hurried away from their homes to the army, and others have been compelled to hide in the mountains to avoid a compulsory service in a cause they disliked.

Since the occupation of the line between Stevenson and Huntsville, these squads have been doing picket-duty in our front.

General Smith, as soon as the bridge was constructed, crossed with six regiments of his division, and made dispositions to capture these officers and their squads. Two regiments, under the command of Colonel A. D. Parry, of the Forty-seventh Ohio, were despatched to the junction of Santa Rosa and Town Creeks. A second force of two regiments, under Colonel Theodore Jones, of the Thirtieth Ohio, were sent to Gourd Neck; while two regiments, under Major Froman, of the One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois, made a forced march of twelve miles to Smith's Gap, in Sand Mountain. General Smith accompanied the force under Major Froman. The dif-

ferent movements were made in excellent order and time, and the result was the capture of a number of commissioned officers and men.

While this movement was taking place, the remainder of the troops composing the expeditionary corps moved across the river. The force consisted of a brigade and two regiments of infantry from each of the five divisions of the corps: battery A, Captain Wood; battery H, Lieutenant De Grass; First Illinois artillery; the Fifteenth Michigan mounted infantry; a detachment of the Fifth Ohio cavalry, and a detachment of the First Alabama cavalry under Captain Allen; the whole cavalry being under the command of Colonel Oliver.

On Monday the column moved at daylight, with ten days' rations. During the night a severe rain-storm set in, and the men, without tents or cover of any kind, were drenched. After a hasty breakfast, such as soldiers generally make in a storm, of hard bread, uncooked bacon, and poorly cooked coffee, the bugle sounded and they fell in with a shout and filed out from their bivouac as complaisantly as if the sun shone and the roads were paved. The storm continued all day, the water falling in such quantities as to make the bottom a vast mud-hole. Upon reaching Sand Mountain, the mud was so deep as to render the movement of the artillery and transportation almost impossible. There being no indications of a cessation of the storm, General Smith was obliged to send back all of his artillery, transportation, and ambulances. The troops received six days' rations, which were disposed of in their haversacks and knapsacks, as best they could. On Thursday morning the command moved toward Lebanon, the county-seat of De Kalb County, the cavalry moving toward Guntersville in Marshall County, on a line west of Lebanon. The advance was skirmishing nearly all day, the enemy appearing in squads of mounted men, but on no occasion making a stand for battle. Lebanon and Guntersville were both reached on Thursday, a number of rebel officers and men having been captured on the march.

At Town Creek a lieutenant and two courier stations and five thousand seven hundred dollars in confederate money were captured. This money, it was ascertained, had been sent there for the relief of the families of soldiers.

Immediately after the return of the cavalry from Guntersville to Lebanon, General Smith sent the Fifteenth Michigan, mounted infantry, to Rawlinsville, a place fourteen miles to his left, to connect with a force under General Stanley; sent out by General Thomas. Colonel Oliver reached the place without difficulty, but could learn nothing of Stanley's command, and returned. That night it was ascertained from different sources of information—deserters, prisoners, and refugees—that the enemy was preparing to attack him with a superior force. Two regiments of mounted infantry with two field-batteries, which were already moving from Kingston, a large cavalry force under Wheeler and Roddy, estimated at four thousand five hundred, together

with the force which had fallen back before his advance, were to concentrate the next day at Town Creek, at an admirable place for offensive operations, and which he was obliged to pass on his return. Smith had nothing but infantry and cavalry; no artillery and no wagons in which to bring off his wounded in case of an engagement. He was then forty-two miles from the Tennessee, and from any reinforcements, and the enemy were in double his numbers. The object of the expedition was not to bring on or risk a general engagement. Its legitimate purpose, under the orders of General Logan, had been fully accomplished. But just at that point the General found himself confronted by a superior force threatening an attack at Lebanon, but really moving to cut off his return—as a captured officer boasted, "sure to bag the whole Yankee concern." It has been your correspondent's fortune to accompany the army in one capacity and another upon all the campaigns in which General Smith had a command, up to the time that he was wounded before Vicksburgh. He has had no severer test of his abilities as a general officer, than this expedition.

The command left Lebanon on Wednesday, and reached and crossed Town Creek with no opposition. Here they halted for several hours. But the enemy refused to attack—positions were precisely the reverse of their well-laid plans. They expected to occupy the position so that Smith could not escape. Smith occupied it, and they dare not cross. On Thursday the expedition returned to Larkin's Ferry.

In the mean time, General Logan had been informed of the intentions of the rebel commanders, and had sent up a cavalry force, to move out from Larkin's Ferry to Smith's support, coming up himself to that point.

The facts established by the expedition are of great importance. Almost the entire population of that section of Alabama through which it passed, and for miles about it, is honestly, intensely loyal. Officers who were in East-Tennessee, state that the loyalty of that part of Alabama is as genuine and reliable as any they obtained knowledge of in East-Tennessee. There is no whining about slavery and abolitionists, such as one hears in Nashville; no ifs or buts; they are for the old Union. Men who had lived in the mountains two years to avoid rebel service, came in and asked to be mustered as soldiers in the Federal army. One Alabamian, McCurdy, during the expedition, made up a company, enrolled their names on a piece of brown paper with a pencil, borrowed arms, and actually went out with his men and captured a company of bushwhackers, called home-guards, and brought them into our camp.

Information was obtained of a regiment, stationed in that part of the country, which has determined to a man to march into our lines at the first good opportunity. Deserters come in daily, both at Huntsville and Larkinsville. The result of all their reports is that, although the rebel army is being largely reënforced by conscription,

desertions are quite equal to the increase. Soon after the battle of Mission Ridge, an order was issued offering to every enlisted man who produced a recruit a furlough of forty days. That order has been revoked, for the reason that the furloughed men seldom returned, and the recruits frequently deserted. Among the recent desertions is that of O. Montcalm, formerly of Louisville, a Chief-Commissary of Subsistence in the confederate army. He came into General Logan's headquarters at Huntsville, and took the amnesty oath.

Doc. 68.

TENNESSEE RE-ORGANIZATION.

NASHVILLE, January 22, 1864.

THE reorganization meeting at the Capitol last night was largely attended. Hon. M. M. Brien presided, assisted by Colonel Pickens, of East-Tennessee, and Joseph Ramsey, Esq., of Bedford, as Vice Presidents. The meeting was addressed by James S. Fowler, Esq., Colonel Edwards, of East-Tennessee, Captain E. C. Hatton, and Governor Johnson. A lengthy preamble and the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That we recognize the authority and duty of the Executive of the United States, or such agents and instruments as he may constitutionally appoint, and employ, in coöperation with the legislative and judicial departments of the Government, to secure to the loyal people of any State of the United States the constitutional guarantee of a republican form of government.

Resolved, 2. The people being the rightful source of all power of government, the welfare of the people of Tennessee will be best secured by committing the restoration and permanent establishment of civil government to a constitutional convention, to be chosen by the loyal citizens of the State; and having implicit confidence in the integrity of Hon. Andrew Johnson, Military Governor of the State, we submit that he may call such a convention of the State at any time, when in his judgment the State can be represented from all her parts.

Resolved, 3. As slavery was the cause of all our trouble, and as it is an unmitigated evil in itself, and since it may be considered dead by the acts of its friends, that it may never be resurrected, to enable a small minority to bring the ruin upon our children that it has given us, we here pledge ourselves to use all our influence to elect such men, and only such men, as delegates to said convention as shall be in favor of immediate and universal emancipation, now and for ever. And we invite our fellow-citizens everywhere to unite with us on this platform, and we use this opportune moment to free ourselves and our posterity from the bondage in which we have been so long enslaved, by the influence of a dominant aristocracy.

Resolved, 4. That on the call of said convention, it shall consist of delegates duly elected from the respective Senatorial and Representa-

tive districts under the last constitutional apportionment.

Doc. 69.

ATTACK ON NEWBERN, N. C.

GENERAL PALMER'S DESPATCH.

NEWBERN, N. C., February 1, 8 o'clock P.M.

EARLY this morning our outposts at Bachelor's Creek were attacked by the enemy, represented to be in force about fifteen thousand strong, consisting of Hope's brigade and Pickett's entire division. It being impracticable to make adequate defence, our force fell back in good order, after destroying their camps and abandoning but few stores, with a loss of fifty to one hundred men and one section of light artillery. Our forces are now so arranged that we are confident of a successful resistance. Almost simultaneously with this attack, the enemy advanced on the south side of the Trent River, with what force it is difficult to estimate, but they were handsomely repulsed. Communication continues with Morehead City, but the enemy are near the railroad, with the evident intention of cutting it. The commander at Beaufort is aware of the situation, and will use every effort to prevent the destruction of the road. J. W. PALMER, Brigadier-General.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

NEWBERN, N. C., Wednesday, February 3, 1864.

MY note of yesterday contained a promise of something in addition to the simple statement of the fact that we had been attacked by the enemy in force, and I will now give a brief account of what has been, for the last few days, so absorbing to us. There had been, for some time past, intimations of a design on the part of the rebels to attack us; but we had felt such a sense of security, that the civilians, at least, gave them little heed. The heavy firing, however, on Monday morning, in the direction of Bachelor's Creek, taught us that the enemy did not take precisely the same views of our safety. This post is about eight miles west of us on the railroad, near a small creek emptying into the Neuse River. In this vicinity two block-houses had been built, one on the Neuse road, running nearly parallel with the river, and the other on the Mill road, running diagonally to the parallels; some slight defences besides had been thrown up for the protection of the garrison. The One Hundred and Thirty-second New-York volunteers, Colonel Claassen commanding, were occupying this post at the time of attack. The first point to be gained by the enemy was the bridge on the Neuse road, over what is called Bachelor's Creek. The fire upon our cavalry pickets was opened about three o'clock, driving them in, and soon a vigorous attempt was made to get possession of the bridge, which companies D, and E, and G, of the One Hundred and Thirty-second, had been detailed to hold. The enemy charged three successive times, and as often were handsomely

repulsed by the brave boys left in its defence. The rebels, finding this point so hotly contested, had already commenced a flank movement up the stream, which company A was appointed to intercept, while companies I and K were to keep communication open between the block-houses. This flank movement could not be prevented. It was already too far advanced, and besides the enemy were too numerous, the force consisting of three brigades. Thus, after about four hours of hard fighting, the little garrison was forced to retire from its defences. The firing was distinctly heard in the city, and at daylight a part of five companies of the Seventeenth Massachusetts, under Lieutenant-Colonel Fellows, and two pieces of artillery, Captain Angels' battery K, Third New-York, were sent out as a reinforcement. They arrived at about eight o'clock. Coming up to the One Hundred and Thirty-second, in an open space, the whole force was immediately formed in line of battle. The enemy also drew up in line at the same time, resting his wings on either side so as to flank our forces, thus compelling another retreat, which was made in good order, firing as they retired through the woods. It was evidently useless to undertake longer to check the advance of so large a force, and about ten o'clock they commenced to return to the fortifications about the city, leaving behind many brave comrades, with most of the camp equipage, extra clothing, etc. Most of the Quartermaster's stores were destroyed.

I have not been able to procure a complete list of casualties.

Adjutant Henry C. Cheever was mortally wounded. The last that was seen of Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Fellows and Dr. J. F. Galloupe, they were assisting the Adjutant into an ambulance. The party, ambulance and all, was taken by the rebels. First Lieutenant J. W. Day, company E; Captain J. K. Floyd and First Lieutenant J. R. Hill, company H; First Lieutenant L. B. Cabins, company I; First Lieutenant B. N. Manas, company K, are also missing, with about fifty privates. The most of the fighting was done by the One Hundred and Thirty-second, losing in all about eighty. Lieutenant and Acting Quartermaster of company A, Arnold Zenetti, killed.

Company A.—Sergeant Richter, Corporal John Dennman, Corporal Christian Wullen, Lewis Strab, Edward Thaller.

Company B.—Corporal James Folley, Sergeant James Dekeb, B. Schmidt, Thomas Clinton, Luther Cook, Arthur Corcoran, William Edwards, William Elmer, John Hargan, Michael Kane, James Smith.

Company C.—First Lieutenant Joseph Gras-ing.

Company G.—Second Lieutenant W. A. C. Whyan.

There are among the missing other names I was not able to secure.

From the strength with which the enemy attacked Bachelor's Creek, it was evident they

were taking steps looking toward the capture of the place. Deserters stated their force to be fifteen thousand to twenty thousand. Should this be their purpose, they have no small task before them. Our gunboats can be used in both rivers, and we are very strongly fortified on all sides, perhaps with one exception. Of all our defences, Fort Totten is the most formidable.

It is a heavy earthwork, situated about half a mile from Evans, midway between the Neuse and Trent Rivers. It fronts the west, where stretches out before you an extensive plain, in former days a vast cotton plantation. To the right, on the bank of the Neuse, is Fort Stephenson, while to the left, on the opposite bank of the Trent, stands Fort Gaston. A strong breast-work runs in either direction to the rivers, thus linking all their forts together. Fort Totten is in a central commanding position. While it renders all approach from the west impossible, it commands the city and both rivers. From the tavern, every point about Newbern is visible. Brigadier-General Palmer, who commands in the absence of General Peck, his staff, a few other officers, and, by special favor, the writer, (your correspondent,) were inside the fort, carefully watching the movements of the enemy. They could be seen with a glass, and sometimes with the naked eye, passing back and forth in the edge of the woods skirting the plain on the west. The Twelfth New-York cavalry, under Colonel Savage, were out as scouts. The most gratifying feature of their service was to bring in the companies of the Eighty-ninth New-York volunteers, whom, in the fore part of the day, we feared had fallen into the hands of the enemy, from an outpost called Red House Tower, three miles distant. As the rebels ventured out of the thickets here and there, it was exceedingly gratifying to see Major S. C. Oliver, commanding the post, send his shells bursting into their midst, soon scattering them into the woods for safety. Prisoners state that a Colonel Shay was killed by one of these shells. Every thing had gone well thus far. All the outposts had succeeded in getting in, except one at Buckner Grove, to the north-west about ten miles. It was held by one company. Every preparation was made to receive an expected attack in the morning.

The freedmen shouldered the guns and relieved the guards in the city. Some of the negroes came forward and offered their services; others had a polite invitation to do so by soldiers detached for the purpose. As soon as the service required was understood, more offered themselves than could be armed. Thus we received about a thousand accession of strength, to be used in case of an emergency.

I cannot close this day's record without noting one incident. A negro family were making their way to the fortification. The father had the children, while the wife came up as a rear-guard. A rebel fired at the woman three times, without hitting his mark, and then came out in person to seize and bear her back to bondage. Thus stepping between the mother and her children,

he did not understand the task he had proposed to himself. With an unfaltering courage she met him, wrested his gun from him, knocked him down, and came into the city with the musket as a trophy, and a dislocated forefinger as an evidence of the contest.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

WASHINGTON, N. C., Feb. 10, 1864.

In one of my letters written last summer, I made the remark that this department "was in a shaky condition." Strictly speaking, I cannot say that it is otherwise to-day, and it is somewhat surprising that the few troops in possession of the "old North State" department have not been long ago "gobbled up," and confined in the prisons of Dixie. Here we are to-day, with a strong force of the enemy operating in front of Newbern for the last ten days, and no reinforcements up to yesterday. Already you are aware of the attack made upon Newbern early last week, and the subsequent details of the affair must, ere this, have been read by the people of the North; but allow me to say that, if it had not been for the great valor displayed by a handful of Union troops, the affair would have been a very unpleasant thing. Well and nobly fought the One Hundred and Thirty-second New-York infantry, assisted by their cavalry comrades from the same State, keeping in check for several long hours an overwhelming force that came rushing upon them on all sides, like a storm. Three times did the bold, and I must say, courageous confederates charge to cross a bridge in front of the One Hundred and Thirty-second, and as often were they repulsed by the defenders of the old flag, leaving their ranks somewhat thinned in every fresh attempt.

The Twelfth cavalry—or rather eight companies of it—under Colonel Savage, maintained their post for a considerable time, being compelled at last to burn their camp and forage, and retire toward Newbern. Within two miles of the city, and exactly where the regiment was quartered last fall, a brigade of rebels formed a line of battle between them and Fort Totten. The brigade did but little to prevent the cavalry charging at them and through them, finally getting under cover of the guns of the fort. The enemy remained but a short time in this position, for the guns of Fort Totten and the howitzers of the Twelfth sent terror all around them. The bravery, coolness, and courage displayed by Colonel Savage on the occasion, is the subject of much praise among the men.

The Seventeenth Massachusetts infantry and the Second North-Carolina volunteers also took part in the skirmishing, and lost a good many men in prisoners; but the Green Mountain boys from Vermont—the Ninth—are on their way the second time to Richmond. This regiment has been in the State but a few weeks, having been just released from Dixie, and were doing duty on the military railway between Newbern and Beaufort. I cannot explain the cause of so much evil to the Vermonters, and therefore will not

venture to assert that the material composing said regiment is not of the soundest metal. Two companies of Mix's cavalry doing duty with the Vermont regiment, were also made prisoners of war. A few of the latter have since made their escape.

It is rumored that the gunboat captured by the rebels, and subsequently burned, was captured solely on account of the captain's high esteem and regard for secessionism. The name of the boat was the Underwriter, that of her captain, Westerfelt, or something like it. It is no matter, for if all is true about his conduct, his name will be without fame in the annals of the war. He is in prison now, I believe.

By the arrival of the Patuxent at this port last night, the information is obtained that the rebels are concentrated about nine miles west of Newbern. Up to the hour when the Patuxent left Newbern, no reinforcements had arrived in the department, notwithstanding that a despatch was sent to Fortress Monroe ten days ago. Where is General Butler? I saw it in the papers a short time since that he was in Washington, D. C., at Willard's, I presume, taking a "brandy smash," with the political wire-pullers of the White House. The good he has done since he took command of affairs here, is so insignificant, that few see it. He has done one thing, namely, prevented the poor soldier from taking his accustomed government ration of liquor. He cannot have luck for doing so, at least he will not secure the soldiers' suffrage, should some broken-down party be foolish enough to nominate him for next President. But, seriously speaking, it is a shame that no reinforcements are sent to the relief of just enough troops to do the provost duty in the department. This is an important point in the State, and how many troops do you think are stationed here?—about one thousand five hundred. With the towns of Greenville and Tarboro a day's march from us, strongly occupied by rebels, and all along our front the enemy raiding in strong force, it does seem strange that nothing more has been done on the part of our generals in the way of being ready for any emergency.

I have been long of the opinion, based on personal observation, that this State might long ago have been redeemed from the misery into which its people have been thrown by the lack of energy on the part of the military authorities. The famine that has long stared the citizens in the face, long since bade them seek for mercy, and that mercy can only be obtained through the victorious advances of our army in the State. Fifteen or twenty thousand men thrown into this department could open the State from the Atlantic to Raleigh, thus strengthening the hopes of the people and cementing their confidence in the stability of the Union. The mass of the people are heartily sick of secessionism, and are hoping against hope for the day of peace. But the question arises: Does the Federal Government wish the day of peace to come too suddenly? I leave this question to be answered.

The loss on our side during last week's opera-

tions before Newbern, is about one thousand five hundred prisoners; but few were killed or wounded. The rebels suffered severely in killed. The figures stated in my last, are near the mark. We took a number of prisoners, but not sufficient to cover our loss in this respect. I have been unable to learn the intentions of the enemy for the past few days. It is likely that reinforcements from Longstreet will be sent to the vicinity of Newbern, and then another attempt will be made to enter that or this town. We are ready here; but what can fifteen hundred men do against four times that number? In the last extremity we may look for reinforcements, and no sooner, from present appearances. In the mean time, however, the enemy may retreat toward Kingston or Raleigh, foraging the country as they move along.

The roads are in the best order; the weather delightful; the spirits of the Union troops excellent and buoyant; they are more willing to fight at any time than to think of surrendering. You will hear from me soon again. W. C. H.

A REBEL ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, February 6, 1864.

Advices received yesterday from North-Carolina were very sanguine of the capture of Newbern, and represented that it had been completely invested by our forces. The report yesterday was that our troops had obtained possession of the outer line of fortifications. Newbern is the key to a large and productive country, in which, even now, vast amounts of provisions are contained. It is also reported to be the rendezvous of a large number of fugitive slaves, and the most important dépôt of supplies which the enemy has in eastern North-Carolina. We are sorry to dash the reports which were so freely circulated yesterday of a success at Newbern. There is no doubt that a despatch was received yesterday by the Government that General Pickett had found it necessary to fall back to Kinston, and was then performing that movement.

Whatever may have been the result of the affair, we are left to conclude that General Pickett found the enemy's works at Newbern too strong to carry by assault, and has retired; his six brigades of infantry, with artillery and cavalry to watch, have turned out to be a successful foraging expedition.

The defences of Newbern are certainly of the most formidable description, and, from what we can learn, are well calculated to withstand the perils of any assault. The town is situated between two rivers, and the strip of land, not more than a mile wide, is said to be traversed by a deep ditch, twenty feet wide, with a gunboat stationed at each of its extremities.

OFFICIAL DESPATCH FROM GENERAL PICKETT.

KINSTON, February 6, 1864.

To General S. Cooper:

I made a reconnoissance within a mile and a half of Newbern, with Hoke's brigade and a part of Corse's and Clingman's, and some artillery;

met the enemy in force at Bachelor's Creek; killed and wounded about one hundred in all; captured thirteen officers and two hundred and eighty prisoners, fourteen negroes, two rifled pieces and caissons, three hundred stand of small-arms, four ambulances, three wagons, fifty-five animals, a quantity of clothing, camp and garri-son equipage, and two flags.

Commander Wood, confederate States Navy, captured and destroyed the United States gunboat Underwriter.

Our loss thirty-five killed and wounded.

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General Commanding.

Doc. 70.

OPERATIONS IN WEST-VIRGINIA.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

IN THE FIELD, WEST-VIRGINIA, }
February 5, 1864.

The operations of the last seven days, although at times extremely varied in their character, have at last terminated in a series of successes that at once dispel the darksome clouds of temporary rebel prosperity, and open a bright vista to our true interests.

The operations on both sides have been conducted with great rapidity, considering the mountainous condition of the country, the bad state of the roads, the time it requires to concentrate and move columns of troops, and the usual necessary features attendant upon a raiding and the repelling of a raid campaign.

For some time past we had been in possession of information to the effect that General Early was concentrating troops and being reinforced in the neighborhood of Harrisonburgh, with a view to again attempting the capture of the garrison at Petersburg, and then making another raid on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. To meet a movement of this kind, General Kelly made all possible preparation. Yet as time wore away, and the weather continued fair, and the enemy gave no signs of an intention to advance, a large number of men (including nearly the whole of a regiment of cavalry) who had reenlisted for the war were furloughed and allowed to go home, in accordance with the War Department order on that subject. Hardly had this been done when we got news of Early having moved on Friday, January twenty-ninth. Of course it was too late and a matter of impossibility to recall the furloughed troops.

At the earliest possible moment cavalry, in small detachments, was sent out from Harper's Ferry, Martinsburgh, and Cumberland to gain information of the enemy's whereabouts. The scouting parties did not bring us in any particularly reliable information, and hence many were inclined to believe the "grand movement" to be nothing more than Rosser's or Gillmore's forces out on a big foraging expedition, and a kind of half-way reconnoissance.

The next reliable information we had of the

enemy's movements was when Rosser suddenly attacked one of our trains while on its way from New-Creek to Petersburg. It is now known to be a fact that the eight hundred men sent as a guard with the train were disgracefully remiss in the discharge of their duty. The officer in command of the train-guard officially reported that he had eighty killed and wounded, while neither fact nor report has, up to this time, confirmed his statement. The truth of the matter is that some one is to blame for allowing the enemy to get what portion of the train he did secure, and for permitting either himself or his men to be misled or frightened away by the mere opening of the enemy's artillery. What if the rebel force were two thousand strong? Eight hundred brave, well-handled men could have made a strong defence. The capture of a few wagons does us little injury; yet when we take into consideration how the rebels catch at straws, and build bright, hopeful, airy structures on very small foundations, we must ever deprecate the conduct of all officers and men who fail in ever so small a degree to discharge their whole duty and nothing less. The most of the train-guard has returned, coming in at different points along the railroad. The enemy took but a few of the guard prisoners. Our loss in the attack on the train turns out to be astonishingly small. It is reported that official inquiry will be made into the conduct of the whole affair at an early date.

On learning that this train had been attacked, and that the garrison at Petersburg was again threatened, General Kelly ordered movements to be made in the most expeditious manner from Harper's Ferry and Martinsburgh. Of Sullivan's troops, a force was sent to Winchester, under the command of Colonel Fitzsimmons. Of Averill's command, (and I must take occasion to mention at this point that another unfortunate thing for us, added to the absence of the furloughed regiments, was that General Averill had just gone home on a thirty days' leave of absence, thus depriving us of his active services,) another column, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Thompson, moved from Martinsburgh to Winchester, and there made a junction with Fitzsimmons. These united columns then moved across the country toward Romney, going by way of Wardensville. Their march was a rough and rapid one, and, although conducted in the best possible manner, failed by several hours to communicate with or get in supporting distance of Colonel Mulligan.

While Fitzsimmons's and Thompson's troops were marching toward Romney, a cavalry force was despatched to look after rebel movements in the neighborhood of Leesburgh and in the Loudon County district, it having been rumored that a rebel force was moving and operating in that neighborhood.

On Saturday night, the thirtieth, Colonel Thoburn, finding the enemy about to attack him in force at Petersburg, Hardy County, evacuated his position there, and escaped to Ridgeville, where he joined a detachment of Colonel Mulli-

gan's troops, and afterward moved with Mulligan to attack Early, near Moorfield. How Thoburn outwitted the enemy, who thought he had Thoburn penned in, has been partially explained in a previous despatch to the *Herald*. Let it suffice that I now say he got away with better success than we anticipated, and that his strategic movement over the mountains and "far away" is looked upon in the light of a very commendable feat.

Having got Thoburn all right, our forces moving on Romney, another small force out watching from the neighborhood of Cumberland, we slowly fell back in the New-Creek valley, with a view to drawing the enemy sufficiently close to the railroad to enable Fitzsimmons and Thompson to get in his rear. As we desired, the enemy followed up. During this time a number of small fights occurred, in which we lost a few killed and wounded.

On Sunday and Monday our cavalry took some prisoners, but the number of these latter was far exceeded by the deserters who hastened to come into our lines. From these deserters we learned that Early had been reinforced heavily, and that it was true he had been making extensive preparations to carry out this raid.

On Tuesday between four and five hundred of Rosser's men slipped in between Mulligan's and Fitzsimmons's columns, and broke our railroad communication, by partially destroying one bridge and slightly injuring another one. How soon the damage was repaired and how trivial it was, you have already learned. The enemy succeeded in reaching the railroad and in partially safely getting away, only in consequence of the columns from Martinsburgh and Harper's Ferry having defeated General Kelly's calculation by failing to reach Romney at six p.m. on the evening of the second. It was calculated that this column would be at Romney as stated, and that any rebel force which moved in by way of Springfield or Frankfort would be cut off by Fitzsimmons's, Thompson's, or Mulligan's forces, and kept from doing any great injury to the railroad by the troops stationed at Cumberland and elsewhere within easy supporting distances. This was not all the plan of operation, but that portion which the enemy knew about, as well as ourselves; and hence I can see no indiscretion in now publishing it. Yet while all did their duty in the best possible manner, (and here I feel constrained to assure the reader that, no matter how beautifully the philosophical professor explains the mountains to be nothing more than as "little asperities on the rind of the orange," these self-same "little asperities" are not unfrequently the cause of uncontrollable delays in military movements, and tend to defeat the wisest and best-considered calculations,) still the enemy's success in reaching the railroad was due to the failure of our cavalry from Martinsburgh, etc., to reach the Romney region at the expected time.

As soon as it was known the railroad had been cut, Colonel Mulligan's forces moved forward from the New-Creek region and attacked the

enemy. We were successful in making the enemy fall back. Our movements toward the enemy's rear of course hastened his departure from a position that was getting to be more dangerous than either interesting or profitable.

At the time when the enemy was known to be within six to eight miles of the Cumberland, the troops there stationed formed for action. Scenes of lively interest ensued.

In the streets of Cumberland the ladies—that is, a great many of them—promenaded up and down, of course waiting for the “ball” to open. Instead of seeming excited, they appeared to be rather remarkably cool and desirous of hearing the “Where are you? where are you?” shells go whizzing over the devoted city of Cumberland, and to see the coal-dust flying in all directions.

I will not stop to detail all the minor movements we made and the skirmishes we had, but, passing over these, will state that as soon as Colonels Fitzsimmons's and Thompson's forces opened communication with Colonel Mulligan, we vigorously pursued the enemy, driving him on all the roads and out of all the gaps in which he attempted to maintain a position.

Our forces continued to press the enemy hard, until the latter made a stand a short distance this side of Moorefield.

The Moorefield valley is one of the most beautiful valleys in the United States. It is about fifteen miles long by, upon an average, three miles wide, and contains river bottom land of unlimited richness. It is surrounded by mountains of picturesque formation about two thousand feet in height, and forms altogether one of the most beautiful scenic displays to be met with in any portion of this country. Moorefield, situated about two or three miles from the ford, is a town of four hundred inhabitants. The town is well built, contains brick residences with tin roofs, and displays evidences of progress and refinement not observable in other portions of this region of country.

About three miles from the town of Moorefield, following the Moorefield and Romney turnpike road, you cross the south branch of the Potomac River at what is known as McNeil's Ford. It was here that Colonel Mulligan on Thursday, in pursuing the enemy, had a fight. Rosser's command disputed the passage of the river. The lands of this neighborhood are almost of a dead level, but the river bank upon which Colonel Mulligan took position is higher than the one on the other side. Thus we had the advantage of position. Our artillery opened on the enemy about eight a.m., and rapid firing was kept up for some considerable time afterward. The enemy replied vigorously, and for a long time kept us warmly at work. After a good deal of rapid sharp-shooting our shot and shell drove the enemy off to a sufficient distance to enable us to obtain command of the ford. A crossing was then effected. We found the country, as I have previously stated, a dead level from here all the way to Moorefield. This level served our purpose,

very well. After leaving the ford, the enemy slowly fell back toward Moorefield, all the way keeping up a scattering, skirmishing fire—a regular “fire and fall back” engagement. At the time when Mulligan first engaged Rosser at the ford—Early was at Moorefield (behind Rosser) with a heavy force of infantry and two or more batteries of artillery.

Fighting was kept up until the enemy got near the town, when he made another stand. More fighting ensued, and in the course of three hours we drove him from his last position to and through the town and beyond it. Early's forces then fell back toward the south fork of the south branch of the Potomac River, Mulligan all the time keeping close upon the enemy's rear, by aid of his cavalry force. The enemy took the south fork road, which runs through a branch valley of the great Moorefield valley. This South-Branch valley is quite a narrow one, hemmed in on either side by very high mountains and traversed by a considerable stream of water known as the South-Fork of the South-Branch. Rosser undertook to protect Early's rear. The narrowness of the valley alone prevented us from driving him along with more than agreeable rapidity. As it was, we compelled the enemy to fall back with much haste. The South-Fork road leads directly to Brock's Gap and Harrisonburgh—the original position from which the rebels moved. Colonel Mulligan continued to pursue the enemy until the latter reached the last river road, and was compelled to retire over into the Shenandoah valley again.

Colonel Mulligan has been highly complimented for the alacrity with which he obeyed and carried out General Kelly's orders and the manner in which he personally conducted the pursuit. The other commanding officers have also been complimented for their gallantry.

Our losses have not been large. Even in the six hours' hard fighting our losses proved to be less than at first reported.

Looking back at the operations of the last seven days, it must be said that we have been successful, and that it is beyond doubt we have again defeated Early's designs, which were to seriously injure the line of the railroad and capture the garrison at Petersburg. He has been defeated in getting into New-Creek or Cumberland, failed to interrupt the running of the railroad trains beyond a few hours, and failed to get off with any large portion of his prisoners or plunder. Besides, he has lost many by desertion, and quite a number as prisoners and picked-up stragglers. On the whole, he has been made to discover that raids are adventures that cost much time and material, and do not pay rebels or generals where the result is “diamond cut diamond.”

Our cavalry have driven the rebels out of Petersburg. The enemy burned the government buildings.

Captain Gleason, of the Twenty-third Illinois, who was taken prisoner, has been recaptured.

Doc. 71.

THE BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA.

STATEMENT OF MAJOR-GENERAL MCCOOK.

LOUISVILLE, KY., February 18, 1864.

On the twenty-eighth of September last, an order was issued consolidating with another the Twentieth army corps, which had been my highest honor to command.

The order was announced to the army on the eighth of October; I was relieved from command, and have been ever since awaiting the pleasure of the President for the investigation which has just closed.

Conscious that my troops had been subjected to unjust reproach, and that my reputation as their commander had been reviled, I was glad to have this opportunity of vindication, the only means open to me; for on every principle binding the soldier silence was imposed upon me, when the same order which relieved me from command directed me to await a Court of Inquiry upon my conduct.

I am conscious, too, that the testimony which has been introduced, while it may enable the Court to respond to the questions which are vital to myself, has fallen far short of enabling it fully to pass upon the battle of Chickamauga; and whatever you may think of the conduct of its commander, surely you must conclude that it was a hurried and a hard sentence, which blotted out of existence the Twentieth army corps, while others not nearly so large nor so tried in battle have been allowed to retain their organization and recruit their ranks.

The Court will bear me witness, except when absolutely necessary for a proper understanding of my own conduct, I have abstained from any questions as to the conduct of others, and the same rule shall govern me in the remarks I make upon the testimony. Indeed, if it were not a departure from the custom in such cases, I feel that I might refrain from this, and submit my cause without a word. If the Court shall be as impartial in judgment as it has been patient and fair in the hearing, I shall be content.

On the seventeenth day of September, 1863, the Twentieth army corps, wearied by its marches over mountain roads, returned and effected its junction with General Thomas by Winston Gap, which the latter advised to be the only practicable road. It went into camp at Pond Spring, seven miles from the slope of Mission Ridge, at Widow Glenn's house, and only fifteen miles from Chattanooga, the objective point of the recent army movements. It remained there all the day of the eighteenth, waiting to close up "when General Thomas is out of the way."

His troops marched that night, and before daylight the Twentieth corps started, Johnson's division leading, and when it reached headquarters it was immediately ordered to Thomas. Johnson's and Davis's divisions and one brigade of Sheridan's were heavily engaged on the nineteenth, Davis losing one brigade commander, (killed,) and Sheridan one, (wounded.)

But I need not delay the Court with any resumé of the operations of the nineteenth. My field-orders are before the Court, and it is enough to say they were obeyed. "I was with General McCook the entire day, and feel certain they were explicitly obeyed."—[Major Bates's reexamination.]

At dark on the nineteenth I went to the council at Widow Glenn's House. At midnight the orders were resolved upon, and I left to rouse my troops and move them to their position for the struggle of the twentieth.

Before daylight I reported at Glenn's House that they were moving.

The positions selected were seen by General Morton, the Chief of Engineers, who testifies they were "eminently judicious."

General Davis testifies that "he is confident they could have been held against any attack in front."

General Rosecrans "made several observations in approval of the positions."—[Morton's testimony.]

Now, admitting the General-in-Chief debated some of the positions with me; that he suggested a change in one place; that he answered my objections to his suggestions, and gave replies to the reasons urged for the positions chosen—it is enough to say that he rode the lines; that he saw the positions—it was his to order and mine to obey.

Nor is it quite accurate to say that General McCook was not expected "to cover any particular position of the ground unless he could do so, and at the same time maintain his connection with General Thomas."

The order to General Crittenden most clearly indicates what McCook was expected to do.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, }
WIDOW GLENN'S HOUSE, }
September 19, 1863—11.30 P.M. }

GENERAL: The General Commanding directs me to inform you that General McCook has been ordered to hold this gap to-morrow, commanding the Dry Valley Road, his right resting near this place, his left connecting with General Thomas's right.

The General places your corps in reserve to-morrow, and directs you to post it on the eastern slope of Mission Ridge to support McCook or Thomas.

Leave the grand guards of your command out with instructions to hold their ground until driven in; then to retire slowly, contesting the ground stubbornly.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

J. A. GARFIELD,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff

But whatever may be the merits or demerits of the position selected, it is idle to discuss them, for they were proved in battle, but were changed in respects most vital to their security.

Let us inquire how the plan of battle changed.

My proper command was the Twentieth corps, consisting of Johnson's, Sheridan's, and Davis's

divisions, and to these were added "all the cavalry"—a formidable force truly. With it the right should have been made secure, and for the employment of this force, by all men who have not studied the battle, I am held responsible. How much I had actually present to engage, will be shown in a little while.

General Thomas had his own four divisions, and to strengthen him, Johnson's, of McCook's, by far the strongest, and Palmer's, of Crittenden's, the strongest of that corps, had been sent the day before, and fought upon the left throughout the day.

Crittenden's remaining divisions were to be in reserve, and ready to "support either Thomas or McCook." I had in line two brigades of Sheridan's, with Laibolt's brigade in reserve to support that line, and two brigades of Davis's to the left and rear of Sheridan. The other brigade of Davis had been left to hold Steven's Gap, and support the cavalry when the army advanced from Pond Spring. Colonel Wilder's brigade of mounted infantry extended Sheridan's right, but the rest of the cavalry was not available, the General commanding it, from a misconception of General Rosecrans's orders, having declined to obey the orders given by me.

After daylight the unmistakable tokens of battle manifested themselves on the left; the calls for assistance begin, and the commands to reinforce follow promptly.

Just as the fog begins to lift, Negley is ordered out of line, and moves to the left. The reserve is at once called upon, and General Crittenden sends in Wood's division to supply the place left vacant.

All is yet quiet on the right; the demands of the left are pressing, and General Van Cleve is ordered to march to Thomas, and afterward Wood's division leaves the line and takes the same direction. Whether this order was correctly construed or not, it is unnecessary to discuss. The consequences to General McCook's troops are the same. The part of a division is suddenly withdrawn from the line, without any information to him except that given by General Wood, in an accidental meeting at the moment the movement commenced.

"It was done at the double-quick," thus giving General McCook no time to close his troops properly and "fill the vacant space." [General Rosecrans's testimony.] There was not only no time to fill the space, but I had no troops to fill it with, unless a small brigade could cover division intervals.

Just as I was forming on General Wood's right, I was told by Colonel Buell that he was leaving for the left, and that the other brigades had already moved. [General Davis's testimony.]

At ten o'clock the attack had not begun upon the right, but the left being heavily pressed; and a few moments later the resolution was taken that every thing must be hazarded for the position on the left, and the reserve having been employed, the right was called upon.

At ten minutes after ten o'clock this order was given.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT CUMBERLAND, }
IN THE FIELD, September 20, 1868—10.10 A.M.

Major-General McCook, Commanding Twentieth Army Corps:

General Thomas is being heavily pressed on the left. The General Commanding directs you to make immediate disposition to withdraw the right, so as to spare as much force as possible to reinforce Thomas. The left must be held at all hazards, even if the right is drawn wholly back to the present left. Select a good position back this way, and be ready to send reinforcements to Thomas at a moment's warning.

J. A. GARFIELD,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

At thirty (80) minutes after ten, the order for preparation is followed by the command of execution:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT CUMBERLAND, }
IN THE FIELD, September 20, 1868—10.30 A.M.

Major-General McCook, Commanding Twentieth Army Corps:

The General Commanding directs you to send two brigades of General Sheridan's division at once and with all possible despatch to support General Thomas, and send the Third brigade as soon as the lines can be drawn in sufficiently. March them as rapidly as you can without exhausting the men. Report in person to these headquarters as soon as your orders are given in regard to Sheridan's movement. Have you any news from Colonel Post? J. A. GARFIELD,

Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

At a few minutes before eleven these orders were received almost simultaneously, "not six minutes' interval," and the fate of the right was sealed.

Well might the General, who was "calm and confident" at his lines in the morning, become "anxious, when he saw the dust rising through the woods to his front," at the moment he received an order to break his line and march to the flank.

The attack on the right came at thirty minutes after eleven o'clock—not later, if any reliance is to be placed as to time on the battle-field, upon testimony of soldiers engaged. There seems to be, on this point, the concurrence of all witnesses.

Where are the troops who occupied the ground in the morning?

Negley was gone. Wood, who filled his place, had followed him, and Van Cleve was also marching. The two brigades of Sheridan's, which are in line on the right, are now taken out in obedience to this order, and are marching through the dense woods close in the rear of the line of battle toward that same left, which is swallowing the army.

What is there to resist the coming attack?

Two weak brigades of Davis's—the remnants of the bloody fight of yesterday, one thousand three hundred strong, and the brigade of Laibolt, less in number than Davis's two.

What is their position ?

Davis had the brigade in line which joined Wood, behind breastworks, and the other he is just bringing into line as Wood's troops leave it, "two regiments being on it and the others closing to it." [General Davis's testimony.] Laibolt, who had been held as a reserve for Sheridan, is now ordered to support General Davis's right. Wilder's mounted infantry is in line, but the cavalry has not yet reported.

So the reserve of the army is gone and my own weak reserve, my only reliance for a second line has to be put on the first.

An interval of two brigades separates Wilder from Laibolt, and a division interval separates Davis from the nearest troops on his left.

Through these intervals the enemy's columns came against one small line; theirs is displayed overreaching either flank. "Three to one, at best," says General Davis, and Colonel Wilder says the attack was made five lines deep. Could the result be for a moment doubted ?

And for what part of it is General McCook responsible ? What dispositions could he have made which he omitted ? What skill in the officers, what courage of the troops could have availed ?

Troops marching by the flank in the presence of an enemy, covered by a line which is less than the interval it exposes, must owe their safety to the forbearance of the foe.

I do not state these matters in criticism of my military superiors, but they are plain, incontrovertible facts necessary for my vindication. Indeed, although the movement would have uncovered the Dry Valley road; I quite agree with the Commanding General's conclusions as indicated in the preparatory order, dated the tenth at ten A.M., "that the left must be held at all hazards, even if the right is driven back to the present left." But it was too late. There was no opportunity to look for positions, for by the time the dispositions to send the troops were ready, the enemy was advancing to the attack.

I have not another word to say as to the battle. But the Court is required to investigate my conduct in leaving the field as well as in the battle.

I will not, before a court of soldiers, answer the imputation, if it be implied, that any considerations of personal safety influenced my conduct. May I not, without boasting, say that I have faced death on too many fields, and in the presence of too many thousands of men, to require at this day any vindication of my composure or hardihood in action ?

It would be enough that the firing had terminated upon the right, and that all pursuit had ceased, to leave the question simply one of judgment and duty under the circumstances by which I was surrounded.

My troops had been driven back and scattered; the ground was singularly unfavorable for rallying them; a commanding officer could do little more in that forest and thicket than other gen-

eral officers. I remained until I gave orders to my troops and for the safety of the artillery and transportation.

I knew that Generals Sheridan and Davis were in safety and with their men, and competent to take charge of them. The point to be saved or lost was the position of Chattanooga. To that point the General Commanding had gone. He had been not far to the left of my lines when they gave way, and as he passed by on the Dry Valley road, saw me "among the broken columns trying to rally the troops."

I had an order which I believed to be in force, requiring me to report to him in person in the field.

As General Rosecrans, in the correction of his testimony, says he supposed I had complied with that part of the order, that we had met, and I informed him I would send in Laibolt's brigade to set matters to rights, I desire to call the attention of the Court to the terms of the order and the circumstances which preceded and followed it.

It was given after an order despatched a few moments before, which required me to look out for a new position further to the left; that the exigencies of the day might be so pressing as to require the removal of all the troops from the right, involving consultation and the development of a new plan. Surely it was not to report that I had obeyed him and repeated his order to Sheridan, for that was the duty of a staff-officer, for which a general officer would not be taken away from his troops. And at an interview, after such pressing and important orders, nothing took place between us but a reference by myself to one of my brigades. General Rosecrans's recollection has not served him correctly. He must have the impression from some previous interview between us. At the time Laibolt went in, the testimony shows I was behind his brigade, went forward with it, and was driven back when his troops were repulsed. Besides, if the situation was so extremely critical on the left, when the right was intact, as to require a personal interview, surely it was not lessened when the right was broken and the troops marching to support the left were driven by the enemy. If there could be a time when an interview between a General and his Lieutenant was necessary, that time was then. If I had troops which I thought I could have reorganized in time and taken to the left, I concede that when I did not find him upon the field, it would have been my duty to have marched where the cannon yet sounded.

Upon the information communicated to me by staff-officers whom I met upon the field, and whose testimony is before the Court, I determined to go to Chattanooga, but through Ross-ville, or close to it, that I might get information from General Thomas, and ascertain the situation of the place in the direction of which I had ordered my troops to move, and where I supposed the troops of Thomas would move back. I had no acquaintance with the country or the

roads—neither myself nor any of the staff officers having ever been in Chattanooga, or nearer to it than the battle-field.

I was compelled to rely upon the guide of General Rosecrans, who assured me there was no other route we could take, and that the one we took led us toward Rossville. I expected to go by Rossville, or near enough to learn the situation of affairs there, until I met the troops of General Spears and found I was nearer Chattanooga than Rossville, and that General Rosecrans was still at the former place.

And I submit to the Court that without any order from him at all, if there was to be a tomorrow to that day, it was my duty to see General Rosecrans that day, and know his plans and see the country nearer Chattanooga, where I had no doubt the army must fall back; that this, too, was the superior duty for me if the troops I left behind were in competent hands. By the route I took, no body of soldiers was found until I met those of General Spears, within two (2) miles of Chattanooga, marching to Rossville.

I did not, immediately after reporting to General Rosecrans, return to Rossville, on which my troops had been directed to march, because the General ordered me to remain with him until he should receive further information, when he would determine his course and give me orders.

When I left the field, it would have been easy to follow impulse, and, notwithstanding the reports I had received, endeavor to reach the left. It was the stronger with me, as one of my own divisions was there; but the path of duty, under my conception of my orders, or in the absence of any orders, was the same, and I felt compelled to follow it.

Respectfully submitted.

A. McD. McCook,
Major-General U. S. Volunteers.

DEFENCE OF GENERAL NEGLEY.

LOUISVILLE, KY., February 22.

Major-General Hunter, President Court of Inquiry:

SIR: At Chattanooga, on the evening of October sixth, 1863, at a private interview, secured for me by a written request from General Thomas to General Rosecrans, I was informed for the first time that the Department Commander was dissatisfied with my official conduct at the battle of Chickamauga, on the twentieth of September, 1863. At the same time, General Rosecrans referred to statements made by Brigadier-Generals Brannan and Wood as the reasons for his unfavorable opinions.

In reply to my expression of pain and surprise, that he should entertain such opinions without my knowledge, or without giving me opportunity for explanation or defence, he requested me to submit a supplementary report, with the written statements of officers whose names I had mentioned, who were conversant with the facts. This report occasioned General Rosecrans's letter to the Adjutant-General of the army, dated October fourteenth, 1863, in which he states:

"The General (Negley) had always been an active, energetic, and efficient commander, and displayed very good judgment in the affair of Widow Davis's house, in front of Stevens's Gap, where he was attacked by a superior force of the enemy, and successfully extricated his train and command from its perilous position."

Also: "From a careful perusal of that (my report) and the accompanying documents, (I find) that he acted (at Chickamauga) according to his best judgment under the circumstances of the case."

But as General Wood, aided by several other general officers, labored assiduously to impair my military reputation, and thus my usefulness in the army, I deemed it imperative, being also influenced by the friendly advice of General Rosecrans and Thomas, to demand an investigation, as the only admitted and honorable means of vindicating myself. The application was considerably complied with in the order convening this Court.

General Rosecrans also states in the letter referred to: "But an impression that he left the field on Sunday, without orders or necessity, having made its way through the army, and statements having appeared in the official reports of general officers seeming to support this impression," etc.

The testimony and papers before the Court show conclusively that Generals Brannan and Wood, officers junior to me in rank and entirely independent of my command, were the authors of these imputations, and that they used their official report for otherwise unauthorized censures which necessitated this investigation. Official copies or extracts from these official reports were not furnished until submitted by this Court, February eleventh, 1864. Nevertheless, true extracts from these reports appeared from time to time in the public press, in direct violation of the following order:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, October 4, 1862.

"II. If any officer shall hereafter, without proper authority, permit the publication of any official letter or report, or allow any such document to pass into the hands of persons not authorized to receive it, his name will be submitted to the President for dismissal. This rule applies to all official letters and reports, written by an officer himself.

"By order of the Secretary of War.

"L. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General."

The channels through which these extracts were obtained may be plausibly conjectured, from the italicizing, and the purpose for which they were used. The evidence further shows that my most zealous, violent, and disrespectful accuser was General Wood; yet, as a sworn witness before this Court, he not only failed to establish the statement made in his report, but could not mention a single instance where General Negley had failed to do his duty in the battle of Chickamauga, or which would in the slight-

est degree justify the unwarrantable liberty he arrogated to himself in publishing such insinuations.

Whether or not the motives which induced Generals Brannan and Wood to disregard the rules of the army and of society, were desires for the benefit of the service and of the Government, and were prompted by sentiments of virtue, patriotism, and manly honor, I leave to the unbiassed opinion of the Court and of the world.

Why General Brannan should pause in his poetic description of military achievements on the field of Chickamauga, and become the voluntary censor of my conduct, unqualifiedly stating that which it was impossible, from his own personal observation, to know, is a painful inquiry; and his doing so establishes a dangerous precedent in the composition of official reports. The positiveness which characterizes his reference to me, demands some attention in these remarks.

General Brannan attaches much importance to a pledge he says I gave to protect his right and rear. This appears incredible to me; and it is plain to every one who comprehends the facts, elicited by the testimony taken before this Court, that at that moment my own right was being turned, and my own position so essentially endangered, as to induce pressing messages to General Rosecrans for immediate assistance. While such a pledge might indicate zeal and determination, it would not balk the purpose of the enemy without a proper representation of muskets.

General Brannan further states, that so far from holding his right, I carried off his first brigade. This is not reconcilable with his previous statement, namely: "With, however, the exception of the first brigade, which, being much exposed, broke with considerable disorder," etc. As he speaks of having swung back his right flank to the rear half a mile, he is prudently silent as to the distance the first brigade swung back. I mean no disparagement to the brave men of that brigade, and its efficient commander.

It is strange, (perhaps I might use a stronger term,) if General Brannan had a brigade unoccupied, why he should ask for and take one of my regiments, reducing my then too small force. On this point there is much concurrent testimony.

Again, he speaks of a portion of General Granger's reserve corps "taking up the position which should have been occupied during the day by General Negley's division." This would seem to be a bold reflection upon the Commanding General, for ordering General Negley's division elsewhere. However, it appears from his and other reports, that he was commanding "a large portion of General Negley's division," and that the Twenty-first Ohio, of the same division, covered his retreat, losing three fourths of its strength.

General Brannan commanded in this battle the largest division in the army—the division once commanded by General Thomas. With

that, and "portions of Palmer's and Negley's divisions," he "maintained his ground with obstinacy," "the troops evincing great gallantry and devotion until reinforced," and "nothing could exceed the desperate determination with which the rebels endeavored to gain possession of this point, hurling entire divisions on his small force." How long, then, would my seven hundred men have held at bay those "entire divisions"?

General Brannan also refers to his failure to obtain ammunition, thus necessitating the use of the bayonet, as the only means of defence. Perhaps his ammunition was ordered to Chattanooga by higher authority, as was the case with mine.

It would be uncharitable for me to omit the allusion to the service of my old division, in this connection. It is sacredly due those heroic men who left over seven hundred of their number on that sanguinary field, that they should not suffer reproach from any fault of mine, or share in the envious calumnies bestowed upon me. To them I owe the honor and dignity of my position—but no disgrace. The bodies of the brave who slumber on the banks of the Chickamauga, as well as their bereaved friends at home, appeal against the base insinuation that the "bulk of the division retired intact." True, the enemy counts not amongst his trophies the battle-begrimed, bullet-torn standards of the Second division; but remembers with grief its splendid discipline and glorious charges.

As to the aspersions cast against my personal deportment on the field, I have only to say that the evidence has awarded me higher honors in that respect, than even egotism would have asked.

I now proceed to consider briefly the intimation that I left the field early and unnecessarily on Sunday. The bearing of much explicit testimony on this point has doubtless arrested the attention of the Court, and relieves me from the task of doing more than describe my situation, and the circumstances influencing my judgment and controlling my actions.

Immediately after receiving and complying with an order directing me to take charge of and place the artillery upon the field, which virtually deprived me of the command of my division, already separated in consequence of the culpable delay of General Wood to relieve me as he was ordered to do, I was reliably informed that the extreme left of General Thomas's line, which was situated obliquely to my front and rear, was being driven back. I hastened to the threatened point, taking some artillery, and Sirwell's brigade, which was just arriving. I found the enemy in heavy force, lapping over the extreme left, pressing it back in a crotchet, which was about to be taken in reverse. I opened upon the advancing columns with artillery from a splendid position, checking the enemy's further approach upon that point. Information then reached me from the right and front, that they were threatened, and the ar-

tillery I had in position endangered. I immediately gave directions for the protection of the left, and passed quickly to the position to which I was assigned, by an order received per Captain Gaw, of General Thomas's staff. On the way I met General Brannan, who urgently requested a regiment. I ordered to his support my largest regiment, the Twenty-first Ohio, armed with revolving (five-chambered) muskets. I found affairs in front assuming an alarming condition. The enemy was pushing heavy columns through the gap in our line, caused by General Wood's hasty abandonment of his position. Remaining portions of the line swung back like a gate before the wind. The troops from the right, who rested back against the ridge in echelon, pushed forward with intrepidity to recover the lost ground, but were taken in flank, and crumbled into flying fragments. My situation was desperate. My effective batteries were fast exhausting their ammunition. I had sent, on the first view, two aids to General Rosecrans, to describe my situation, and ask immediate reinforcements. At the same time I ordered up the remainder of the Third brigade, which was not then engaged. Lieutenant Moody returned through a shower of bullets, expressing surprise at finding me still on the ridge, and reported General Rosecrans's reply: "Tell Negley it is too late; I cannot help him." The regiment of stragglers on my left had vanished; those upon my right were disappearing in the dense woods, their speed redoubled by the far-reaching shells; and the exultant yells of the enemy, whose closely planted batteries and long lines of musketry were sweeping the ridge with an appalling fire, were ringing in my ears. Yet the batteries of Schultz, Marshall, and one of Parrott guns, were heroically hurling death into the enemy's ranks, at such short-range, that the smoke from the guns of both contending hosts mingled together.

Contemplate my position, if it is possible to do so here, removed from the scene of action. No human eye could penetrate the dark woods to the left, where General Thomas, with the flower of the army, was struggling against the inspirited enemy. To seek succor from that quarter was hopeless. None could be expected from General Brannan, as he had just applied for and received assistance from me. Tidings of defeat came from the right; the enemy was gliding up the ravine to the left, and almost seizing the guns in action. All was now agonizing doubt and irremediable confusion. It was now, in my judgment, time to retire. To continue an unequal contest, could only add more graves to the battle-field, and give more trophies to the enemy. A proper realization of the situation, and a just regard for the lives and *matériel* of war intrusted to my care, urged the speedy withdrawal of my few troops and considerable artillery. The latter was moved to the second ridge, at which point a portion of the Third brigade had just arrived. The ground was unfavorable—a dense forest covered the movements of

the enemy, who manifested an intention of cutting off our retreat along the only passable route, the Dry Valley road. The artillery was becoming more scattered each moment, trying to escape the falling shells. It now became a question for me to decide, whether I should remain with my isolated command, and save it all if possible, or endeavor to reach the left with my infantry only, leaving the ambulances, filled with wounded, the stragglers, and the artillery, to inevitable capture. I was ignorant of the condition of the troops upon my left, who might, for aught I knew to the contrary, be in full retreat upon the La Fayette and Rossville road. Indications, and the general impression, were that such was the fact; and, indeed, it would have been the case had not the approaching column (unknown to me) of General Granger's corps prevented. My decision was to remain with my special command, until relieved by the same (or higher) authority which had assigned me to it. I withdrew until I reached McFarland's house, in the first open ground on the natural line of communication with Rossville, where I halted, induced to do so by the fact that it was the termination of a long and narrow defile, which could be held by a small force against the enemy, who were reported to be advancing. It is a reasonable presumption that a knowledge on the part of the enemy, of the assembling of our scattered forces at McFarland's farm, checked his further pursuit.

I now learned, for the first time, from a cavalryman, that General Thomas was holding the enemy in check upon the left, and as it would require time to organize the troops and clear the gap, I turned over the command to General Davis, and hastened back to find General Thomas, if possible, and report for orders. Meeting General Sheridan entering the defile from the west side, with a considerable body of troops, I suggested the propriety of moving what I thought was his division, to the support of General Thomas. He replied that it was his intention to proceed to Rossville. I passed on, and soon met the enemy, who prevented my further advance. I then returned to McFarland's, and held consultation with Generals Sheridan and Davis, and officers of General Rosecrans's staff. It was unanimously agreed, that General Davis should remain and hold the Gap; General Sheridan to pass through Rossville, toward General Thomas's left; while I should proceed to Rossville, with the debris of the army, organize the scattered troops, and be prepared to support either column. About this time, a despatch arrived from Captain Hill, of General Rosecrans's staff, stating that Forrest's cavalry was on the Ringgold and Rossville road, in General Thomas's rear. In view of this new danger, I marched expeditiously to Rossville, and prepared to hold it. This entire movement was only an anticipation of the order received from General Rosecrans, then at Chattanooga, sent by telegraph at seven P.M.

The great advantage of this effective organization and disposition of troops, who otherwise

would not have halted short of Chattanooga, can scarcely be estimated; and its importance in a tactical point of view, must be apparent to every experienced military mind. Had the two roads converging at Rossville been relinquished to or seized by the enemy, it would in probability have sealed the fate of General Thomas's command, which was compelled to fall back that night for supplies. The influence my action exerted over subsequent events, may be designated in history as an accident, but it was one of those military accidents which restored order with equilibrium, changed the front of a defeated army, and according to the testimony of General Rosecrans and others, unquestionably saved Chattanooga. Public opinion estimates the ability of a general by results. The value and importance of my official action, from the moment I was assigned to the command of the artillery (without referring to the "handsome" operation of my command on the nineteenth September) until the close of the twenty-first, is not, in view of the testimony taken before the Court, open to controversy. The saving of fifty pieces of artillery is in itself significant. I beg of you to observe, in this connection, that I possessed no knowledge of the topography of the country or of the disposition of the troops, beyond an imperfect view from the position I occupied. The only intelligence I had of the disaster, was derived from statements of officers passing to the rear. A strong impression was naturally made upon my mind by General Rosecrans's significant reply to my application for aid, and by the information that he, with two of his corps commanders, had gone toward Chattanooga. If the Department Commander, with a large retinue of staff-officers, corps of engineers and a cavalry escort, failed, as he admits, to correctly comprehend under the circumstances the situation at noon, how was it possible, with my very limited facilities, and almost enveloped by the enemy, for me to know the facts at one P.M.?

Military history proves beyond contradiction that no single battle, no matter what may be its magnitude or results, is a positive or even fair test of the ability of a commander. The fear of public opinion, after a disastrous battle, betrays many officers, sometimes high in command, to deny even their unavoidable mistakes, to direct attention to the errors of brother officers, to claim honors undeserved, laurels never won, and by a skilful use of the pen exaggerate the simple performance of duty into a great achievement. If I know my own purposes in life, I seek no honor by such unsoldierly pretexts, and scorn such means of vindication. As this investigation refers to but a single battle, it would be unbecoming in me to refer to my previous services and the many assurances of confidence and appreciation won from my superior officers on other fields. The testimony before you pays a higher tribute to my fidelity to country, my skill, energy, and fortitude as a commander, than I could claim for myself. Therefore I respectfully submit the case to the Court, desiring only to add

my thanks for the patient courtesy and impartiality which enabled me to place the facts connected with my official conduct at the battle of Chickamauga, so fully before you.

JAMES S. NEGLEY,
Major-General U. S. V.

Doc. 72.

ORDER FOR A DRAFT,

TO BE MADE MARCH TENTH, 1864.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, February 1, 1864. }

Ordered, That a draft for five hundred thousand men, to serve for three years or during the war, be made on the tenth day of March next, for the military service of the United States—crediting and deducting therefrom so many as may have been enlisted or drafted into the service prior to the first day of March, and not heretofore credited.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Doc. 73.

LABOR IN LOUISIANA.

GENERAL BAKER'S ORDERS

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
NEW-ORLEANS, February 3, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 23 :

THE following general regulations are published for the information and government of all interested in the subject of compensated plantation labor, public or private, during the present year, and in continuation of the system established January thirtieth, 1863 :

I. The enlistment of soldiers from plantations under cultivation in this department, having been suspended by order of the Government, will not be resumed except upon direction of the same high authority.

II. The Provost-Marshal General is instructed to provide for the division of parishes into police and school districts, and to organize from invalid soldiers a competent police for the preservation of order.

III. Provision will be made for the establishment of a sufficient number of schools, one at least for each of the police and school districts, for the instruction of colored children under twelve years of age, which, when established, will be placed under the direction of the Superintendent of Public Education.

IV. Soldiers will not be allowed to visit plantations without the written consent of the commanding officer of the regiment or post to which they are attached, and never with arms, except when on duty, and accompanied by an officer.

V. Plantation hands will not be allowed to pass from one place to another except under such regulations as may be established by the provost-marshal of the parish.

VI. Flogging and other cruel or unusual punishments are interdicted.

VII. Planters will be required, as early as

practicable after the publication of these regulations, to make a roll of persons employed upon their estates, and to transmit the same to the provost-marshal of the parish. In the employment of hands, the unity of families will be secured as far as possible.

VIII. All questions between the employer and the employed, until other tribunals are established, will be decided by the provost-marshal of the parish.

IX. Sick and disabled persons will be provided for upon the plantations to which they belong, except such as may be received in establishments provided for them by the Government, of which one will be established at Algiers and one at Baton Rouge.

X. The unauthorized purchase of clothing, or other property, from laborers, will be punished by fine and imprisonment. The sale of whisky or other intoxicating drinks, to them, or to other persons, except under regulations established by the Provost-Marshal General, will be followed by the severest punishment.

XI. The possession of arms, or concealed or dangerous weapons, without authority, will be punished by fine and imprisonment.

XII. Laborers shall render to their employer, between daylight and dark, ten hours in summer and nine hours in winter, of respectful, honest, faithful labor, and receive therefor, in addition to just treatment, healthy rations, comfortable clothing, quarters, fuel, medical attendance, and instruction for children, wages per month as follows, payment of one half of which, at least, shall be reserved until the end of the year:

For first-class hands, . . . \$8 per month.

For second-class hands, . . . 6 per month.

For third-class hands, . . . 5 per month.

For fourth-class hands, . . . 8 per month.

Engineers and foremen, when faithful in the discharge of their duties, will be paid two dollars per month extra. This schedule of wages may be commuted by consent of both parties, at the rate of one fourteenth part of the net proceeds of the crop, to be determined and paid at the end of the year. Wages will be deducted in case of sickness, and rations, also, when sickness is feigned. Indolence, insolence, disobedience of orders, and crime will be suppressed by forfeiture of pay, and such punishments as are provided for similar offences by Army Regulations. Sunday work will be avoided when practicable, but when necessary will be considered as extra labor, and paid at the rates specified herein.

XIII. Laborers will be permitted to choose their employers, but when the agreement is made, they will be held to their engagement for the year, under the protection of the Government. In cases of attempted imposition, by feigning sickness, or stubborn refusal of duty, they will be turned over to the provost-marshal of the parish, for labor upon the public works, without pay.

XIV. Laborers will be permitted to cultivate land on private account, as herein specified, as follows:

First and second-class hands, with families, one acre each.

First and second-class hands, without families, one half-acre each.

Second and third-class hands, with families, one half-acre each.

Second and third-class hands, without families, one quarter-acre each.

To be increased for good conduct, at the discretion of the employer. The encouragement of independent industry will strengthen all the advantages which capital derives from labor and enable the laborer to take care of himself and prepare for the time when he can render so much labor for so much money, which is the great end to be attained. No exemption will be made in this apportionment, except upon imperative reasons, and it is desirable that for good conduct the quantity be increased until faithful hands can be allowed to cultivate extensive tracts, returning to the owner an equivalent of product for rent of soil.

XV. To protect the laborer from possible imposition, no commutation of his supplies will be allowed, except in clothing, which may be commuted at the rate of three dollars per month for first-class hands, and in similar proportion for other classes. The crops will stand pledged, wherever found, for the wages of labor.

XVI. It is advised, as far as practicable, that employers provide for the current wants of their hands, by perquisites for extra labor, or by appropriation of land for share cultivation, to discourage monthly payments so far as it can be done without discontent, and to reserve till the full harvest the yearly wages.

XVII. A Free Labor Bank will be established for the safe deposit of all accumulations of wages and other savings; and in order to avoid a possible wrong to depositors, by official defalcation, authority will be asked to connect the bank with the Treasury of the United States in this department.

XVIII. The transportation of negro families to other countries will not be approved. All propositions for this privilege have been declined, and application has been made to other departments for surplus negro families in this department.

XIX. The last year's experience shows that the planter and the negro comprehend the revolution. The overseer having little interest in capital and less sympathy with labor, dislikes the trouble of thinking, and discredits the notion that any thing new has occurred. He is a relic of the past and adheres to its customs. His stubborn refusal to comprehend the condition of things occasioned most of the embarrassments of the past year. Where such incomprehension is chronic, reduced wages, diminished rations, and the mild punishments imposed by the army and navy will do good.

XX. These regulations are based upon the assumption that labor is a public duty, and idleness and vagrancy a crime. No civil or military officer of the Government is exempt from the

operation of this universal rule. Every enlightened community has enforced it upon all classes of people by the severest penalties. It is especially necessary in agricultural pursuits. That portion of the people identified with the cultivation of the soil, however changed in the condition of the revolution through which we are passing, is not relieved from the necessity of toil, which is the condition of existence with all the children of God. The revolution has altered its tenure but not its law.

This universal law of labor will be enforced, upon just terms, by the Government, under whose protection the laborer rests secure in his rights. Indolence, disorder, and crime will be suppressed. Having exercised the highest right in the choice and place of employment, he must be held to the fulfillment of his engagements until released therefrom by the Government. The several provost-marshals are hereby invested with plenary powers upon all matters connected with labor, subject to the approval of the Provost-Marshal General, and the Commanding Officer of the Department. The most faithful and discreet officers will be selected for this duty, and the largest force consistent with the public service detailed for their assistance.

XXI. Employers, and especially overseers, are notified, that undue influence used to move the Marshal from his just balance between the parties representing labor and capital, will result in immediate change of officers, and thus defeat that regular and stable system upon which the interests of all parties depend.

XXII. Successful industry is especially necessary at the present time, when large public debts and onerous taxes are imposed to maintain and protect the liberties of the people and the integrity of the Union. All officers, civil or military, and all classes of citizens who assist in extending the profits of labor, and increasing the product of the soil, upon which, in the end, all national prosperity and power depend, will render to the Government a service as great as that derived from the terrible sacrifices of battle.

It is upon such consideration only that the planter is entitled to favor. The Government has accorded to him, in a period of anarchy, a release from the disorders resulting mainly from insensate and mad resistance to sensible reforms, which can never be rejected without revolution and the criminal surrender of his interests and power to crazy politicians, who thought by metaphysical abstractions to circumvent the laws of God. It has restored to him in improved rather than impaired condition his due privileges, at a moment when, by his own acts, the very soil was washed from beneath his feet.

XXIII. A more majestic and wise clemency human history does not exhibit. The liberal and just conditions that attend it, cannot be disregarded. It protects labor by enforcing the performance of its duty, and it will assist capital by compelling just contributions to the demands of the Government. Those who profess allegiance to other governments will be required, as the con-

dition of residence in this State, to acquiesce, without reservation, in the demands presented by Government, as a basis of permanent peace.

The non-cultivation of the soil, without just reason, will be followed by temporary forfeiture to those who will secure its improvement. Those who have exercised or are entitled to the rights of citizens of the United States, will be required to participate in the measures necessary for the reestablishment of civil government. War can never cease, except as civil governments crush out contest and secure the supremacy of moral over physical power. The yellow harvest must wave over the crimson field of blood, and the representatives of the people displace the agents of purely military power.

XXIV. It is therefore a solemn duty resting upon all persons to assist in the earliest possible restoration of civil government. Let them participate in the measures suggested for this purpose. Opinion is free and candidates are numerous. Open hostilities cannot be permitted. Indifference will be treated as crime, and faction as treason. Men who refuse to defend their country with the ballot-box or cartridge-box, have no just claim to the benefits of liberty regulated by law. All people not exempt by the law of nations, who seek the protection of the Government, are called upon to take the oath of allegiance in such form as may be prescribed, sacrificing to the public good, and the restoration of public peace, whatever scruples may be suggested by incidental considerations. The oath of allegiance, administered and received in good faith, is the test of unconditional fealty to the Government and all its measures, and cannot be materially strengthened or impaired by the language in which it is clothed.

XXV. The amnesty offered for the past, is conditioned upon an unreserved loyalty for the future, and this condition will be enforced with an iron hand. Whoever is indifferent or hostile, must choose between the liberty which foreign lands afford, the poverty of the rebel States, and the innumerable and inappreciable blessings which our Government confers upon its people.

May God preserve the union of the States!

By order of Major-General BANKS.

GEORGE B. DRAKE,
A. A. General.

Doc. 74.

THE ESCAPE FROM LIBBY PRISON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18, 1864.

A LARGE number of officers, who escaped from Libby Prison a few days ago, arrived in this city last night, and from them we gather very interesting statements relative to their manner of escape.

Over two months ago, the officers confined in Libby Prison conceived the idea of effecting their own exchange, and after the matter had been seriously discussed by some seven or eight of them, they undertook to dig for a distance toward a

sewer running into the basin. This they proposed doing by commencing at a point in the cellar, near a chimney. This cellar was immediately under the hospital, and was the receptacle for refuse straw, thrown from the beds when they were changed, and for other refuse matter. Above the hospital was a room for officers, and above that, yet another room. The chimney ran through all these rooms, and the prisoners who were in the secret, improvised a rope, and night after night let working parties down, who successfully prosecuted their excavating operations.

The dirt was hid under the straw and other refuse matter under the cellar, and it was trampled down, so as not to present too great a bulk. When the working party had got to a considerable distance underground, it was found difficult to haul the dirt back by hand, and a spittoon, which had been furnished the officers in one of the rooms, was made to serve the purpose of a cart. A string was attached to it, and it was run in the tunnel, and, as soon as filled, was drawn out, and the dirt deposited under the straw. But, after hard work, and digging with finger-nails, knives, and chisels, a number of feet, the working party found themselves stopped by piles driven in the ground. These were at least a foot in diameter. But they were not discouraged. Pen-knives, or any other articles that would cut, were called for, and after chipping, chipping, chipping, for a long time, the piles were severed, and the tunnellers commenced again, and in a few minutes reached the sewer.

But here an unexpected obstacle met their further progress. The stench from the sewers and the flow of filthy water was so great that one of the party fainted, and was dragged out more dead than alive, and the project in that direction had to be abandoned. The failure was communicated to a few others besides those who had first thought of escape, and then a party of seventeen, after viewing the premises and surroundings, concluded to tunnel under Carey street. On the opposite side of this street, from the prison, was a sort of carriage-house or out-house, and the project was to dig under the street and emerge from under or near the house. There was a high fence around it, and the guard was outside of this fence. The prisoners then commenced to dig at the other side of the chimney, and, after a few handfuls of dirt had been removed, they found themselves stopped by a stone wall, which proved afterward to be three feet thick. The party were by no means daunted, and, with pen-knives and pocket-knives, they commenced operations upon the stone and mortar.

After nineteen days' and nights' hard work, they again struck the earth beyond the wall, and pushed their work forward. Here, too, (after they had got some distance under ground,) the friendly spittoon was brought into requisition, and the dirt was hauled out in small quantities. After digging some days, the question arose whether they had not reached the point aimed at; and in order, if possible, to test the matter, Captain Gallagher, of the Second Ohio regiment, pretended

that he had a box in the carriage-house over the way, and desired to search it out. This carriage-house, it is proper to state, was used as a receptacle for boxes and goods, sent to prisoners from the North, and the recipients were often allowed to go, under guard, across the street to secure their property. Captain Gallagher was granted permission to go there, and as he walked across under guard, he, as well as he could, paced off the distance, and concluded that the street was about fifty feet wide.

On the sixth or seventh of February, the working party supposed they had gone a sufficient distance, and commenced to dig upward. When near the surface, they heard the rebel guards talking above them, and discovered they were some two or three feet yet outside the fence.

The displacing of a stone made considerable noise, and one of the sentinels called to his comrade and asked him what the noise meant. The guards, after listening a few minutes, concluded that nothing was wrong, and returned to their beats. This hole was stopped up by inserting in the crevice a pair of old pantaloons filled with straw, and by bolstering the whole up with boards, which they secured from the floors, etc., of the prison. The tunnel was then continued some six or seven feet more, and when the working party supposed they were about ready to emerge to daylight, others in the prison were informed that there was a way now open for escape. One hundred and nine of the prisoners decided to make the attempt to get away. Others refused, fearing the consequences if they were recaptured; and others yet, (among whom was General Neal Dow,) declined to make the attempt, as (they said) they did not desire to have their Government back down from its enunciated policy of exchange. Colonel Rose, of New-York; Colonel Kendrick, of Tennessee; Captain Jones, Lieutenant Bradford, and others, informed General Dow that they could not see how making their escape would affect the policy of exchange. Their principle was that it was their personal right to escape if they could, and their duty to their Government to make the attempt.

About half-past eight o'clock on the evening of the ninth, the prisoners started out, Colonel Rose, of New-York, leading the van. Before starting, the prisoners had divided themselves into squads of two, three, and four, and each squad was to take a different route, and after they were out, were to push for the Union lines as fast as possible. It was the understanding that the working party was to have an hour's start of the other prisoners, and consequently the rope-ladder in the cellar was drawn out. Before the expiration of the hour, however, the other prisoners became impatient, and were let down through the chimney successfully into the cellar.

Colonel W. P. Kendrick, of West-Tennessee; Captain D. J. Jones, of the First Kentucky cavalry, and Lieutenant R. Y. Bradford, of the Second West-Tennessee, were detailed as a rear-guard, or rather to go out last; and from a window Colonel Kendrick and his companions could

see the fugitives walk out of a gate at the other end of the inclosure of the carriage-house, and fearlessly move off. The aperture was so narrow that but one man could get through at a time, and each squad carried with them provisions in a haversack. At midnight, a false alarm was created, and the prisoners made considerable noise in getting to their respective quarters. Providentially, however, the guard suspected nothing wrong, and in a few moments the exodus was again commenced. Colonel Kendrick and his companions looked with trepidation upon the movements of the fugitives, as some of them, exercising but little discretion, moved boldly out of the inclosure into the glare of the gaslight. Many of them were, however, dressed in citizen's dress, and as all the rebel guards wear the United States uniform, but little suspicion could be excited, even if the fugitives had been accosted by the guard.

Between one and two o'clock the lamps were extinguished in the streets, and then the exit was more safely accomplished. There were many officers who desired to leave, who were so weak and feeble that they were dragged through the tunnel by main force and carried to places of safety until such time as they would be able to move on their journey. At half-past two o'clock, Captain Jones, Colonel Kendrick, and Lieutenant Bradford passed out in the order in which they are named, and as Colonel Kendrick emerged from the hole, he heard the guard within a few feet of him sing out: "Post No. 7, half-past two in the morning, and all's well." Colonel Kendrick says he could hardly resist the temptation of saying: "Not so well as you think, except for the Yanks." Lieutenant Bradford was intrusted with the provisions for this squad, and in getting through he was obliged to leave his haversack behind him, as he could not get through with it upon him.

Once out, they proceeded up the street, keeping in the shade of the buildings, and passed eastwardly through the city.

A description of the route pursued by this party, and of the tribulations through which they passed, will give some idea of the rough time they all had of it. Colonel Kendrick had, before leaving the prison, mapped out his course, and concluded that the best route to take was the one toward Norfolk or Fortress Monroe, as there were fewer rebel pickets in that direction. They, therefore, kept the York River Railroad to the left, and moved toward the Chickahominy River. They passed through Boar Swamp, and crossed the road leading to Bottom Bridge. Sometimes they waded through mud and water almost up to their necks, and kept the Bottom Bridge road to their left, although at times they could see and hear the cars travelling over the York River road.

While passing through the swamp near the Chickahominy, Colonel Kendrick sprained his ankle and fell. Fortunately, too, was that fall for him and his party, for while he was lying there one of them chanced to look up, and saw in a direct line with them a swamp-bridge, and in the

dim outline they could perceive that parties with muskets were passing over the bridge. They, therefore, moved some distance to the south, and after passing through more of the swamp, reached the Chickahominy about four miles below Bottom Bridge. Here now was a difficulty. The river was only twenty feet wide, but it was very deep, and the refugees were worn out and fatigued. Chancing, however, to look up, Lieutenant Bradford saw that two trees had fallen on either side of the river, and that their branches were interlocked. By crawling up one tree and down the other, the fugitives reached the east bank of the Chickahominy, and Colonel Kendrick could not help remarking that he believed Providence was on their side, else they would not have met that natural bridge.

They subsequently learned from a friendly negro that had they crossed the bridge they had seen, they would assuredly have been recaptured, for Captain Turner, the keeper of Libby Prison, had been out and posted guards there, and, in fact, had alarmed the whole country, and got the people up as a vigilance committee to capture the escaped prisoners.

After crossing over this natural bridge, they lay down on the ground and slept until sunrise, on the morning of the eleventh, when they continued on their way, keeping eastwardly as near as they could. Up to this time they had had nothing to eat, and were almost famished. About noon on the eleventh, they met several negroes, who gave them information as to the whereabouts of the rebel pickets, and furnished them with food.

Acting under the advice of these friendly negroes, they remained quietly in the woods until darkness set in, when they were furnished with a comfortable supper by the negroes, and, after dark, proceeded on their way, the negroes (who, everywhere, showed their friendship to the fugitives) having first directed them how to avoid the rebel pickets. That night they passed a camp of rebels, and could plainly see the smoke and camp-fire. But their wearied feet gave out, and they were compelled to stop and rest, having only marched five miles that day.

They started again at daylight on the thirteenth, and, after moving awhile through the woods, they saw a negro woman working in a field, and called her to them, and from her received directions, and were told that the rebel pickets had been about there, looking for the fugitives from Libby. Here they lay low again, and resumed their journey when darkness set in, and marched five miles, but halted until the morning of the fourteenth, when the journey was resumed.

At one point they met a negro in the field, and she told them that her mistress was a secesh woman, and that she had a son in the rebel army. The party, however, was exceedingly hungry, and they determined to secure some food. This they did by boldly approaching the house and informing the mistress that they were prisoners from Norfolk, who had been driven out by But-

ler, and the secesh sympathies of the woman were at once aroused, and she gave them of her substance, and started them on their way with directions how to avoid the Yankee soldiers, who occasionally scouted in that vicinity. This information was exceedingly valuable to the refugees, for by it they discovered the whereabouts of the Federal forces.

When about fifteen miles from Williamsburgh, the party came upon the main road, and found the tracks of a large body of cavalry. A piece of paper found by Captain Jones satisfied him that they were Union cavalry; but his companions were suspicious, and avoided the road, and moved forward, and at the "Burnt Ordinary" (about ten miles from Williamsburgh) waited the return of the cavalry that had moved up the road, and from behind a fence-corner, where they were secreted, the fugitives saw the flag of the Union supported by a squadron of cavalry, which proved to be a detachment of Colonel Spears's Eleventh Pennsylvania regiment, sent out for the purpose of picking up escaped prisoners. Colonel Kendrick says his feelings at seeing the old flag are indescribable.

The party rode into Williamsburgh with the cavalry, where they were quartered for the night, and where they found eleven others who had escaped safely. Colonel Spears and his command furnished the officers with clothing and other necessities.

At all points along the route, the fugitives describe their reception by the negroes as most enthusiastic, and there was no lack of white people who sympathized with them and helped them on their way.

From the officers we learn that there is a widespread Union feeling in Richmond. Jeff Davis is held in detestation, but all who do not heartily indorse the rebel government are spotted and watched. There are at this time eighteen persons confined in Castle Thunder on charges of attempts to assassinate the rebel President. These prisoners also confirm the report that an attempt was made to burn Jeff's mansion, and that one morning his servants found a coffin upon his porch.

In their escape the officers were aided by citizens of Richmond—not foreigners of the poorer classes only, but by natives and persons of wealth. They know their friends, but very properly withhold the mention of their names. Of those who got out of Libby, there were a number of sick ones, who were cared for by Union people, and will eventually reach the Union lines through their aid.

The officers also report the fact that some time ago, through the aid of citizens, they obtained communication with the soldiers on Belle Island, and there was to be a concerted movement to escape. The soldiers had been furnished with arms, which they had secreted. The officers at Libby were to secure the guards there, and act in concert with the Belle Island men; but just as the affair was ready to be carried into execution, the project was exposed. Suspicion at once rested

upon a certain Union lieutenant-colonel, who was in favor with the rebel authorities, had the freedom of the city, and moved about at will in the hospitals and elsewhere. He had been suspected for some time, and one day was accused of exposing the affair.

The indignation of the officers whose plans had been thwarted through the perfidy of (as they believed) one of their number, cannot be described. Some cried out: "Hang him! hang him!" One ran to his blanket, and, tearing it into strips, said he had a rope ready; and others were in favor of pitching the fellow out of the window, and letting his brains bespatter the pavement below. Wiser counsels, however, prevailed, and it was concluded it was better to let the traitor live, and report him to his Government, if ever opportunity offered. The lieutenant-colonel, we understand, will be reported to the War Office. His excuse is that he informed a Federal officer in a hospital of the attempted escape, and that a rebel surgeon overheard the conversation.

These prisoners confirm in every particular the statements heretofore made of the treatment of Federal prisoners there. The rations of the officers were about the same as those of the rebel privates; but our privates on Belle Island did not fare so well. As long as the boxes sent from friends at the North were delivered, they lived as well as could be expected under the circumstances. Those who had money were allowed to send out and get what they wanted, by paying three times more than Richmond prices, the profits going into the pockets of the officers of the prison. In other respects the treatment was quite harsh.

When a prisoner entered the prison, any articles found upon him that were fancied by rebel officers or guards were taken possession of; they pretended the money and articles were deposited with the Quartermaster.

The sleeping accommodations were very poor, and the only place they had to exercise their limbs in was the dining-room. For a while the officers were not furnished with meat at all, and at one time they received flesh which was pronounced by those among the officers who knew something about butchering, as mule-meat, as they knew of no cattle used for food which had bones like those found in the meat.

The privates on Belle Island, it is unquestioned, have eaten dogs; in fact, were obliged to do it in order to sustain life.

On the boat coming up from Fortress Monroe yesterday, the officers had a meeting, which was presided over by Colonel W. P. Kendrick, of the Third West-Tennessee cavalry, and at which Colonel West, of the Fourth Wisconsin, acted as Secretary, and the following card was unanimously adopted:

"The undersigned, officers of the United States army, and recently prisoners of war, desire to express their deep gratitude to Major-General Butler, Brigadier-General Wistar, Colonel West, of the First Pennsylvania artillery, and the gallant officers and men of the Eleventh Pennsylva-

nia cavalry, and the First New-York Mounted Rifles, for their effective assistance in completing our escape from the rebel Libby Prison at Richmond and the lines of pickets and bloodhounds of the rebel army; and also for the many acts of kindness so gracefully tendered us in our present need.

"We desire, also, in common with every loyal heart in the Union, to tender to Major-General Butler our high appreciation of his prompt and extensive efforts to aid our comrades, who are yet in the rebel lines, attempting to elude their vigilance, and make good their escape from that prison of refined cruelty and slow death."

This is signed by the following officers, who are all at this time in this city: William B. McCreery, Colonel Twenty-first Michigan infantry; W. P. Kendrick, Colonel West-Tennessee cavalry; Alexander Theobald Von Wizel, Lieutenant-Colonel Seventy-fourth regiment Pennsylvania volunteer infantry; J. F. Boyd, Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster of volunteers; T. S. West, Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-fourth Wisconsin volunteer infantry; H. C. Hobert, Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-first Wisconsin volunteer infantry; J. P. Collins, Major Twentieth Indiana infantry; G. R. Fitzsimmons, Major Thirtieth Indiana volunteers; J. F. Gallaher, Captain company B, Second Ohio volunteer infantry; Matt. Boyd, Captain, Seventy-third Indiana; A. G. Hamilton, Captain company A, Twelfth Kentucky cavalry; I. N. Johnston, Captain company H, Sixth Kentucky volunteer infantry; W. S. B. Randall, Captain company C, Second Ohio infantry; Michael Gallagher, Captain, Third New-Jersey cavalry; Morton Tower, Captain, Thirteenth Massachusetts volunteers; T. J. Jones, Captain, First Kentucky infantry; S. C. Bose, Captain, Fourth Missouri cavalry; T. Clark, Captain, Seventy-eighth Illinois infantry; Albert Wallber, First Lieutenant, Twenty-sixth Wisconsin; John C. Fislar, First Lieutenant, Seventh Indiana battery; William Reynolds, First Lieutenant, Seventy-third Indiana volunteers; James M. Wells, Lieutenant company F, Eighth Michigan volunteer cavalry; L. P. Williams, Lieutenant, Seventy-second Indiana volunteers; N. J. McKeen, Lieutenant company H, Twenty-first Illinois.

Doc. 75.

ORDER OF GENERAL GRANT.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, {
NASHVILLE, TENN., February 6, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4.

I. THE great demand for pilots having rendered this branch of business an unreasonable monopoly, whereby great extortion is practised, to the detriment of the service, it is therefore ordered:

1st. That on and after the twentieth day of February, every boat doing business on the Mississippi and its tributaries shall at all times carry at least one steersman, who shall have a certificate of the local board under the direction of the Supervising Inspector, to whom pilots and other

officers shall give every opportunity and facility for learning the business of piloting.

2d. In order to prevent extortion, now practised upon the Government by parties whose licenses are derived from, and who are protected by it, pilots shall be divided, under the directions of the United States Supervising Inspectors, into classes termed first and second, and the rates of piloting on the Mississippi and its tributaries above Memphis, shall be for pilots of the first class, not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars per month and subsistence, and in the trade below Memphis, three hundred dollars per month, and for single trips less than ten days, not exceeding fifteen dollars per day while actually in service. And the rates for pilots of the second class, not exceeding two hundred dollars per month and subsistence above Memphis, and two hundred and fifty dollars per month below Memphis; and for single trips less than ten days, not exceeding twelve dollars and a half per day while actually in service.

3d. When it is inconvenient to procure two good pilots on each boat, such boats may take one good pilot and one steersman; and in cases where boats are proceeding together and cannot conveniently secure pilots for all, they may proceed with good steersmen, providing the leading boat or boats have good and safe pilots, in which case they will file with the post commander at the place of departure satisfactory evidence that they could not conveniently procure two good pilots.

4th. The masters or owners of boats are prohibited from directly or indirectly paying or seeking to induce pilots to change boats by offering rates above those fixed herein.

5th. Any violation or evasion of this order, or any refusal to perform service when called upon, or any neglect of pilots or other officers to furnish all the opportunities and facilities to steersmen for learning the business of piloting, shall be regarded as a military offence, and punished, on conviction by a military commission, by confinement in a military prison not exceeding (60) sixty days, or a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or both.

II. For the greater protection of transports from danger of loss by fire, it is ordered:

1st. That every steamboat navigating the waters of this military division, (except ferry-boats and boats lying up for repairs,) shall at all times keep a watch of at least four men on every boat, two of whom shall be at all times on duty—one on the boiler, one on the main decks, and continually passing over their respective decks until relieved; and all boats lying up for repairs shall keep a like watch of at least three men. Said watchmen to be carefully selected and registered as such on the portage book.

2d. That every steamboat shall, at all times, except when actually storing freight in, or discharging it from the hold, or in other cases of actual necessity, keep the hatches and scuttles securely closed and locked, the key to be kept by the captain or first mate, who shall be held

responsible for the same, and without whose permission no person shall be permitted to go into the hold, and who shall also, at all times when the hold is open, place an extra watch therein.

8d. That every boat shall keep at least one barrel of water on each fore and each after-guard, and four barrels on the hurricane-deck; also three dozen buckets; and shall keep its hose constantly attached to its pump and ready for instant service.

4th. No candles or open lights shall be allowed in the hold or state-rooms of any boats.

5th. That from and after the issuing of this order, no skiffs or small row-boats shall be permitted to ply in the harbors of Louisville, Cairo, or Memphis; but every boat, except those belonging to steamboats, shall be taken to such place as the post commander shall direct, and there be kept, except in cases where special permission to the contrary shall be given by the provost-marshal; and that the small boats of all steamers shall be kept on deck, or properly drawn out of water.

6th. That the officers of steamboats shall, according to their proper authority, be held strictly accountable for the enforcement of this order on their several boats, and for extraordinary care and watchfulness.

7th. The quartermaster's department and post commanders are charged with the general execution of this order, and will detail, if necessary, such men as secret police to accompany transports navigating the rivers as may be deemed necessary, and will also at once arrest any person, and seize any boat, failing to comply with this order, and the boat to be turned over to the Quartermaster's Department for the public service, the offender to be tried and punished by military law.

By order of Major-General U. S. GRANT.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 76.

FIGHT AT VIDALIA, LA.

Natchez, Miss., February 16, 1864.

SINCE my last communication, nothing noteworthy has occurred here, except the capture of Captain Call and twenty-six of the Twenty-ninth Illinois infantry, of which you have probably heard before the present time.

Captain Call was guarding a cotton-train; his men, strung along the length of it, were attacked by a large force of rebel cavalry, part of an escort to a supply-train on its way from above Mobile to Jackson or Brandon, it is reported, and after a sharp fight the Captain, the Quartermaster's Sergeant of the regiment, and twenty-six men were gobbled up. So much for guarding cotton for Jews. Who ordered the Captain out? is now the question.

But on Sunday, the seventh instant, the monotony of garrison-duty was very summarily broken in upon. Opposite Natchez, in Louisi-

ana, is the town of Vidalia, where a force of — men, under command of Colonel B. G. Farrar, Second Mississippi artillery of A. D. is stationed. On the evening of the fifth, the Colonel received reliable information that a large force of the enemy from Harrisonburgh, distant thirty-five miles, was advancing to attack him. They were then reported at Crosse Bayou, seventeen miles out. Sending notice to Captain Grier, of the gunboat Benton, that the enemy was approaching, the Colonel brought over a twelve-pounder howitzer attached to his regiment, and throwing up a breastwork of cotton-bales, made ready for a sharp fight. Cavalry were sent out to watch the enemy, and hovering around his advance gradually fell back toward Vidalia. On the morning of the seventh, messengers brought in word of their steady advance, and at two P.M. they were seen moving out of the woods two miles from our advance, in line of battle, a heavy force of skirmishers being within seven hundred yards of us. From the wood to the river an unbroken flat offered a magnificent field of battle. Over a thousand strong, with three battle-flags in their advance, their flanks covered with cavalry, on they came in gallant style. But suddenly the howitzer opened on them, the gunboats obtained the range, and the bursting shell throwing their ranks into confusion, they withdrew to the shelter of the friendly timber.

In the mean time, two battalions of the Second Mississippi artillery, of African descent, Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. McCaleb commanding, had been brought over from Natchez, (the other battalion having been left to serve the heavy guns in the fort.) Taking post across the field, in rear of a narrow ditch which crossed it, they awaited the attack. To prevent a flank movement, the Thirtieth Missouri, company A, Second Mississippi artillery A. D., and one company of the Seventh Louisiana A. D., were drawn up on the left, near the river, and one battalion of the Second artillery was changed from the first position to prevent a similar movement on the right. Rendered more cautious by this check, the enemy came on more steadily, marching directly against our centre, where one battalion of the Second artillery A. D., under Lieutenant-Colonel McCaleb, held position. Having lost the use of our howitzer from the breaking of its carriage, the advance of the enemy was unchecked; their men, with arms at a support, seemed to expect an easy victory. Allowing them to approach within six hundred yards of our line, Colonel Farrar ordered the centre battalion of the Second Mississippi artillery A. D. to advance. This they did in splendid style, and in unbroken line the black soldiers, yelling as they advanced, took up their new position at the double-quick; when within three hundred yards of the enemy, they were halted, and pouring a tremendous volley among them, checked their advance. Halting, wavering, despite the efforts of their officers, who could be seen in front endeavoring to rally and encourage their men, as volley after volley was poured into them, the enemy turned, and taking

with them the most of their wounded, commenced a rapid retreat. The Twenty-ninth Illinois, Colonel L. Kent, now came up on the double-quick, not being able to cross the river sooner. They were ordered forward in pursuit, trying, if possible, to cut off retreat by the Trinity road. Darkness and an intervening gully prevented this.

Colonel Farrar having been peremptorily ordered to act strictly on the defensive, called off his troops from the pursuit, and the Twenty-ninth recrossed the river the same night.

Sending out a reconnoissance the next morning, under Lieutenant-Colonel Schadt, of the Thirtieth Missouri, it was found that the enemy had never halted in his flight until ten miles from the field of battle, and that they were then in full and rapid retreat toward Trinity or Harrisonburgh.

The forces of the enemy were Texan troops, General (or Prince) Polignac's brigade, consisting of the Seventeenth consolidated Texas, Colonel Taylor, three Texan regiments, Colonels Alexander, Stephens, and Hopp, and one battalion Louisiana cavalry, Major Caldwell. The fight was plainly visible from the bluffs of Natchez—every movement of the enemy, every change of our men could be distinctly seen, and the male and female citizens of this loyal city, who had lined the banks to see "their brave boys drive the Yankees and niggers into the river," had the satisfaction of seeing one thousand "Southrons," with a reserve of five hundred more to fall back on, foiled, whipped, and driven by about one hundred and fifty Yankees and four hundred and fifty negroes, for but five companies of the Second Mississippi artillery of A. D., one hundred and fifty of the Thirtieth Missouri, and one company of the Seventh Louisiana A. D. were engaged, the other companies being held in reserve, and the Twenty-ninth Illinois coming on the field after the enemy had started in retreat.

Too much praise cannot be given to Colonel Farrar, who contended so successfully against overwhelming numbers, personally directing his gun and leading the men in every advance. Lieutenant-Colonel McCaleb, mounted on a large gray horse, was a mark for all the enemy's sharpshooters, but as cool as on parade, he directed the movements of his men. This is the first action the Second Mississippi artillery has been in, the regiment only being mustered on the twentieth of January; but veterans could not have acted better, and the only trouble the officers had was to keep the men back. It is useless to speak of the Thirtieth Missouri; the bloody fields of Chickasaw, Arkansas Post, and Vicksburgh are their guarantees. If the Twenty-ninth Illinois was not in the fight, it certainly was not their fault, for men never showed more eagerness to be engaged.

Strange as it may seem, incredible as it appears to those who witnessed the rapid and incessant firing, not a man on our side was touched.

The enemy lost six killed, ten wounded in our

hands, and eight prisoners, and how many wounded were taken off in their ambulances it is impossible to say.

A negro at whose house General Polignac staid, represents him as saying, that he was very much disappointed at the failure of the rebels on this side to cooperate with him; that the plan had been well laid, and all means taken to insure an attack on both Natchez and Vidalia at once; that he considered himself fortunate in coming off so easily, and that he fully expected to capture or drive into the river every Yankee at Vidalia. If the attack had been simultaneous, they would have "caught a tartar," for Colonel Johnson, commanding here, contemplating such a move, had made all arrangements to meet it.

Thus again has the black soldier of the Republic vindicated his manhood and added new glory to our flag. He has proved his value as one of our nation's defenders, and developed a new element of strength. Will not his slanderers soon acknowledge that "a nigger will fight"?

ACR.

Doc. 77.

PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR WATTS.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ALABAMA, }
MONTGOMERY, Feb. 6, 1864.

To the People of Alabama:

THE recent action of Congress has deprived the State of much of the materials of the second-class militia. It is important to the defence of the State that Alabama shall have more troops subject to the call of her Commander-in-Chief. We have within the State the materials for an efficient army. It needs nothing but the spirit, the prompt and willing spirit, to fight as men ought to fight, to guard our firesides and drive the hireling Yankee from our borders. We are threatened with raids into the heart of the State.

As your Executive Chief, I call upon the middle-aged, the young men and boys, to organize into companies at once, and report, without delay, that they are organized and ready. I cannot suppose that Alabamians will wait to be drafted into the service. The enthusiastic reenlistment of our veteran troops in the Virginia and Tennessee armies has caused a thrill of joyful hope to animate the hearts of even the croaking and despondent. If these battle-scarred heroes, who for three years have carried their lives in their hands, ready to be sacrificed in defence of their homes and liberty, are willing to battle on while the feet of a hated foe press on our soil, shall we at home be laggards in the race of glory? I trust no such damning stigma shall rest upon the honored name of Alabama.

I confidently expect a hearty, prompt, and noble response to this call.

The rolls of companies will be reported to the Adjutant-General.

T. H. WATTS,
Governor of Alabama.

Doc. 78.

REBEL BARBARITIES.

EXECUTIONS IN NORTH-CAROLINA.

BEAUFORT, NORTH-CAROLINA, March 9, 1864.

THE unknown martyrs of this war are many. The madness of rebel leaders and the ferocity of the numerous guerrilla bands who hover about the advancing armies of freedom, are not more noteworthy than the sublime but silent devotion with which hundreds of Southern men are continually yielding their lives, after passing through the ordeal of every form of torture the most devilish ingenuity can invent, as evidence to the existence, in the Southern States, of a wide-spread loyalty to the Constitution and the Union, which neither scourgings, starvation, bloodhounds, nor the gallows can ever eradicate.

An illustration of this, recently furnished in North-Carolina, upon a scale which, in times less tragic than our own, would have caused every heart on the continent to thrill with painful sympathy, but which, amidst the glare of great events, may be unnoted, or, at best, only recorded in a brief paragraph.

When the attack was made on Newbern, on the second of February last, company F, of the Second regiment North-Carolina Union volunteers, was stationed at Beach Grove, the extreme outpost from Newbern. When it became evident that the position could not be held against the overwhelming force of rebels, which was rapidly approaching, the men of this company, having the certainty of an ignominious death before them if they should be captured, proposed to the officer in command to pilot the force at the outpost in safety to Newbern, by paths through the woods known only to themselves. But unfortunately, they were temporarily in charge of officers not belonging to their own regiment, who were either ignorant of the blood-thirsty character of the enemy, or too timid to fight to the death, if flight were deemed impracticable. Had these men been commanded by officers of their own regiment, they all would have escaped, or, as preferable to their inevitable doom if taken prisoners, would have found a more honorable death on the field. As it was, they were sternly forbidden to leave the ranks, and, without a shot being fired, or the stipulation secured that they should be treated as prisoners of war, they were surrendered; nineteen out of seventy only escaping. Of the fifty-one prisoners, twenty-four were immediately hung by order of the rebel General Pickett. On the scaffold at Kinston, these twenty-four heroes met their fate with true courage. In the presence of the rebel forces, and surrounded by the people of their own State, they avowed their entire devotion to the Union. After receiving the consolation of religion, one of their number stepped forward, and, in a firm and clear voice, declared that he and his companions died, as they had lived, "Union men." One of the victims was a little drummer-boy, named Joey Neal, only fourteen years of age, a fair com-

plexioned, blue-eyed child, an orphan, enlisted in Beaufort by the writer of these lines, out of pure compassion for his destitute state; another, a robust man, Amos Amyett, was tortured for fifteen minutes before the ill-adjusted rope could strangle him to death.

Those twenty-four corpses, swinging between heaven and earth, all that remains of as many brave and loyal North-Carolinians, are not to be forgotten, nor the lessons they teach to be lightly passed over by the rich and prosperous people of the North. The rank and file of the Second regiment, North-Carolina Union volunteers, is composed of native North-Carolinians, every one of whom is threatened with the fate of these twenty-four, if captured; and that that is no improbable contingency, may be gathered from the fact that although the regiment has only been a few months in existence, and up to this time has not been fully organized, detachments from it have, on several occasions, rendered services of sufficient importance to be recognized in General Orders. The men of the regiment fight with a halter around their necks, not because many of them are refugees from the rebel conscription, and Union men who have taken the first opportunity to leave the rebel army, but because every citizen of North-Carolina, taken in arms against the Confederacy, is declared by a statute of that State to be a traitor, and death is the decreed penalty of his offence. Hiding for months in swamps and thickets, and enduring perils and hardships that are almost incredible, these men, (or such of them as are not murdered by the guerrillas,) gaunt with hunger and clad in rags, at last reach our lines. Here they can find abundant and profitable employment as mechanics and laborers; but they are burning for the emancipation of their State and the rescue of their families from the horrors of the rebel despotism; and they enlist, without the lure of large bounties, in the service of the United States, which, on its part, guarantees them, or should do so, the same protection afforded to soldiers of the loyal States. Many of them have now been four months in the service, and have never received one cent of pay or bounty. This was the case with the twenty-four hung at Kinston; not a man of them had ever received a dollar from the United States.

But the saddest fact of all is, that a much larger proportion of them than is usual in Northern regiments, have large and helpless families dependent upon them, and these, when the father is killed in action, or murdered after being captured, are left to suffer. In North-Carolina, there is no "Freedmen's Aid Society" to foster the destitute families of the "poor white man," who not only escapes from a worse than African bondage, but, despite the threat of the gallows, takes up arms for the Union.

Here, there is no beneficent State Government, as in New-York and Massachusetts, to provide "State aid" for the families, and to furnish additional bounties for recruits. When the North-Carolina refugee and his family arrive within the

Union lines, without a crust of bread or a change of garments, the father enlists, and receives the Government ration for himself and family. Belonging to one company of eighty men, there are thirty families; of these, two are still outside our lines, with small prospects of ever rejoining their kindred; and twenty families, comprising eighty-seven persons, forty-seven of them under the age of fourteen, are with the company in Beaufort.

Before the war these were, of their class, well-to-do people, owning a little land, a few cattle, and some household stuff, but now having scarcely any thing beyond the Government ration. They are generally, almost universally, illiterate, to a degree inconceivable to a Northern mind; on an average, not more than one out of eight can read or write. They have suffered more than the negro from the blighting influence of slavery, and *they know it*; hence they are willing to take up arms, and if any one doubts their thorough loyalty, let him be referred to the heroism with which the twenty-four stood undaunted beneath the Kinston gallows.

Two specimens, out of many, may serve to show something of the hardships to which their patriotism exposes these people. A man who, in times of peace, was a prosperous mechanic, (a machinist,) having been pressed into the rebel service, managed to make his escape from Wilmington, and at Newbern enlisted in the Second regiment. After a few weeks, he contrived to convey the information to his wife, who resided some twenty-six miles beyond the lines, and she, leaving every thing but a little extra clothing, and some provisions, took her child, only eight months old, in her arms, and, fleeing for her life, pursued her way through forests and swamps for forty-eight hours. It was in the month of December last, and during the most severe storm of the winter, that this poor woman waded through partly frozen creeks, eating little, gathering all her available clothing about her infant, and at night afraid to kindle a fire, lest its light might betray her, sinking down exhausted on the wet earth to rest. At last she was almost in sight of our outposts, when, crossing an open field, she was discovered by a party of Fox's guerrillas, and made a prisoner. She was kept, during two days, in an old log house; every article of her own and her child's clothing, except what they wore, were destroyed; threats were made, food was sparingly given; but this brave woman again, and successfully, attempted her escape, and is now with her husband. On another occasion, one of the men, since enlisted, was seized by the guerrillas of Hyde County, and when his wife remonstrated with them, they discharged a musket, loaded with buckshot, at her, wounding her so seriously, that she is crippled for life; and, not content with this atrocity, they deliberately fired at one of the children, a young girl, wounding her in the neck. Both mother and daughter are now in Beaufort. Almost every private in the regiment has some similar experience to narrate, and their perils, in seek-

ing not only the protection of our flag, but a place among its vindicators, would fill a volume.

To those who share the perils of these men, (for the rebels have declared their intention to hang officers as well as privates if captured,) and whose hearts are stung to madness by the cruel fate of comrades, brutally murdered, and again agonized by the woe-begone countenances of widows and orphans, there are two questions, which day and night, with haunting solicitude, press themselves upon the attention. Any disparagements of the thorough loyalty of the regiment, or its bravery, deserve only scorn for reply. Rough in appearance, without banners or regimental music, partly drilled, and not thoroughly disciplined, as it is, the Kinston gallows testifies that it is still a regiment fearfully in earnest.

A LINE OFFICER

In Second Regiment N. C. U. V.

Doc. 79.

ATTACK ON "FREEMAN'S BAND."

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL STEPHENS'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT ELEVENTH CAVALRY,
SMITHVILLE, BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS,
February 10, 1864.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to a special order issued from the Headquarters District of East-Arkansas, dated February seventh, 1864, I moved the same day with a detachment of the Eleventh Missouri cavalry and First Nebraska cavalry, consisting of four officers and sixty-four men, of the Eleventh Missouri cavalry, and Captain T. J. Majors and forty men, of the First Nebraska cavalry, together with eight men of the Fourth Arkansas infantry, to attack the camp of Colonel Freeman, then supposed to be encamped on the Smithville road, about twenty-five miles from this point. On my arrival at the point designated, I found that the camp had broken up, and that Colonel Freeman had moved with his command northwardly. I then, upon consultation with Captain Majors, determined to follow him, and attack him wherever I might find him. In accordance with this determination, I moved the command through Smithville to a point on Spring River, known as the Widow Marshall's, where I received the first definite information of the whereabouts of the enemy's forces, he having left that point the same day, and moved up Spring River, westwardly, to a point known as Morgan's Mill, near the mouth of Martin's Creek.

Finding that the men were fatigued, and that my horses were not in a condition to attack his camp that night, I halted the command and encamped. Early the next morning, the command took up its line of march up both sides of Spring River, the detachment of the First Nebraska cavalry, under Captain Majors, moving up the south side of the river to a point known as the farm of the Widow Crawford's; with the remaining portion of the command, consisting of the Fourth Arkansas infantry and Eleventh Missouri cav-

alry, I moved cautiously up the north side of the river, crossing at Marshall's Ford, Captain Majors being ordered, in case of an attack either by me upon the enemy, or any attack by them upon me, to cross the river at the nearest point, and effect a junction as rapidly as possible. About seven miles from the point at which I started, I encountered the enemy's pickets, and immediately drove them in. My information, previous to this time, had led me to believe that the enemy did not number over two hundred effective men; but, as it was afterward ascertained, he had been reinforced during the night by about three hundred men, under Lieutenant-Colonel Coleman and Colonel Lovell, making his entire effective force in the neighborhood of four hundred and fifty men. As soon as I ascertained this fact, I halted my command, consisting in all of seventy-two officers and men, and determined to attack the enemy previous to his forming his line-of-battle. To accomplish this object, I ordered the command to take position on a hill which fronted the creek, from which I expected the enemy to debouch; he, however, had anticipated my movements, and had already taken a position on a hill still higher up, and immediately in my rear, his front occupying a narrow ridge on both sides of the Salem road, with his flanks extending down the sloping ravines on my right and left. Observing this disposition of the enemy, and during my temporary absence in another part of the field, Lieutenant Warrington, my acting adjutant, acting under previously expressed instructions from me, formed the battalion into column of fours by the right, and charged the front of the enemy. Under a heavy fire, the column moved to a position in front of the line formed by the enemy, and opened fire with considerable effect. Part of the men were still in the rear, and efforts were made to bring them up. At this juncture, I reached the scene of action, and assumed command. For the space of ten minutes, under a terrific fire from the enemy's works, this little band of about twenty-five men, forming my advance, stood their ground, keeping the enemy at bay, and at one time breaking the centre of their front line of battle. This advantage I was unable to improve for want of a force with which to charge the enemy, the men still in the rear not coming up as promptly as I had expected and ordered. In the mean time my flanks were turned, and in order to prevent my being entirely surrounded, I gave the order to retreat to a new position in a dense thicket, on the opposite side of Martin's Creek. Overwhelmed by numbers, I was forced to abandon this position; and as rapidly as possible, and the nature of the ground would permit, I again retreated in the direction of Captain Majors's command, which I supposed by this time had reached the mill. In this I was prevented by the enemy, who appeared in force on the hill commanding the mill road. But one chance remained for me to escape from the overwhelming force with which I was contending, and that was to follow an old road which led up the hills, and

take possession of the ridge. I did so immediately, closely pursued by the enemy. Forming my men on the ridge, I made a stand and opened fire. This held them in check; but I was again flanked, and forced to retreat along the ridge to another point, which gave me a favorable position with which to retard their pursuit. In this manner, for nearly eight miles, I kept up a running fight, until the enemy ceased pursuing us, and gave my now exhausted men and horses a chance to recover their energies. Still retreating, I crossed the river at Walker's Ford, twelve miles west of the scene of action, unmolested by the enemy, and hearing nothing of Captain Majors, took up my line of march for Batesville, where I arrived without further loss. For an account of the part taken by Captain Majors in this action, I beg leave to respectfully refer to his report, but must state that but for the gallant charge made by him on the enemy in their rear, and whilst I was fighting them on the hills, I must have inevitably been surrounded, and my entire command captured. By the truly gallant and efficient manner in which the task assigned him was performed, fearlessly charging a largely superior force of the enemy, who possessed every advantage of position, he demonstrated what has already been shown, that "courage and determination will overcome greatly superior numbers." Captain Rouch, of the Eleventh cavalry, who was, toward the last of the engagement, unfortunately taken prisoner by the enemy, by reason of his horse being shot from under him, displayed great coolness, decision, and promptness in obeying all orders given by me.

To Lieutenants Warrington and Harris great praise is due for the gallantry and determination displayed by them during the entire fight, always in the front, encouraging the men under their command, and by their personal efforts in retarding the pursuit, and in rallying and forming the men in line on each successive stand made by us, contributed largely to the safety of the remaining portion of my command.

My loss, I regret to state, is severe; nearly one half of the portion of the command engaged in the action being killed, wounded, or missing. The following is the recapitulation, as near as could be ascertained, from the sources of information left open to me after the fight:

Killed, Private Dean, company F, Eleventh cavalry, Missouri volunteers; wounded, four; missing, twenty-three.

Of these, twenty are from the Eleventh Missouri cavalry, and three from the Fourth Arkansas infantry.

My thanks are due to the men under my command, with a few *cowardly* exceptions, for the courage displayed on this occasion. I am unable to state the exact loss of the enemy, but am fully satisfied that it will amount to an aggregate of sixty-five killed, wounded, and missing, including the prisoners taken by Captain Majors. In conclusion, I would respectfully recommend Lieutenant John A. Warrington to the favorable

consideration of the commanding officer of the district, in order that he may receive the promotion due him for his gallant services during this action.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN W. STEPHENS,

Lieut.-Colonel Eleventh Cavalry, Commanding Detachment.
Captain H. C. FILLBROWN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Batesville, Arkansas.

Doc. 80.

PROCLAMATION OF JEFFERSON DAVIS

TO THE REBEL ARMIES, FEB. 9, 1864.

Soldiers of the Armies of the Confederate States:

In the long and bloody war in which your country is engaged, you have achieved many noble triumphs. You have won glorious victories over vastly more numerous hosts. You have cheerfully borne privations and toil to which you were unused. You have readily submitted to restraints upon your individual will, that the citizen might better perform his duty to the State as a soldier. To all these you have lately added another triumph—the noblest of human conquests—a victory over yourselves. As the time drew near, when you, who first entered the service, might well have been expected to claim relief from your arduous labors and restoration to the endearments of home, you have heeded only the call of your suffering country. Again you come to tender your service for the public defence—a free offering, which only such patriotism as yours could make—a triumph worthy of you and of the cause to which you are devoted.

I would in vain attempt adequately to express the emotions with which I received the testimonials of confidence and regard which you have recently addressed to me. To some of those first received separate acknowledgments were returned; but it is now apparent that a like generous enthusiasm pervades the whole army, and that the only exception to such magnanimous tender will be of those, who, having originally entered for the war, cannot display anew their zeal in the public service. It is therefore deemed appropriate, and it is hoped will be equally acceptable, to make a general acknowledgment, instead of successive special responses. Would that it were possible to render my thanks to you in person, and, in the name of our common country, as well as in my own, while pressing the hand of each war-worn veteran, to recognize his title to our love, gratitude, and admiration.

Soldiers: By your will—for you and the people are but one—I have been placed in a position which debars me from sharing your dangers, your sufferings, and your privations in the field. With pride and affection my heart has accompanied you in every march; with solicitude it has sought to minister to your every want; with exultation it has marked your every heroic achievement; yet never, in the toilsome march, nor in the weary

watch, nor in the desperate assault, have you rendered a service so decisive in results as in the last display of the highest qualities of devotion and self-sacrifice which can adorn the character of the warrior-patriot. Already the pulse of the whole people beats in unison with yours; already they compare your spontaneous and unanimous offer of your lives for the defence of your country with the halting and reluctant service of the mercenaries who are purchased by the enemy at the price of higher bounties than have hitherto been known in war.

Animated by this contrast, they exhibit cheerful confidence and more resolute bearing. Even the murmurs of the weak and timid, who shrink from the trials which make stronger and firmer your noble natures, are shamed into silence by the spectacle which you present. Your brave battle-cry will ring loud and clear through the land of the enemy's as well as our own, will silence the vainglorious boastings of their corrupt partisans and pensioned press, and will do justice to the calumny by which they seek to persuade a deluded people that you are ready to purchase dishonorable safety by degrading submission.

Soldiers: The coming spring campaign will open under auspices well calculated to sustain your hopes. Your resolution needed nothing to fortify it. With ranks replenished under the influence of your example, and by the aid of representatives who give earnest of their purpose to add by legislation largely to your strength, you may welcome the invader with a confidence justified by the memory of past victories. On the other hand, debt, taxation, repetition of heavy drafts, dissensions occasioned by the strife for power, by the pursuit of the spoils of office, by the thirst for the plunder of the public treasury, and, above all, the consciousness of a bad cause, must tell with fearful force upon the overstrained energies of the enemy. His campaign of 1864 must, from the exhaustion of his resources of men and money, be far less formidable than those of the last two years, when unimpaired means were used with boundless prodigality, and with results which are suggested by the mention of the names of Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro, and the Chickahominy, Manassas, Fredericksburgh, and Chancellorsville.

Soldiers: Assured success awaits us in our holy struggle for liberty and independence, and for the preservation of all that renders life desirable to honorable men; when that success shall be reached, to you, your country's hope and pride, under Divine Providence, will it be due. The fruits of that success will not be reaped by you alone, but your children and your children's children in long generations to come will enjoy the blessings derived from you, that will preserve your memory ever living in their hearts.

Citizen-defenders of the homes, the liberties, and altars of the Confederacy: That the God whom we all humbly worship, may shield you with his fatherly care, and preserve you for safe return to the peaceful enjoyment of your friends

and the associations of those you most love, is the earnest prayer of your Commander-in-Chief,
JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Doc. 81.

THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION.

THE following is a circular letter of the Law Department of the Administration to the District Attorneys of the United States, explaining the provisions of the President's proclamation of amnesty:

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, February 19, 1864.

SIR: Many persons against whom criminal indictments, or against whose property proceedings under the confiscation laws are pending in the courts of the United States, growing out of the participation of such persons in the existing rebellion, have, in good faith, taken the oath prescribed by the proclamation of the President of eighth December, 1863, and have therefore entitled themselves to full pardon and restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves and where rights of third parties have intervened, which that proclamation offers and secures.

The President's pardon of a person guilty of acts of rebellion, will, of course, relieve that person from the penalties incurred by his crime, and, where an indictment is pending against him therefor, the production of the pardon signed by the President, or of satisfactory evidence that he has complied with the conditions on which the pardon is offered, (if he be not of the class excepted from the benefits of the proclamation,) will be a sufficient reason for discontinuing such criminal proceedings, and discharging him from custody therein.

Nor is it less doubtful that a *bona fide* acceptance of the terms of the President's proclamation by persons guilty of acts of rebellion, and not of the excepted class, will secure to such persons a restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves and where the rights of third parties shall have intervened, notwithstanding such property may, by reason of those acts of rebellion, have been subject to confiscation under the provisions of the confiscation acts of sixth of August, 1861, chapter 60, and seventeenth July, 1862, chapter 195. For, without adverting to any other source of power in the President to restore or protect their rights of property, the thirteenth section of the act of seventeenth July, 1862, authorizes the President at any time thereafter, by proclamation, to extend to persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion in any State or part thereof, pardon and amnesty, with such exceptions, and at such time and on such conditions, as he may deem expedient for the public welfare. It will hardly be questioned, I suppose, that the purpose of this section, inserted in a law mainly intended to reach the property of persons engaged in rebellion, was to vest the President with full power to relieve such persons, on such con-

ditions as he should prescribe, from the penalty of loss of their property by confiscation.

Although the proceedings for confiscation under the acts of August sixth, 1861, and July seventeenth, 1862, are in *rem*, against the property seized, yet, under both acts, the ground of condemnation is the personal guilt of the owner, in aiding the rebellion. By the pardon and amnesty, not only is the punishment of that personal guilt remitted, but the offence itself is effaced, that being the special effect of an act of amnesty by the Government. Of course, it arrests and puts an end to all penal proceedings founded thereon, whether they touch the persons or the property of the offender.

There is, therefore, no case of judicial proceedings to enforce the penalties of acts of rebellion which cannot be reached and cured by the constitutional or statutory power of the President to grant pardon and amnesty, whether the proceedings be against the person of the offender by criminal indictment or against his property under the confiscation act referred to.

The President has accordingly directed me to instruct you that, in any case where proceedings have been commenced and are pending and undetermined in the District or Circuit Court of the United States for your district, against a person charged with acts of rebellion, and not of the excepted class, whether they be by indictment or by seizure and libel of his property for confiscation, (the rights of other parties not having intervened,) you will discontinue and put an end to those proceedings, whenever the person so charged shall produce evidence satisfactory to you that he has, in good faith, taken the oath and complied with the conditions prescribed by the President's proclamation of eighth December, 1863. Nor is it necessary that the evidence which he produces should be a deed of pardon, signed by the President. It would be quite impossible for the President to furnish the multitudes who are now availing themselves of the benefits of the proclamation, and who are likely to do so hereafter, with this formal evidence of pardon. It will be sufficient to justify your action, if the party seeking to be relieved from further proceedings, shall prove to your full satisfaction that he has, in good faith, taken the oath, and brought himself within the conditions of pardon and amnesty set forth in the proclamation. If, in any case, you have good reason to believe that the oath has been taken for the mere purpose of obtaining the possession of personal property seized under the confiscation acts, with intent to remove it from the subsequent reach of the officers of the law, you will make report of the facts and reasons for your belief to this office before discontinuing the proceedings or restoring such property to the possession of the owner.

Forfeitures under the fifth section of the act of thirteenth July, 1861, chapter 3, are not of the class reached by the President's proclamation; for, under that act, the question whether the property seized is subject to forfeiture depends upon the predicament of the property itself, and not

upon the personal guilt or innocence of its owner. In this respect, forfeitures under that act have more resemblance to cases of prize of war captured at sea as enemy's property, than to proceedings under the acts of August, 1861, and July, 1862. Such forfeitures are enforced, not so much to punish the owner for disloyal acts, as to prohibit commercial intercourse, and to weaken the public enemy, which are always efficient instruments and legitimate effects of public war. But although the remissions of forfeitures under the act of July, 1861, are thus not within the scope of the proclamation of pardon, still ample power is conferred on the Secretary of the Treasury by the eighth section of that act to mitigate or remit all forfeitures and penalties incurred under the act. And it is not to be doubted that in all proper cases under that act, where the owner of the property, residing in the territory in rebellion, complies with the conditions of the proclamation, that the Secretary of the Treasury will exercise the power of remission of such forfeitures in the same spirit of generous forbearance and liberality which inspires and characterizes the proclamation.

Very respectfully, etc.,

TITIAN J. COFFEY,
Acting Attorney-General.

Doc. 83.

OPERATIONS AT WEST-BAY, FLORIDA.

REPORT OF ADMIRAL BAILEY.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP DALE, }
Key-West, March 8, 1864.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith the reports of acting volunteer Lieutenant W. R. Browne, giving the details of two expeditions lately sent out from the United States bark Restless, to destroy certain newly-erected salt-works, the property, as he states, of the rebel government. The object of the expedition was, in each instance, successfully accomplished.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. BAILEY,
A. R. Admiral, Commanding E. G. B. Squadron.

UNITED STATES BARK RESTLESS, ST. ANDREW'S
BAY, FLORIDA, February 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report:

Learning that the rebels had erected new government salt-works, on West-Bay, on the site of the old salt-works destroyed by us in December, and that they had a force of fifty men armed and stationed there for protection, I fitted out the first cutter, manned with thirteen men, under charge of Acting Ensign James J. Russell, with orders to proceed up the Gulf coast twenty miles, and march inland seven miles, to attack them in the rear, while Acting Ensign Henry Edson, with ten men, in command of the second cutter, would proceed by the inside passage and attack them in the front at the same time.

The expedition was entirely successful, the

works being abandoned on the appearance of our men. Messrs. Russell's and Edson's parties joined at the appointed time, and immediately proceeded in the destruction of every thing connected with the manufactories, consisting of twenty-six sheet-iron boilers, averaging eight hundred and eighty-one gallons; nineteen kettles, averaging two hundred gallons, making an aggregate of twenty thousand seven hundred and six gallons, which cost in Montgomery five dollars and fifty cents per gallon. These boilers and kettles were cut up or broken to pieces. Some six hundred bushels of salt were thrown into the bay, all the chimneys and furnaces hauled down, and every thing rendered completely useless for any further operations.

Seven slaves fled to us for protection, and assisted in the destruction of this establishment, which had only been in operation ten days. This work covered a space of half a square mile, the boilers and kettles alone costing one hundred and forty-six thousand eight hundred and eighty-three dollars. Our party returned to the ship next day, bringing seven contrabands and six shot-guns. You will please find inclosed a drawing of the boilers and kettles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. R. BROWNE,
Acting Master Commanding.

To Acting Rear-Admiral THEODORUS BAILEY,
Commanding E. G. B. Squadron.

UNITED STATES BARK RESTLESS, ST. ANDREW'S }
BAY, February 20, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report:

Having gained information that a large barge would leave the Welappo River, on or about the eighteenth instant, for East-Bay, with all the materials on board necessary for erecting a large salt-work, and, on her return, intended to bring back a cargo of salt, (her capacity one thousand five hundred bushels,) I fitted out the second cutter, with eleven men, under charge of Acting-Ensign Henry Edson, and gig, with seven men, under charge of Master's Mate F. Grant, to effect her capture on her passage down, and with orders, if after waiting five days and not seeing the barge, to land and destroy all the salt-works in the vicinity.

According to my instructions, the boats left the ship at eight P.M. on the seventeenth instant, and proceeded to a bayou on the south-west side of East-Bay, selected as a place of ambush, and which the barge must necessarily pass. After lying in wait the appointed time, and seeing no appearance of the barge, the men were landed, and destroyed all the works at hand, sixteen in number, among which were some of the largest government salt-works ever erected in Florida, the whole of which were successfully destroyed, consisting of five large steamboat-boilers and twenty-eight kettles, together with sixteen log houses, one flatboat, a large quantity of salt, vats, tanks, and other materials connected with the manufacture of this article. After destroying

the above, they returned to the ship, bringing with them a contraband found at this place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. R. BROWN,
Acting Master Commanding.

To Acting Rear-Admiral THEODORUS BAILEY,
Commanding E. G. B. Squadron, Key West, Fla.

Doc. 88.

ADDRESS OF THE REBEL CONGRESS

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

February 26, 1864.

IN closing the labors of the first permanent Congress, your representatives deem it a fit occasion to give some account of their stewardship; to review briefly what, under such embarrassments and adverse circumstances, has been accomplished; to invite attention to the prospect before us, and the duties incumbent on every citizen in this crisis; and to address such words of counsel and encouragement as the times demand.

Compelled by a long series of oppressive and tyrannical acts, culminating at last in the selection of a President and Vice-President by a party confessedly sectional and hostile to the South and her institutions, these States withdrew from the former Union, and formed a new confederate alliance, as an independent government, based on the proper relations of labor and capital.

This step was taken reluctantly, by constraint, and after the exhaustion of every measure that was likely to secure us from interference with our property, equality in the Union, or exemption from submission to an alien government. The Southern States claimed only the unrestricted enjoyment of the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Finding, by painful and protracted experience, that this was persistently denied, we determined to separate from those enemies, who had manifested the inclination and ability to impoverish and destroy us—we fell back upon the rights for which the colonies maintained the war of the Revolution, and which our heroic forefathers asserted to be clear and inalienable. The unanimity and zeal with which the separation was undertaken and perfected, finds no parallel in history. The people rose *en masse* to assert their liberties and to protect their menaced rights. There never was before such universality of conviction, among any people, on any question involving so serious and so thorough a change of political and international relations.

This grew out of the clearness of the right so to act, and the certainty of the perils of farther association with the North. The change was so wonderful, so rapid, so contrary to universal history, that many fail to see that all has been done in the logical sequence of principles, which are the highest testimony to the wisdom of our fathers, and the best illustration of the correctness of those principles. This Government is a child of law instead of sedition, of right instead of violence, of deliberation instead of insurrec-

tion. Its early life was attended by no anarchy, no rebellion, no suspension of authority, no social disorders, no lawless disturbances. Sovereignty was not for one moment in abeyance. The utmost conservatism marked every proceeding and public act. The object was "to do what was necessary, and no more; and to do that with the utmost temperance and prudence." St. Just, in his report to the Convention of France, 1793, said: "A people has but one dangerous enemy, and that is government." We adopted no such absurdity.

In nearly every instance, the first steps were taken legally, in accordance with the will and prescribed direction of the constituted authorities of the seceding States. We were not remitted to brute force or natural law, or the instincts of reason. The charters of freedom were scrupulously preserved. As in the English Revolution of 1688, and ours of 1776, there was no material alteration in the laws beyond what was necessary to redress the abuses that provoked the struggle. No attempt was made to build on speculative principles. The effort was confined within the narrowest limits of historical and constitutional right. The controversy turned on the records and muniments of the past. We merely resisted innovation and tyranny, and contended for our birth-rights and the covenanted principles of our race. We have had our Governors, General Assemblies, and Courts; the same electors, the same corporations, "the same rules for property, the same subordinations, the same order in the law and the magistracy." When the sovereign States met in council, they, in truth and substance, and in a constitutional light, did not make but prevented a revolution.

Commencing our new national life under such circumstances, we had a right to expect that we would be permitted, without molestation, to cultivate the arts of peace and vindicate on our chosen arena and with the selected type of social characteristics, our claims to civilization. It was thought, too, by many, that war would not be resorted to by an enlightened country, except on the direst necessity. That a people, professing to be animated by Christian sentiment, and who had regarded our peculiar institution as a blot and blur upon the fair escutcheon of their common Christianity, should make war upon the South for doing what they had a perfect right to do, and for relieving them of the incubus which, they professed, rested upon them by the association, was deemed almost beyond belief by many of our wisest minds. It was hoped, too, that the obvious interest of the two sections would restrain the wild frenzy of excitement and turn into peaceful channels the thoughts of those who had but recently been invested with power in the United States.

These reasonable anticipations were doomed to disappointment. The red glare of battle, kindled at Sumter, dissipated all hopes of peace, and the two governments were arrayed in hostility against each other. We charge the responsibility of this war on the United States. They are accountable

for the blood and havoc and ruin it has caused. For such a war we were not prepared. The difference in military resources between our enemies and ourselves; the immense advantages possessed in the organized machinery of an established government; a powerful navy; the nucleus of an army; credit abroad, and illimitable facilities in mechanical and manufacturing power, placed them on "the vantage-ground."

In our infancy we were without a seaman or soldier, without revenue, without gold and silver, without a recognized place in the family of nations, without external commerce, without foreign credit, with the prejudices of the world against us. While we were without manufacturing facilities to supply our wants, our ports were blockaded; we had to grapple with a giant adversary, defend two thousand miles of sea-coast and an inland frontier of equal extent. If we had succeeded in preventing any successes on the part of our enemy, it would have been a miracle. What we have accomplished, with a population so inferior in numbers, and means so vastly disproportionate, has excited the astonishment and admiration of the world.

The war in which we are engaged was wickedly, and against all our protests, and the most earnest efforts to the contrary, forced upon us. South-Carolina sent a commission to Washington to adjust all questions of dispute between her and the United States. One of the first acts of the provisional government was to accredit agents to visit Washington, and use all honorable means to obtain a satisfactory settlement of all questions of dispute with that Government. Both efforts failed. Commissioners were deceived and rejected, and clandestine but vigorous preparations were made for war. In proportion to our perseverance and anxiety, have been the obstinacy and arrogance in spurning offers of peace. It seems we can be indebted for nothing to the virtues of our enemies. We are obliged to his vices, which have injured to our strength. We owe as much to his insolence and blindness as to our precaution.

The wager of battle having been tendered, it was accepted. The alacrity with which our people flew to arms is worthy of all praise. Their deeds of heroic daring, patient endurance, ready submission to discipline, and numerous victories, are in keeping with the fervent patriotism that prompted their early volunteering. Quite recently scores of regiments have reenlisted for the war, testifying their determination to fight until their liberties were achieved. Coupled with and contributing greatly to the enthusiastic ardor, was the lofty courage, the indomitable resolve, the self-denying spirit of our noble women, who, by their labors of love, their patience of hope, their unflinching constancy, their uncomplaining submission to the privations of the war, have shed an immortal lustre upon their sex and country.

Our army is no hireling soldiery. It comes not from paupers, criminals, or emigrants. It was originally raised by the free, unconstrained, unpurchasable assent of the men. All vocations

and classes contributed to the swelling numbers. Abandoning luxuries and comforts to which they had been accustomed, they submitted cheerfully to the scanty fare and exactive service of the camps. Their services above price, the only remuneration they have sought is the protection of their altars, firesides, and liberty. In the Norwegian wars, the actors were, every one of them, named and patronymically described as the king's friend and companion. The same wonderful individuality has been seen in this war. Our soldiers are not a consolidated mass, an unthinking machine, but an army of intelligent units.

To designate all who have distinguished themselves by special valor, would be to enumerate nearly all in the army. The generous rivalry between the troops from different States has prevented any special preëminence, and, hereafter, for centuries to come, the gallant bearing and unconquerable devotion of confederate soldiers will inspire the hearts, and encourage the hopes, and strengthen the faith of all who labor to obtain their freedom.

For three years this cruel war has been waged against us, and its continuance has been seized upon as a pretext by some discontented persons to excite hostility to the government. Recent and public as have been the occurrences, it is strange that a misapprehension exists as to the conduct of the two governments in reference to peace.

Allusion has been made to the unsuccessful efforts, when separation took place, to procure an amicable adjustment of all matters in dispute. These attempts at negotiation do not comprise all that has been done. In every form in which expression could be given to the sentiment—in public meetings, through the press, by legislative resolves—the desire of this people for peace, for the uninterrupted enjoyment of their rights and prosperity, has been made known. The President, more authoritatively, in several of his messages, while protesting the utter absence of all desire to interfere with the United States, or acquire any of their territory, has avowed that the "advent of peace will be hailed with joy. Our desire for it has never been concealed. Our efforts to avoid the war, forced on us as it was by the lust of conquest and the insane passions of our foes, are known to mankind."

The course of the Federal Government has proved that it did not desire peace, and would not consent to it on any terms that we could possibly concede. In proof of this, we refer to the repeated rejection of all terms of conciliation and compromise, to their recent contemptuous refusal to receive the Vice-President, who was sent to negotiate for softening the asperities of war, and their scornful rejection of the offer of a neutral power to mediate between the contending parties. If cumulative evidence be needed, it can be found in the following resolution, recently adopted by the House of Representatives in Washington:

"Resolved, That as our country and the very existence of the best Government ever instituted by man are imperilled by the most causeless

and wicked rebellion that the world has seen, and believing, as we do, that the only hope of saving this country and preserving this Government is by the power of the sword, we are for the most vigorous prosecution of the war until the Constitution and the laws shall be enforced and obeyed in all parts of the United States; and to that end we oppose any armistice, or intervention, or mediation, or proposition for peace, from any quarter, so long as there shall be found a rebel in arms against the Government; and we ignore all party names, lines, and issues, and recognize but two parties in this war—patriots and traitors."

The motive of such strange conduct is obvious. The Republican party was founded to destroy slavery and the equality of the States, and Lincoln was selected as the instrument to accomplish this object. The Union was a barrier to the consummation of this policy, because the Constitution, which was its bond, recognized and protected slavery and the sovereignty of the States. The Union must, therefore, be sacrificed, and to insure its destruction, war was determined on.

The mass of the Northern people were not privy to, and sympathized in no such design. They loved the Union and wished to preserve it. "To rally the people to the support of the war, its object was proclaimed to be "a restoration of the Union," as if that which implied voluntary assent, of which agreement was an indispensable element and condition, could be preserved by coercion.

It is absurd to pretend that a government, really desirous of restoring the Union, would adopt such measures as the confiscation of private property, the emancipation of slaves, systematic efforts to invite them to insurrection, forcible abduction from their homes and compulsory enlistment in the army, the division of a sovereign State without its consent, and a proclamation that one tenth of the population of a State, and that tenth under military rule, should control the will of the remaining nine tenths. The only relation possible between the two sections under such a policy is that of conqueror and conquered, superior and dependent. Rest assured, fellow-citizens, that although restoration may still be used as a war cry by the Government, it is only to delude and betray.

Fanaticism has summoned to its aid cupidity and vengeance; and nothing short of your utter subjugation, the destruction of your State governments, the destruction of your social and political fabric, your personal and public degradation and ruin, will satisfy the demands of the North. Can there be a man so vile, so debased, so unworthy of liberty as to accept peace on such humiliating terms?

It would hardly be fair to assert that all the Northern people participate in these designs. On the contrary, there exists a powerful political party, which openly condemns them. The Administration has, however, been able thus far, by its enormous patronage and its lavish expend-

itures, to seduce, or by its legions of "Hessian" mercenaries, to overawe the masses, to control the elections, and to establish an arbitrary despotism. It cannot be possible that this state of things can continue.

The people of the United States, accustomed to freedom, cannot consent to be ruined and enslaved, in order to ruin and enslave us. Moral, like physical, epidemics, have their allotted periods, and must sooner or later be exhausted and disappear. When reason returns, our enemies will probably reflect, that a people like ours, who have exhibited such capabilities, and extemporized such resources, can never be subdued; that a vast expanse of territory, with such a population, cannot be governed as an obedient colony. Victory would not be conquest. The inextinguishable quarrel would be transmitted "from bleeding sire to son," and the struggle would be renewed between generations yet unborn. To impoverish us would only be to dry up some of the springs of Northern prosperity—to destroy Southern wealth is to reduce Northern profits, while the restoration of peace would necessarily reestablish some commercial intercourse.

It may not be amiss, in this connection, to say that at one time it was the wish and expectation of many at the South to form a treaty of amity and friendship with the Northern States, by which both peoples might derive the benefits of commercial intercourse and move on side by side in the arts of peace and civilization. History has confirmed the lesson taught by divine authority, that each nation, as well as each individual, should seek their happiness in the prosperity of others, and not in the injury or ruin of a neighbor. The general welfare of all is the highest dictate of moral duty and economic policy, while a heritage of triumphant wrong is the greatest curse that can befall a nation.

Until some evidence is given of a change of policy on the part of the Government, and some assurance is received, that efforts at negotiation will not be spurned, the Congress are of opinion that any direct overtures for peace would compromise our self-respect, be fruitless of good, and interpreted by the enemy as an indication of weakness. We can only repeat the desire of the people for peace, and our readiness to accept terms, consistent with the honor and integrity and independence of the States, and compatible with the safety of our domestic institutions.

Not content with rejecting all proposals for a peaceful settlement of the controversy, a cruel war of invasion was commenced, which, in its progress, has been marked by a brutality and disregard of the rules of civilized warfare, as stand out in unexampled barbarity in the history of modern wars. Accompanied by every act of cruelty and rapine, the conduct of the enemy has been destitute of that forbearance and magnanimity which civilization and Christianity have introduced to mitigate the asperities of war. The atrocities are too incredible for narration. Instead of a regular war our resistance of the unholo efforts to crush out our national ex-

istence is treated as a rebellion, and the settled international rules between belligerents are ignored.

Instead of conducting the war as betwixt two military and political organizations, it is a war against the whole population. Houses are pillaged and burned; churches are defaced; towns are ransacked; clothing of women and infants is stripped from their persons; jewelry and mementoes of the dead are stolen; mills and implements of agriculture are destroyed; private salt-works are broken up; the introduction of medicines is forbidden; means of subsistence are wantonly wasted to produce beggary; prisoners are returned with contagious diseases; the last morsel of food has been taken from families, who are not allowed to carry on a trade or branch of industry; a rigid and offensive espionage has been introduced to ferret out "disloyalty;" persons have been forced to choose between starvation of helpless children and taking the oath of allegiance to a hated government.

The cartel for the exchange of prisoners has been suspended, and our unfortunate soldiers subjected to the grossest indignities. The wounded at Gettysburgh were deprived of their nurses and inhumanly left to perish on the field. Helpless women have been exposed to the most cruel outrages and to that dishonor which is infinitely worse than death. Citizens have been murdered by the Butlers and McNeils and Milroys, who are favorite generals of our enemies. Refined and delicate ladies have been seized, bound with cords, imprisoned, guarded by negroes, and held as hostages for the return of recaptured slaves. Unoffending non-combatants have been banished or dragged from their homes to be immured in filthy jails. Preaching the Gospel has been refused, except on condition of taking the oath of allegiance. Parents have been forbidden to name their children in honor of "rebel" chiefs. Property has been confiscated. Military governors have been appointed for States, satraps for provinces, and Haynaus for cities.

These cruelties and atrocities of the enemy have been exceeded by their malicious and blood-thirsty purpose and machinations in reference to the slaves. Early in this war, President Lincoln averred his constitutional inability and personal unwillingness to interfere with the domestic institutions of the States and the relation between master and servant. Prudential considerations may have been veiled under conscientious scruples. Mr. Seward, in a confidential instruction to Mr. Adams, the Minister to Great Britain, on tenth March, 1862, said: "If the Government of the United States should precipitately decree the immediate abolition of slavery, it would reinvigorate the declining insurrection in every part of the South."

Subsequent reverses and the refractory rebelliousness of the seceded States caused a change of policy, and Mr. Lincoln issued his celebrated proclamation, a mere *brutum fulmen*, liberating the slaves in the "insurrectionary districts."

On the twenty-fourth June, 1776, one of the reasons assigned by Pennsylvania for her separation from the mother country was that, in her sister colonies, the "King had excited the negroes to revolt" and to imbue their hands in the blood of their masters, in a manner unpractised by civilized nations. This, probably had reference to the proclamation of Dunmore, the last royal Governor of Virginia, in 1775, declaring freedom to all servants or negroes, if they would join "for the reducing the colony to a proper sense of its duty."

The invitation to the slaves to rise against their masters, the suggested insurrection, caused, says Bancroft, "a thrill of indignation to run through Virginia, effacing all differences of party, and rousing one strong, impassioned purpose to drive away the insolent power by which it had been put forth." A contemporary annalist, adverting to the same proclamation, said: "It was received with the greatest horror in all the colonies."

"The policy adopted by Dunmore," says Lawrence in his notes on Wheaton, "of arming the slaves against their masters, was not pursued during the war of the Revolution; and when negroes were taken by the English, they were not considered otherwise than as property and plunder." Emancipation of slaves as a war measure has been severely condemned and denounced by the most eminent publicists in Europe and the United States.

The United States, "in their diplomatic relations, have ever maintained," says the Northern authority just quoted, "that slaves were private property, and for them, as such, they have repeatedly received compensation from England." Napoleon I. was never induced to issue a proclamation for the emancipation of the serfs in his war with Russia. He said: "I could have armed against her a part of her population, by proclaiming the liberty of the serfs. A great number of villages asked it of me, but I refused to avail myself of a measure which would have devoted to death thousands of families." In the discussions growing out of the treaty of peace of 1814, and the proffered mediation of Russia, the principle was maintained by the United States that "the emancipation of enemy's slaves is not among the acts of legitimate warfare."

In the instructions from John Quincy Adams, as Secretary of State, to Mr. Middleton, at Saint Petersburg, October eighteenth, 1820, it is said: "The British have broadly asserted the right of emancipating slaves (private property) as a legitimate right of war. No such right is acknowledged as a law of war by writers who admit any limitation. The right of putting to death all prisoners in cold blood, and without special cause, might as well be pretended to be a law of war, or the right to use poisoned weapons, or to assassinate."

Disregarding the teachings of the approved writers on international law and the practice and claims of his own Government in its purer days, President Lincoln has sought to convert the South into a St. Domingo, by appealing to the

cupidity, lusts, ambition, and ferocity of the slave. Abraham Lincoln is but the lineal descendant of Dunmore, and the impotent malice of each was foiled by the fidelity of those who, by the meanness of the conspirators, would only, if successful, have been seduced into idleness, filth, vice, beggary, and death.

But we tire of these indignities and enormities. They are too sickening for recital. History will hereafter pillory those who committed and encouraged such crimes and immortal infamy.

General Robert E. Lee, in a recent battle order, stated to his invincible legions, that seeks the "cruel foe to reduce our fathers and mothers, our wives and children, to abject slavery." He does not paint too strongly the purposes of the enemy or the consequences of subjugation. What has been done in certain districts is but the prologue of the bloody drama that will be enacted. It is well that every man and woman should have some just conception of the horrors of conquest. The fate of Ireland at the period of its conquest, and of Poland, distinctly foreshadows what would await us. The guillotine, in its ceaseless work of blood, would be revived for the execution of the "rebel leaders."

The heroes of our contest would be required to lay down their proud ensigns, on which are recorded the battle-fields of their glory, to stack their arms, lower their heads in humiliation and dishonor, and pass under the yoke of abolition misrule and tyranny. A hateful inquisition, made atrocious by spies and informers; star-chamber courts, enforcing their decisions by confiscations, imprisonments, banishments, and death; a band of detectives, ferreting out secrets, lurking in every family, existing in every conveyance; the suppression of free speech; the deprivation of arms and franchises; and the ever-present sense of inferiority would make our condition abject and miserable beyond what freemen can imagine. Subjugation involves every thing that the torturing malice and devilish ingenuity of our foes can suggest.

The destruction of our nationality, the equalization of whites and blacks, the obliteration of State lines, degradation to colonial vassalage, and the reduction of many of our citizens to dreary, hopeless, remediless bondage. A hostile police would keep "order" in every town and city. Judges, like Busted, would hold our courts, protected by Yankee soldiers. Churches would be filled by Yankee or tory preachers. Every office would be bestowed on aliens. Absenteeism would curse us with all its vices. Superadded to these, sinking us into a lower abyss of degradation, we would be made the slaves of our slaves, hewers of wood and drawers of water for those upon whom God has stamped indelibly the marks of physical and intellectual inferiority. The past of foreign countries need not be sought unto to furnish illustrations of the heritage of shame that subjugation would entail. Baltimore, St. Louis, Nashville, Knoxville, New-Orleans, Vicksburgh, Huntsville, Norfolk, Newbern, Louisville, and Fredericksburgh are the first fruits of

the ignominy and poverty of Yankee domination.

The sad story of the wrongs and indignities endured by those States which have been in the complete or partial possession of the enemy, will give the best evidence of the consequences of subjugation. Missouri, a magnificent empire of agricultural and mineral wealth, is to-day a smoking ruin and the theatre of the most revolting cruelties and barbarisms. The minions of tyranny consume her substance, plunder her citizens, and destroy her peace. The sacred rights of freemen are struck down, and the blood of her children, her maidens, and her old men is made to flow, out of mere wantonness and recklessness. No whispers of freedom go unpunished, and the very instincts of self-preservation are outlawed. The worship of God and the rites of sepulture have been shamefully interrupted, and, in many instances, the cultivation of the soil is prohibited to her own citizens. These facts are attested by many witnesses, and it is but a just tribute to that noble and chivalrous people, that, amid barbarities almost unparalleled, they still maintain a proud and defiant spirit toward their enemies.

In Maryland, the judiciary, made subservient to executive absolutism, furnishes no security for individual rights or personal freedom; members of the Legislature are arrested and imprisoned without process of law or assignment of cause, and the whole land groaneth under the oppressions of a merciless tyranny.

In Kentucky, the ballot-box has been overthrown, free speech is suppressed, the most vexatious annoyances harass and embitter, and all the arts and appliances of an unscrupulous despotism are freely used to prevent the uprising of the noble patriots of "the dark and bloody ground." Notes of gladness, assurances of a brighter and better day, reach us, and the exiles may take courage and hope for the future.

In Virginia, the model of all that illustrates human heroism and self-denying patriotism, although the tempest of desolation has swept over her fair domains, no sign of repentance for her separation from the North can be found. Her old homesteads dismantled, her ancestral relics destroyed, her people impoverished, her territory made the battle-ground for the rude shocks of contending hosts, and then divided, with hireling parasites mockingly claiming jurisdiction and authority, the Old Dominion still stands with proud crest and defiant mien, ready to tramp beneath her heel every usurper and tyrant, and to illustrate afresh her *sic semper tyrannis*, the "proudest motto that ever blazed on a nation's shield or a warrior's arms."

To prevent such effects, our people are now prosecuting this struggle. It is no mere war of calculation, no contest for a particular kind of property, no barter of precious blood for filthy lucre. Every thing involved in manhood, civilization, religion, law, property, country, home, is at stake. We fight not for plunder, spoils, pillage, territorial conquest. The government tempts by no prizes of "beauty or booty," to be

drawn in the lottery of this war. We seek to preserve civil freedom, honor, equality, firesides; and blood is well shed when "shed for our family, for our friends, for our kind, for our country, for our God." Burke said: "A state, resolved to hazard its existence rather than abandon its object; must have an infinite advantage over that which is resolved to yield, rather than carry its resistance beyond a certain point." It is better to be conquered by any other nation than by the United States. It is better to be a dependency of any other power than of that.

By the condition of its existence and essential constitution, as now governed, it must be in perpetual hostility to us. As the Spanish invader burned his ships to make retreat impossible, so we cannot afford to take steps backward. Retreat is more dangerous than advance. Behind us are inferiority and degradation; before us is every thing enticing to a patriot.

Our bitter and implacable foes are preparing vigorously for the coming campaign. Corresponding efforts should be made on our part. Without murmuring, our people should respond to the laws which the exigency demands. Every one capable of bearing arms should be connected with some effective military organization. The utmost energies of the whole population should be taxed to produce food and clothing, and a spirit of cheerfulness and trust in an all-wise and overruling Providence should be cultivated.

The history of the past three years has much to animate us to renewed effort and a firmer and more assured hope. A whole people have given their hearts and bodies to repel the invader, and costly sacrifices have been made on the altar of our country. No similar instance is to be found of such spontaneous uprising and volunteering. Inspired by a holy patriotism, again and again have our brave soldiers, with the aid of Heaven, baffled the efforts of our foes. It is in no arrogant spirit that we refer to successes that have cost us so much blood and brought sorrow to so many hearts. We may find in all this an earnest of what, with determined and resolute exertion, we can do to avert subjugation and slavery; and we cannot fail to discern in our deliverance from so many and so great perils the interposition of that Being who will not forsake us in the trials that are to come.

Let us, then, looking upon the bodies of our loved and honored dead, catch inspiration from their example, and gather renewed confidence and a firmer resolve to tread, with unflinching trust, the path that leads to honor and peace, although it lead through tears, and suffering, and blood.

We have no alternative but to do our duty. We combat for property, homes, the honor of our wives, the future of our children, the preservation of our fair land from pollution, and to avert a doom which we can read both in the threats of our enemies and the acts of oppression we have alluded to in this address.

The situation is grave, but furnishes no just excuse for despondence. Instead of harsh criti-

cisms on the Government and our generals; instead of bewailing the failure to accomplish impossibilities, we should rather be grateful, humbly and profoundly, to a benignant Providence, for the results that have rewarded our labors. Remembering the disproportion in population, in military and naval resources, and the deficiency of skilled labor in the South, our accomplishments have surpassed those of any people in the annals of the world. There is no just reason for hopelessness or fear. Since the outbreak of the war, the South has lost the nominal possession of the Mississippi River and fragments of her territory, but Federal occupancy is not conquest. The fires of patriotism still burn unquenchably in the breasts of those who are subject to foreign domination. We yet have in our uninterrupted control a territory which, according to past progress, will require the enemy ten years to overrun.

The enemy is not free from difficulties. With an enormous debt, the financial convulsion, long postponed, is surely coming. The short crops in the United States and abundant harvest in Europe will hasten what was otherwise inevitable. Many sagacious persons at the North discover in the usurpations of their Government the certain overthrow of their liberties. A large number revolt from the unjust war waged upon the South, and would gladly bring it to an end. Others look with alarm upon the complete subversion of constitutional freedom by Abraham Lincoln, and feel in their own persons the bitterness of the slavery which three years of war have failed to inflict on the South. Brave and earnest men at the North have spoken out against the usurpation and cruelties daily practised. The success of these men over the radical and despotic faction which now rules the North, may open the way to peaceful negotiation and a cessation of this bloody and unnecessary war.

In conclusion, we exhort our fellow-citizens to be of good cheer, and spare no labor, nor sacrifices, that may be necessary to enable us to win the campaign upon which we have just entered. We have passed through great trials of affliction, but suffering and humiliation are the schoolmasters that lead nations to self-reliance and independence. These disciplinary providences but mature, and develop, and solidify our people. We beg that the supplies and resources of the country, which are ample, may be sold to the Government to support and equip its armies. Let all spirit of faction and past party differences be forgotten in the presence of our cruel foe. We should not despond. We should be self-denying. We should labor to extend to the utmost the productive resources of the country. We should economize. The families of soldiers should be cared for and liberally supplied.

We entreat from all a generous and hearty co-operation with the Government in all branches of its administration, and with the agents, civil or military, in the performance of their duties. Moral aid has the "power of the incommunicable," and by united efforts, by an all-compre-

hending and self-sacrificing patriotism, we can, with the blessing of God, avert the perils which environ us, and achieve for ourselves and children peace and freedom. Hitherto the Lord has interposed graciously to bring us victory, and in his hand there is present power to prevent this great multitude which come against us from casting us out of the possession which he has given us to inherit.

T. J. Semmes, J. L. Orr, A. E. Maxwell, Committee on the part of the Senate; J. W. Clapp, Julian Hartridge, J. L. W. Curry, John Goode, Jr., W. N. H. Smith, Committee of House of Representatives; Thomas S. Boccock, Speaker of House of Representatives; Walter Preston, John McQueen, Charles W. Russell, W. Lander, A. H. Conrow, C. J. Munnerlyn, Thomas S. Ashe, O. R. Singleton, J. L. Pugh, A. H. Arrington, Walter R. Staples, A. R. Boteler, Thomas J. Foster, W. R. Smith, Robert J. Breckinridge, John M. Martin, Porter Ingram, A. A. Garland, E. S. Dargan, D. Funsten, Thomas D. McDowell, J. R. McLean, R. R. Bridgers, G. W. Jones, B. S. Gaither, George W. Ewing, W. D. Holder, Daniel W. Lewis, Henry E. Read, A. J. Davidson, M. H. Macwillie, James Lyons, Caspar W. Bell, R. B. Hilton, Charles J. Villers, J. W. Moore, Lucien J. Dupre, John O. Atkins, Israel Welsh, William G. Swan, F. B. Sexton, T. L. Burnett, George G. Vest, William Porcher Miles, E. Barksdale, Charles F. Collier, P. W. Gray, W. W. Clarke, William W. Boyce, John R. Chambliss, John J. McRae, John Perkins, Jr., Robert Johnston, James Farrow, W. D. Simpson, Lucius J. Gartrell, M. D. Graham, John B. Baldwin, E. M. Bruce, Thomas B. Haaly, W. P. Chilton, A. H. Kennan, O. M. Conrad, H. M. Bruce, David Clifton, W. B. Machen, D. O. De Jarnette, H. C. Chambers.

Doc. 84.

THE LOSS OF THE HOUSATONIC.

A NAVAL OFFICER'S ACCOUNT.

On the evening of February seventeenth, the *Housatonic* was anchored outside the bar, two and a half miles from Beach Inlet battery, and five miles and three fifths from the ruins of Sumter—her usual station on the blockade. There was but little wind or sea, the sky was cloudless, and the moon shining brightly. A slight mist rested on the water, not sufficient, however, to prevent our discerning other vessels on the blockade two or three miles away. The usual lookouts were stationed on the fore-castle, in the gangway, and on the quarter-deck.

At about forty-five minutes past eight of the first watch, the officer of the deck discovered, while looking in the direction of Beach Inlet battery, a slight disturbance of the water, like that produced by a porpoise. At that time it appeared to be about one hundred yards distant and a-beam. The Quartermaster examined it with his glass, and pronounced it a school of fish. As it was evidently nearing the ship, orders were at once

given to slip the chain, beat to quarters, and call the Captain. Just after issuing these orders, the Master's Mate from the fore-castle reported the suspicious appearance to the officer in charge. The officers and men were promptly on deck, but by this time the submarine machine was so near us that its form and the phosphorescent light produced by its motion through the water were plainly visible. At the call to quarters it had stopped, or nearly so, and then moved toward the stern of the vessel, probably to avoid our broadside guns. When the Captain reached our deck, it was on the starboard quarter, and so near us that all attempts to train a gun on it were futile. Several shots were fired into it from revolvers and rifles; it also received two charges of buckshot from the Captain's gun.

The chain had been slipped and the engines had just begun to move, when the crash came, throwing timbers and splinters into the air, and apparently blowing off the entire stern of the vessel. This was immediately followed by a fearful rushing of water, the rolling out of a dense, black smoke from the stack, and the settling of the vessel.

Orders were at once given to clear away the boats, and the men sprang to the work with a will. But we were filling too rapidly. The ship gave a lurch to port and all the boats on that side were swamped. Many men and some officers jumped overboard and clung to such portions of the wreck as came within reach, while others sought safety in the rigging and tops. Fortunately we were in but twenty-eight feet of water, and two of the boats on the starboard side were lowered. Most of those who had jumped overboard were either picked up or swam back to the wreck. The two boats then pulled for the Canandaigua, one and a half miles distant. Assistance was promptly rendered by that vessel to those remaining on the wreck.

At muster the next morning, five of our number were found missing. The Captain was thrown several feet into the air by the force of the explosion, and was painfully but not dangerously bruised and cut.

It was the opinion of all who saw the strange craft, that it was very nearly or entirely under water, that there was no smoke-stack, that it was from twenty to thirty feet in length, and that it was noiseless in its motion through the water. It was not seen after the explosion. The ship was struck on the starboard side abaft the mizzen-mast. The force of the explosion seems to have been mainly upward. A piece ten feet square was blown out of her quarter-deck, all the beams and carlines being broken transversely across. The heavy spanker-boom was broken in its thickest part, and the water for some distance was white with splinters of oak and pine.

Probably not more than one minute elapsed from the time the torpedo was first seen, until we were struck, and not over three or four minutes could have passed between the explosion and the sinking of the ship. Had we been struck in any other part, or before the alarm had been

given, the loss of life would have been much greater.

The Housatonic was a steam-sloop, with a tonnage of one thousand two hundred and forty, and she carried a battery of thirteen guns. She was completed about eighteen months ago, and has been in the blockade ever since. She is the first vessel destroyed by a contrivance of this character, and this fact gives to this lamentable affair a significance which it would not otherwise possess. Deserters tell us that there are other machines of this kind in the harbor, ready to come out, and that several more are in process of construction. The country cannot attend too earnestly to the dangers which threaten our blockading fleets, and the gunboats and steamers on the Southern rivers. X

OFF CHARLESTON, February 22, 1864.

ORDER BY ADMIRAL DAHLGREN.

FLAG-SHIP PHILADELPHIA, PORT ROYAL }
HARBOR, S. C., Feb. 19, 1864.

ORDER No. 50:

The Housatonic has just been torpedoed by a rebel David, and sunk almost instantly.

It was at night, and the water smooth.

The success of this undertaking will, no doubt, lead to similar attempts along the whole line of blockade.

If vessels on blockade are at anchor, they are not safe, particularly in smooth water, without out-riggers and hawsers, stretched around with rope netting, dropped in the water.

Vessels on inside blockade had better take post outside at night, and keep underweigh, until these preparations are completed.

All the boats must be on the patrol when the vessel is not in movement.

The commanders of vessels are required to use their utmost vigilance—nothing less will serve.

I intend to recommend to the Navy Department the assignment of a large reward, as prize-money, to crews or vessels who shall capture, or, beyond doubt, destroy one of these torpedo boats.

JOHN A. DAHLGREN,
Rear-Admiral, Commanding S. A. S. Squadron.

Doc. 85.

REBEL IMPRESSMENTS.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
RICHMOND, VA., March 7, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 80.

THE following act of Congress concerning impressments, and the instructions of the War Department respecting it, are published for the information and direction of all concerned:

AN ACT to amend "an act to regulate impressments," approved March twenty-sixth, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

The Congress of the confederate States of America do enact, That in all cases where prop-

erty is impressed for the use of the army and navy, or for other public use, under said act, the same shall be paid for at the time of said impressment, unless an appeal shall be taken from said valuation, as hereinafter provided, according to the valuation agreed upon between the parties, or ascertained by loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county, or parish in which the impressment may be made, in the manner and according to the regulations provided in the first, second, and third sections of the above-recited act, or in the eighth section thereof, where it is applicable.

Sec. 2. Whenever the officer making the impressment of property, under the act hereby amended, shall believe that the appraisement is fair and just, he shall indorse his approval upon the appraisement, and make payment accordingly; but if he shall believe that it is not fair and just, then he shall refuse to approve, and indorse the reasons of his refusal on the certificate, and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the appraisers, by reporting the case to the commissioners appointed under said act to which this is an amendment, for their decision, whose judgment shall be final, and in the mean time the property shall be held and appropriated by the officer impressing the same, who shall give a receipt therefor to the owner, who shall also have the right of appeal as herein provided.

Sec. 3. The said commissioners shall have power to summon and examine witnesses to enable them to fix the value of property impressed which shall be a just compensation for the property so impressed, at the time and place of impressment; and when the commissioners shall have fixed the value of property in cases of appeal, they shall furnish the owner and impressing officer with a statement of such value, which valuation by the commissioners shall be within three months from the time of impressment.

Sec. 4. That said commissioners shall be sworn faithfully to discharge all their duties under this act and the act to which this is an amendment.

Sec. 5. That the tenth section of the act of which this is an amendment be stricken out, and the following inserted instead thereof: "No slave laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain or provisions shall be taken for public use, without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity and upon the order of the general commanding the department in which said farm or plantation is situated."

Sec. 6. That the act amendatory of the above recited act, approved April twenty-seventh, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and so much of the first section of said act as requires an affidavit to be made by the owner or his agent, that such property was grown, raised, or produced by said owner, or held, or has been purchased by him, not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 7. That no impressment shall be made under this act, or the act to which this is amend-

atory, for the use or benefit of contractors with the government.

Sec. 8. Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the impressing officer to enter an appeal from any decision of the local appraisers, under the seventh section of the act to which this is amendatory.

Approved February sixteenth, 1864.

I. Impressments according to this act, and the act to which this is an amendment, may be made for necessary supplies for the confederate armies in the field, and for their accumulation in magazines and at posts and dépôts, and to carry on the various operations of the military bureau connected with the war department, whenever the same cannot be obtained by contract.

II. They may be made under orders from the generals commanding armies, departments, corps, divisions, and by commanders of detached parties when a necessity arises therefor. These orders may be executed by appropriate officers of the staff belonging to the army. The chiefs of the various bureaux shall designate the officers and persons who shall be competent to make impressments under the authority conferred upon them.

III. Before any impressment shall be made, the impressing officer or his agent will make an offer to the owner, his bailee, or agent, in writing, for the purchase of the property, describing the property he wishes to purchase, the price he is willing to pay, and the mode of payment, and stating that, upon a refusal to accept the same, compensation will be made according to the acts of Congress for the regulation of impressments. This notice will be considered as binding the property until the completion of the negotiation for the sale and transfer of the same to the impressing officer. The property will remain in the custody of the owner, and at his risk, during the pending of these proceedings, unless a delivery of the same be thereupon made to the impressing officer, with his consent. In case of a change of possession under these circumstances, the confederate States will be regarded as the owner, and the property held for its use and at its risk.

IV. In all cases in which the offer of an impressing officer is refused, he will proceed to adjust the price according to the first section of the act above recited—that is, by the judgment of two loyal and disinterested persons of the city, county, or parish in which the impressment may be made—one to be selected by the owner, his bailee or agent, and one by the impressing officer. In the event of their disagreement, these two will select an umpire of like qualification. The persons thus selected will proceed to assess just compensation for the property so impressed, whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use thereof be required. If the impressing officer believes that the appraisement is fair and just, he will indorse his approval, and pay for the property; and the right in the object impressed will become the property of the confederate States. But if he does not approve of the

appraisement, he will decline to approve it, and indorse the reason for his refusal on the certificate, and forthwith report the case to the commissioners appointed under the fifth section of the act to which the act above recited is an amendment, and in the mean time the property will be taken and a receipt describing the property and the proceedings for the adjustment of the price and the appeal, given to the owner. The impressing officer will immediately report the case to the appraisers, with a statement of the quality and condition of the property, and his opinion upon the subject.

V. No officer or agent will impress the necessary supplies which any person may have for the consumption of himself and family, employé, slaves, or to carry on his ordinary mechanical, manufacturing, or agricultural employments.

If any question arise as to the fact whether the supplies are necessary, or whether there be a surplus, it will be determined by appraisers mutually selected according to the preceding section, and in this case the decision of the appraisers will be binding on the officer, who will not be allowed an appeal therefrom.

VI. These regulations are published as a substitute for the regulations contained in General Orders Nos. 87 and 161, series of 1863.

By order.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General.

Doc. 86.

THE REBEL JUDICIARY.

STATE RIGHTS AND PERSONAL LIBERTY IN THE SOUTH.

FIRST DECISION IN GEORGIA UNDER THE ANTI-SUBSTITUTE LAW. Judge O. A. Lochrane, of the Superior Court, Macon Circuit, delivered an original and highly important opinion under the act repealing the substitute law, in the case of Dennis Daley and Philip Fitzgerald vs. C. J. Harris, on Thursday morning, February eleventh, as is reported by the *Macon Telegraph*:

He held it was not only the right but the duty of a nation to protect itself, and that any contract or right flowing out of the operation of law which came in conflict with the preservation of the State, was an unconstitutional act, not obligatory on the law-making power, and within the constitutional power of the government to repeal.

That the act allowing substitutes was to be regarded as a contract discharging principals from being called into the service; it was then a contract that the principal should not fight in the defence of the country, when it was endangered, and such contract was unauthorized by every principle of constitutional law. If our first Congress had agreed to exempt all men from taxation during the war who paid into the treasury five hundred dollars, such exemption could have been set aside by any subsequent legislature, when the public safety and self-preservation of the government demand it.

He held that the interest of every citizen was

the same as that of the government of which he formed a part, and the military service rendered by the substitute was just as much rendered to the principal as a citizen of the government itself; his life, his honor, his property, and his liberty were defended by the act, and the consideration inured to him as a member of the society which composed the government.

Contracts and vested rights must all bend to the exigencies of the government, of which the Legislature was the judge, and any act of the legislature contravening the public interest, may be repealed when the safety of the people becomes the supreme law.

The vested rights of fathers may be annulled over their minor children, to make them soldiers when the public interests demand it, and the law-making power has so declared.

All rights, all property, all persons who are citizens of a government, may be used by the government in time of war, and it was the duty of courts to sustain the government in the appropriation of the means exercised rightfully by the legislature to protect the whole people from subjugation and ruin.

Doc. 87.

THE CAMPAIGN IN FLORIDA.

GENERAL GILLMORE'S DESPATCH.

BALDWIN, FLA., February 9.

To Major-General H. W. Hallock, General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a part of my command, under Brigadier-General F. Seymour, conveyed by the gunboat *Norwich*, Captain Merriam, ascended St. John's River on the seventh instant, and landed at Jacksonville on the afternoon of that day.

The advance, under Colonel Guy V. Henry, comprising the Fortieth Massachusetts infantry, independent battalion of Massachusetts cavalry under Major Stevens, and Elders's horse battery of First artillery, pushed forward into the interior. On the night of the eighth, passed by the enemy drawn up in line of battle at Camp Vinegar, seven miles from Jacksonville, surprised and captured a battery three miles in the rear of the camp, about midnight, and reached this place about sunrise this morning. At our approach, the enemy absconded, sunk the steamer *St. Mary's*, and burned two hundred and seventy bales of cotton a few miles above Jacksonville. We have taken, without the loss of a man, about one hundred prisoners, eight pieces of artillery in serviceable condition, and one well supplied with ammunition, and other valuable property to a large amount.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General Commanding.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Sunday, Feb. 7, 1864.

The National forces occupied Jacksonville, Fla., at five P.M., this day.

The expedition, comprising twenty steamers of various classes, and eight schooners, the whole

under the command of General Seymour, left Hilton Head on the morning of the sixth. The forces consisted of cavalry, artillery, and infantry.

The entire fleet arrived without accident of any kind at the bar off the mouth of St. John's River, between the hours of eight and ten A.M., to-day.

In consequence of the ebb-tide, only thirteen of the vessels were able to ride over the bar this morning. At twelve M., that number, including the *Maple Leaf*, General Seymour's flag-steamers, started to go up St. John's River. On the passage up, the propeller *Tilley* and the side-wheel steamer *General Meigs* got aground at a point about five miles from here. At the present writing they have not arrived, but they will probably be here in the course of two or three hours, as the high-tide at eight o'clock will enable them to float.

The gunboats *Ottawa* and *Norwich* were on duty at the mouth of the river. The *Norwich* took the lead up the river, and anchored off Jacksonville, with her starboard-guns trained on the town. Immediately following the gunboat was the flag-steamers *Maple Leaf*, which was followed in turn by the other vessels.

Not a gun was fired until the *Maple Leaf* and the *General Hunter* were making fast to the piers at Jacksonville, when a squad of rebel infantry, who were skulking in a piece of woods on the outskirts of the town, fired three shots at the *General Hunter*, one of which wounded the second mate, Mr. Norris, the ball entering the chest and coming out at the back. The wounded man received prompt medical attendance, but his condition is precarious.

Soon as the boats touched the piers, General Seymour gave orders for the troops to instantly disembark, form by companies, and pursue the enemy. The first troops to land were companies A, B, and D, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, (colored,) next came the colored troops from the *General Hunter*, and at the same time company C, First Massachusetts cavalry, Captain Webster, from the *Rappahannock*.

The colored troops filed into the streets bordering on the river, and at the word of command started on a double-quick for the enemy. The enemy did not number over twenty-five foot and mounted soldiers. He fired six or seven shots, and then fled to the woods. None of our men were wounded. The pursuit was maintained by the colored troops for a distance of two miles. They then (having been relieved by company C, First Massachusetts cavalry) returned, bringing with them five prisoners. Two of the prisoners were taken from a wagon which was being driven toward Baldwin. The cavalry went a distance of five miles, and brought in eleven prisoners, including two signal-officers who were on their station. Two signal-flags and a quantity of material used for signal purposes, were captured, and a number of horses and mules were also driven in.

To-night our troops are making preparations to march forward toward Baldwin at daylight tomorrow. Baldwin is a small town on the Florida Central Railroad, and eighteen miles distant from here.

General Seymour has already established his headquarters on shore. We may look out for lively times during the week.

The families remaining in Jacksonville do not number over twenty-five. They are mostly women and children. They had not the slightest intimation that we were coming, until they saw the gunboat *Ottawa* anchor off the town. Even then they did not suppose the place was to be occupied by our forces. The sight of our steamers, however, coming up in quick succession, soon prepared them for the event.

As we neared the pier, a few handkerchiefs were waved at us from some of the buildings near the water. Every person in the place claims to be Union.

The place itself is in a ruinous condition. Many of the houses are burned, others have been demolished. I learn from the citizens that the rebel troops in Florida are under the command of General Finnigan. His force is scattered, and amounts altogether to about two thousand five hundred.

The Florida Central Railroad, which extends from this place to Tallahassee, is in running order. A train came and departed to-day. It was the intention of the rebels, however, to take up the rails next week and transport them to another portion of the Confederacy. That movement was to precede the abandonment of Florida. We hope to push forward so as to prevent the enemy from damaging the road to any great extent.

A gentleman, named Bennett, a prominent citizen of this place, and a Union man besides, was to attend a convention to-morrow, with a view of dissuading the rebel authorities from tearing up the railroad. The same gentleman has nearly two hundred bales of cotton near Baldwin, which he had ordered to be sent to this place. General Finnigan telegraphed him to-day, that, in case the enemy should land at Jacksonville, his cotton would be burned. So it seems that the rebel general had some information of the expedition.

I omitted to mention in the proper place that Major Stevens, of the First Massachusetts cavalry, was with company C in the reconnoissance this afternoon. Captain Ray, formerly lieutenant of the same company, and about to take a command in another regiment now forming in Massachusetts, volunteered his services to the expedition and was with his company to-day.

Every thing thus far has gone on in the most prosperous manner. The State abounds in cattle, and provisions are not scarce.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Sunday, February 14, 1864.

I have already noticed in a previous letter the safe arrival at Jacksonville of the troops forming the expedition which left Hilton Head on the sixth instant, for Florida. I now propose to chronicle the events which have occurred in this region since the landing. Prudential reasons deter me from giving the numerical strength of the force. Commencing from the eighth instant,

I will state that the troops which had disembarked on the previous day left their camping-ground at three P.M., and proceeded toward the interior of the State. The force was divided into three columns, commanded respectively by Colonel Barton, Colonel Hawley, and Colonel Henry. The columns travelled by different routes, Colonel Henry's taking a road at the right of the main road, Colonel Hawley's one still further to the right, and Colonel Barton's the main road itself. The side-roads join the main road at a point three miles above Jacksonville. From the first day of the march the main body of the expedition followed the line of the Florida Central Railroad. According to the original orders, the columns were to unite at the three-mile point, march in a body that night an additional three miles, bivouac till morning, and then proceed to the rebel Camp Finnigan, which was situated eight miles from Jacksonville. The last of the troops did not reach the three-mile point until after dark, consequently it was considered advisable for the infantry to halt there till daylight. In the mean time, Colonel Henry with his cavalry and artillery was ordered to push forward on a reconnoissance. I was fortunate enough to join Colonel Henry's column at the outset, and more fortunate in having had an opportunity to accompany it throughout the raid. I shall now ask the reader to follow me with the advance column, which I have no hesitation in saying has completely eclipsed, during its six days of experience and adventure, the achievements of any raiding party within the same space of time. It was quite dark when Colonel Henry left the three-mile point; but notwithstanding this circumstance, the column moved on at a brisk trot. It was thought the enemy would be met at a small creek two miles this side of Jacksonville; but as it turned out, he did not attempt to make a stand between here and Camp Finnigan. Thus, it will be observed, Colonel Henry, after detaching his column from the main force, travelled over a space of five miles without noticing any indications of opposition. The country through which we passed is low, level, and marshy. The road on each side is flanked with pine forests, but by no means dense. The roads have a hard, sandy foundation; and, in many places, pools of water had settled, in some instances forming a depth of one and two feet. Unlike the roads in Virginia and other portions of the country, after a fall of rain, those in Florida are not made disagreeably muddy and impassable. If the water is too deep, or a fallen tree obstructs the way, it is an easy matter to go round it; and, judging from the numerous S's in the road, such has frequently been the case. What I write in regard to the general condition of the roads and aspect of the country, applies to the entire district through which we passed, from the commencement to the end of the road. I did not observe but one vegetable patch and not a single flower-garden anywhere along the route. The eye is wearied with viewing nothing

but pine trees. Such a thing as a hill or a rise of ground to even a moderate height is out of the question. The houses situated between the settlements are isolated, and present an old, dilapidated appearance. The soil is one fair for farming purposes. It must not be forgotten I am speaking particularly of the land on the line of the railroad from Jacksonville to Lake City. Beyond the latter place, the country is entirely changed, the soil is a rich, sandy loam, and is cultivated to a considerable extent. The best portion of Florida lies near the Gulf. Timber and turpentine are the chief products of that portion which lay along our route. I noticed miles and miles of trees that had been tapped for turpentine. In many places the dead grass and the trees were in flames. With this brief general description of the country I will go on with my narrative of military events.

A night's ride, with the darkness so dense we could not see our horses' heads, through a hostile country which affords advantages for guerrillas, over a road the bridges of which the enemy had destroyed, and so forced our troops to ford the streams, would not be esteemed a pleasant adventure by our timid friends at the North. Every one, however, was in good spirits, and did not care how rapidly he rode, provided he could soon come up with the enemy. It was a little disappointment not to have met some of the rebels at the small stream, two miles this side of Camp Finnigan, but the disappointment was of short duration, for we had not proceeded one half-mile further, when we discovered a picket station. A charge was made upon it by four men, but the pickets had fallen back to their reserve post. We were now on the enemy's track. A half-mile gallop brought us within sight of the post camp-fires, and round it could be seen the pickets hurriedly arranging their traps preparatory to joining their comrades at Camp Finnigan. The advance-guard of four men, led by Lieutenant Holt, of company A, Independent battalion Massachusetts cavalry, made the charge, and succeeded in capturing all the pickets, five in number. Another rebel, who was outside the line, received a severe sabre-cut across the head by one of the sergeants. He ran into the woods on the left, and when Captain Elder came on with his artillery, ran back toward the road shouting: "I surrender." He was placed on a gun-box and taken to Barber's Station, where his wound was dressed by our surgeon. This was the only casualty that occurred on either side that night. An aged woman with three young children was sitting at the fire. Neither she nor the children were molested. She thought it very hard that we should take from her a colt which she seemed greatly to prize. But I think the woman must have regained possession of her colt, from the fact that it kicked the horses some of our men were riding so violently, that the cannoner, who led it, was glad to let it loose. The horses used by the pickets were taken to the rear of the column. After making a short stop, the column went forward, and within a few

minutes' time came within sight of Camp Finnigan.

The camp lay at the right of the main road and on the line of the railroad. Scouts were sent ahead to reconnoitre, and approached so near the camp as to see two hundred cavalymen drawn up in line of battle, awaiting our charge. The pickets immediately around the camp had reported our advance. But to put to flight and scatter two hundred men was not Colonel Henry's object, especially when he knew of artillery that he might possibly capture by not heeding the enemy at Camp Finnigan. It is not usually the case that an offensive force leaves knowingly an enemy in the rear. Colonel Henry saw that the enemy was not sufficiently strong to do him any harm, and also knew that if he once got in his rear, the two hundred rebels would have no chance for escape except by dispersing and taking to the woods. There was a chance when the rebels saw their line of retreat cut off, that they would attack Henry, in which event they would have been gobbled up in a very short time. Henry was prepared for them, and I heard him express the wish more than once that the enemy was following. Another gallop for two miles, and I witnessed the most brilliant dash that a similar force of cavalry ever executed. It was upon an artillery camp situated like Camp Finnigan, on the line of the railroad. The rebel cavalry, having been cut off at Finnigan, no intelligence of our approach had reached the artillerists—consequently they were taken completely by surprise. Relying wholly upon the cavalry at Finnigan to give them warning of the enemy's presence, the artillerists neglected to throw out pickets, so an advance-guard was enabled without difficulty to ride up to within a few yards of the camp. The rebels had heard of our advance from Jacksonville, and, not favorably impressed with the number of our men as represented to them, decided to retire with their guns and camp equipage to Lake City. They would have been successful in their design had they given us credit for less celerity of movement. It must be observed that Henry throughout the entire raid did not wait to give the enemy the least intimation of his approach. He dashed upon him as a cat pounces upon a mouse.

The advance-guard having reported to Colonel Henry the condition of the camp, that officer, together with Major Stevens, of the Independent Battalion, went forward and examined for themselves. It was ascertained that the men at the camp numbered about one hundred and fifty. They could be seen sitting near the fires in the act of preparing something to eat. The horses and mules were standing ready harnessed, and the wagons were partly laden with officers' baggage. We were afterward told by prisoners that they could have got the guns and some of the wagons away had they received fifteen minutes' notice of our approach. Colonel Henry, having satisfied himself of the state of affairs, returned to his command and ordered the Independent Battalion to advance cautiously to with-

in twenty yards of the camp. The Fortieth Massachusetts mounted infantry were formed in line of battle directly in front of Captain Elder's flying artillery. Colonel Henry and Major Stevens placed themselves at the head of the battalion, and at the word of command the two buglers blew a terrific blast, which was instantly followed by the charge of the battalion. In half a minute's time our cavalry had dashed into the centre of the camp and surrounded it on all sides. With two or three exceptions, all of the rebels escaped, so easy was it for them to just slip into the woods and conceal themselves under cover of the darkness. The very first note of the bugle gave them the alarm.

The capture of four guns at this place, beside a large quantity of camp and garrison equipage, including wagons, tents, commissary stores, officers' baggage, and, in fact, every thing that could be of value to the enemy, were the fruits of this handsome little dash. In another portion of this letter I insert a list which comprises some of the important articles captured at this camp. The guns, two of which were twelve-pounder rifled, and two six-pounder smooth-bore, belonged respectively to Dunham's and Able's batteries. Every thing that was captured here belonged to either one or the other battery. Three prisoners were taken. Captain Dunham, hearing that we were within six miles of his camp, had deserted his men and gone to Lake City. Able was also absent. The prisoners said that the men wanted to fight, but Dunham told them it was of no use, that we were on the way up with a large force, and the best thing that could be done was to get off as soon as possible. A train was expected from Lake City at twelve o'clock that night to take them away. The telegraph operator, however, had time to send a despatch keeping it back. His office was in a house just beyond the camp. Major Stevens walked into the room and seized the fellow by the throat as he was on the point of sending another message. In a few seconds his instrument was knocked to pieces and the wire cut.

The valor of our cavalry not only on this but other occasions, cannot be too highly extolled. The Independent Massachusetts cavalry battalion, with Major Stevens at its head, and for its company officers such men as Captains Richmond, Webster, and Morrell, and Lieutenant Holt, has achieved for itself during the past week a high reputation. In this connection I must not omit to mention the eagerness with which Captain Ray, formerly a Lieutenant in company C, accepted the opportunity to accompany Major Stevens as volunteer aid. He recently received his commission as captain in the Fourth Massachusetts cavalry, and when the expedition left Hilton Head, was on the point of going North to join his regiment. All the distance from Jacksonville, either Captain Ray or Lieutenant Holt led the advance-guard. The Fortieth Massachusetts mounted infantry also performed admirable service, and by no means lessened the good name they have long enjoyed for bravery and discipline. To one who

had never seen artillery keep close up with cavalry on a march, the feat of Captain Elder on Monday night would have astonished him beyond measure. No matter where or how fast the cavalry went, Captain Elder was sure to be up to the spare horses with his artillery. Through ditches, over stumps, turning short corners, walking, trotting, galloping, the artillery never lagged in the rear. Captain Elder is widely known as one of the most successful and dashing officers we have in the artillery service. General Seymour evidently knew his men when he selected officers for his raiding party.

In order to allow the men and horses a little rest, and thinking that perhaps the rebels at Camp Finnigan would be coming down the road, Colonel Henry concluded to remain at the artillery camp, or Ten-Mile Run, as it is called, till four A.M. In the mean time, the horses were baited, and the men fell to work to breaking open trunks and valises, and making a thorough inspection of the property the rebels had abandoned. It so happened on that same day the rebels had received from Lake City a large quantity of clothing, most of it entirely new. Our men, although they did not really need them, took such articles as struck their fancy. The three prisoners captured were told to help themselves to all they wanted. They thought it very strange we should reject clothing that had cost their people a vast sum of money. We explained to them that clothing was not scarce in our country. A contraband, formerly Captain Able's servant, was dumbfounded to see how little we prized a package of a dozen shirts that had been sent to a rebel officer. This same contraband gave us much valuable information relating to the enemy's force and movements, which was subsequently confirmed. While the men were engaged in their task of inspection, Colonel Henry and a few more of us adjourned to the house in which the telegraph operator had been at work, and discussed the events of the night. A rousing good fire was built, and very fortunately a bottle of whisky was discovered in one corner of the room. The three prisoners were brought in and examined, and what they said carefully noted. The family were not disturbed. Two boys came down-stairs after a while, and entertained us with their views of the war. I judged the family to be milk-and-water Union. At four A.M. "Prepare to mount!" was sounded. Captain Jenkins, of company H, Fortieth Massachusetts, was left with his men at Ten-Mile Run, to guard the property. It seems the rebels at Finnigan did not dare to follow us. Colonel Henry proceeded a distance of ten miles, before he met the enemy. In following the main road, the railroad is crossed several times. Colonel Henry made every effort to capture a train of cars which we had been told would come down a certain distance from Lake City, for the purpose of taking up supplies. Between Ten-Mile Run and Barber's Station, two or three rails were taken up at three different places. This would not only prevent the rebels from getting off their supplies, but keep them from sending

troops to Henry's rear. Every mile that we now travelled, carried us one mile further from the infantry. At seven A.M. we dashed into Baldwin, a place of fifteen buildings, the largest of which is the railroad station. None of the enemy were seen. The place boasts one hotel. When we entered the town, the proprietor was asleep, and shortly after came down-stairs, only half-dressed, to find out what was going on. We captured here another telegraph operator and three instruments. We also captured three cars, two of which were filled with corn, and the other had on it a three-inch rifled gun and caisson. In the railroad dépot was stored an immense quantity of supplies, and in an adjoining building we found cotton, rice, tobacco, pistols, and other property, valued at half a million of dollars. We took breakfast at the hotel, and on settling our bills, found rebel money more acceptable than our own. It so happened that we could give the landlord what he wanted, as one of our number in searching the trash in the dépot came across one hundred and fifty dollars' worth of confederate notes. Twenty-seven dollars of this stuff paid for a breakfast for nine. At Baldwin, the railroad from Fernandina to Cedar Keys crosses the Florida Central. It will be seen at a glance that it is an important place for us to hold. In the afternoon, General Seymour and staff came up from Jacksonville, and later in the day, General Gillmore, with a portion of his staff. That same night, the three cars were loaded with cotton and other property, and drawn by horses to Jacksonville. Since then all the guns and camp-equipage taken at Ten-Mile Run, also much of the property captured at Baldwin, have been sent to Jacksonville. Colonel Henry left Baldwin at nine o'clock on the morning of the tenth. At a point on the railroad, four miles above Baldwin, we came across thirteen bales of cotton, and further up, near Barber's Station, we entered a building by the side of the railroad, which contained one thousand barrels of turpentine, and five hundred pounds of bacon. All this will soon be transported to Jacksonville. We proceeded slowly up the road and kept a good look-out for bushwhackers, but did not get a sight at one. At eleven A.M., we reached the station called Barber's. Here we halted to allow the advance-guard to go ahead and see if the enemy had posted himself in a position so as to defend the South-Fork of the St. Mary's River, which lay three fourths of a mile beyond. Then followed the skirmish at the South-Fork. Captain Elder placed his guns in battery at Barber's, and the Fortieth Massachusetts regiment formed in line of battle a short distance in advance, while the Second battalion felt their way cautiously to the river. No sooner had the advance-guard of four got near the bank, when they received a volley of bullets from the rebels, who had planted themselves behind trees on the north side. At the first volley, Thomas Dean, of company C, was killed, and two others wounded. Captain Webster, of company E, had his horse shot from under him, and his shoulder-straps shot away. A plunging bullet, fired from a rebel on

the top of a tree, struck the ground between Colonel Henry's feet. Colonel Henry, now familiar with the enemy's position, disposed his troops accordingly. One company of the Fortieth was dismounted and sent forward as skirmishers, the right of the road receiving particular attention, inasmuch as the conformation of the river exposed the rebel left to our fire from the right. While the Fortieth were engaged skirmishing, the battalion dashed down the road to the river, and immediately commenced fording, the bridge having been destroyed. The rebels held their ground till the battalion had nearly crossed, when they left their horses tied to trees and fled to the woods. The skirmish lasted half an hour. We lost four men killed and thirteen wounded. The list will be found below. The rebels had two killed and three wounded. The wounded were taken to a house, owned by Mr. Barber, where their wounds were dressed by the surgeon who accompanied the column. The number of rebels that opposed our crossing, was one hundred and fifty. One rebel, who was in a dying condition, told me that he had been forced into the service, and when he heard that we were on our way to Barber's urged the other rebels to throw down their arms and give themselves up as prisoners. But they told him we did not number over three hundred men, and it would be an easy matter to keep us from fording the river. We secured here about fifty horses, and gathered up a quantity of sabres, carbines, and pistols. I learn this place is called Barber's from the fact that a man named Barber formerly kept here a sort of hotel. His own house, with five or six out-houses, are the only buildings in the vicinity. Barber left the premises on the morning of our advance. He owns twenty-five thousand head of cattle, and is reported to be the wealthiest man in the State. No one, however, would judge him to be a man of wealth after seeing the miserable hovel in which he dwelt. He is a rebel of the worst sort. At one P.M., we moved forward, and arrived at Sanderson at six P.M. Sanderson is a village a little larger than Baldwin, a railroad station, and distant from Jacksonville forty miles. The rebels had left the place fifteen minutes before we arrived. In the afternoon, the cars had been there from Lake City and taken away some government stores. Three large buildings near the dépot were in flames when we arrived. One of the buildings had in it three thousand bushels of corn, and another two thousand barrels of turpentine and resin. The remaining building contained commissary stores. The conflagration continued all that night and during the following day. In the dépot we found two hundred bags of salt and fifty bushels of oats. Our horses did not suffer for forage, and as for light to enable us to look about the town, the burning buildings afforded sufficient. Sanderson was the centre to which all the forage and provisions for the State was forwarded.

We remained at Sanderson till two A.M. the next morning, and then started for Lake City. We arrived within two miles of that place, with-

out encountering the enemy, at eleven A.M. In a belt of woods, one mile and a half this side of Lake City, General Finnigan had posted his skirmishers. Captain Elder again placed his guns in battery, and the Independent battalion and Fortieth Massachusetts, as skirmishers, went forward on a reconnoissance. The enemy had a heavy line of skirmishers one mile in length, and although one company of the Fortieth broke the left of the enemy's line, it was impossible, in consequence of the paucity of our numbers, to prevent him from throwing forward his right, so as to get on our left and rear. Under the circumstances, Colonel Henry wisely decided to fall back to a distance of five miles, and await the arrival of infantry to aid him. The entire command fell back on a walk, and were covered by the Independent battalion. A dozen rebels followed in the rear, but the moment two or three of our men would make a dash at them, away they would run toward Lake City. The rebel loss at this place was two killed and several wounded. One of the killed was a signal-officer. When we crossed the railroad I saw him waving his flag. We had three slightly wounded.

Following is a complete list of our casualties from the time we left Jacksonville:

Sergeant C. C. Conkling, Co. A., Fortieth Massachusetts, killed; Thomas F. C. Dean, Co. A, Ind. battery, killed; Thomas Cahill, Co. B, Ind. battery, killed; Captain A. W. Bartlett, Co. A, Ind. battery, since dead; Richard Burns, Co. C, Ind. battery, since dead; E. Pasho, Co. C, Ind. battery, arm; Geo. W. Hankins, Co. C, Ind. battery, hand; Geo. Hutchinson, Co. C, Ind. battery, arm; Geo. E. Fernand, Co. B, Ind. battery, thigh; Sergeant F. Blaisdell, Co. B, Ind. battery, scalp; F. P. Howland, Co. A, Ind. battery, arm; Charles Pierson, Co. A, Fortieth Massachusetts, thigh; C. E. Lee, Co. D, Fortieth Massachusetts, arm; — Johnson, Co. D, Ind. battery, neck; — Wormwood, Co. D, Ind. battery.

The bivouac of Henry's command Thursday night was any thing but pleasant. It commenced raining in the afternoon, with every prospect of continuing to rain through the night. The men were weary and hungry, and there was nothing in the shape of provisions in the vicinity. The horses, too, were very much jaded. We succeeded in getting some forage at a farmhouse not far off. This the poor animals disposed of with avidity. At night, Colonel Henry sent a message to General Seymour, who was now at Sanderson, asking for further orders. He was firm in his belief that with one regiment of infantry added to his own force he could go into Lake City. He was thirty-four miles away from the infantry, and the difficulty was in getting a regiment up in season to accomplish the object aimed at. Another drawback was in getting provisions to the troops. At Sanderson the troops were forty miles away from their base, and all the supplies had to be transmitted in wagons. It was finally resolved that Henry should fall back to Sanderson. To that point several regiments of infantry had advanced.

The evacuation of Lake City by the rebels Thursday night shows how badly they were frightened. That they did evacuate the town, we have full assurance. I am told by deserters that the rebel General Finnigan was in a fearful state of trepidation, not knowing which way to turn. He had at Lake City three thousand cavalry and infantry, and yet did not dare to make a stand. He threw out a heavy line of skirmishers for the purpose of keeping our force back until he could get the government property on the way to Madison. He notified the women and children of his intention to evacuate Lake City, and offered them the facilities of a railroad-train to take them away. Every prisoner and deserter within our lines, with whom I have conversed, agrees in saying that General Finnigan is the greatest coward in the Confederacy. I have no doubt of the truth of the remark. Lake City has a population of three thousand. In a strategic point of view, it is an important place for us to hold. It is half-way between Jacksonville and Tallahassee.

I estimate the amount of rebel government property captured and destroyed thus far by the raid into Florida, will reach the value of one million and a half dollars. I will give a list of the most important items:

Two twelve-pounder rifled-guns, two six-pounder guns, one three-inch gun, two other guns, five caissons, a large quantity of ammunition, an immense supply of camp and garrison equipage, four railroad-cars, one hundred and thirteen bales of cotton, four army-wagons, one hundred and five horses and mules, a large stock of saddlery, tanning machinery, three thousand and eighty-three barrels of turpentine, six thousand bushels of corn, three large warehouses destroyed.

In the above list I have not enumerated the cattle we have slaughtered, nor the railroad-track we have destroyed, nor the officers' baggage captured, nor a thousand things which would amply warrant my estimate.

We have taken altogether, including those who have been obliged to leave the woods and bushes and give themselves up, over seventy-five prisoners. Many of them have taken the oath of allegiance. They are constantly coming in our lines, and, with few exceptions, say they have no heart to fight against the Union cause. One young fellow, who lived in Jacksonville before the war, and who, on account of poor eyesight, is obliged to wear glasses, said that did not avail against his conscription. He protested against the severity of the authorities, and after having been released once, was, six months later, put again into the ranks. The most prominent prisoner we have is Lieutenant-Colonel Ponca, who was in front of Lake City, looking at the skirmishers, in the garb of a civilian. We also have a captain of cavalry, who fought Colonel Henry's force at the South-Fork.

I have given, at some length, the work accomplished by the cavalry. It so happened the infantry did not have a chance to show its metal. If infantry ever wanted to get into a fight, this

infantry on the Florida expedition did, without doubt. The men were constantly murmuring because the rebels would not come out and meet them. The fact is, the rebels, having an approximate idea of our force, knew it would be useless for them to make a defence. We have every reason to believe that the enemy, if he fights at all, will choose his ground on the bank of the Suwanee River. We have information that such is his design. Lake City is not fortified, and, as I remarked before, the government property has been sent to a point further back. The bridge over the Suwanee will, of course, be destroyed, should our troops advance, and the river is not fordable. To cross it, we must throw over a pontoon or construct a regular bridge. If we have a battle there, it will, in all probability, take place at Suwanee River, which is between Lake City and Tallahassee.

The section of country through which we have passed offers superior advantages for guerrilla warfare. A number of this despicable class of people has been seen lurking in the woods. Two of them were captured last Friday while following a negro soldier from Sanderson. A courier, going from Camp Finnigan to Jacksonville, was fired upon not far from the former place. We believe the guerrillas will soon tire of their hateful practice, as measures will be instituted showing them, if caught, no mercy whatever.

Perhaps it will be an enigma to many, how we managed to go through the country with such celerity and certainty. At the head of each column we have a guide, a man who is thoroughly versed with the country, and is acquainted with every road and by-path. The guides are, according to my best belief, loyal to the very end of their toes. It is said of one who was with our advance, that he had better military judgment than half of the generals in the field. The same guide did, in my presence, predict when the rebels would be found, and about the force they would be likely to have, which in every instance proved as he said. The guides are the most valuable auxiliaries we have in the command. I heard a woman tell one, at Sanderson, that he would be surely hung if the rebels ever got hold of him. He took it all as a joke, and replied, in a quiet way, that the rebels would find it exceedingly difficult to be assured of his company.

On Friday afternoon, a party of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, (colored,) under Captain Webster, proceeded ten miles east of Barber's, and destroyed a bridge over the St. Mary's River. The bridge was about thirty feet in length, and by its destruction the rebels will not be able to get on our right without going to considerable trouble either in the way of rebuilding the bridge or travelling a long roundabout road. On his march to the bridge, Captain Webster stopped at a farm-house, and learned from a woman that a rebel officer was in the habit of coming there frequently, and desired to get into our lines. He was expected at the house that night, and if Captain Webster would take the trouble to visit them after dark, he would confer a fa-

vor. Captain Webster complied with the request, and, sure enough, there was the rebel officer waiting to be conducted into our lines. He was taken before Colonel Barton, and, having taken the oath of allegiance, permitted to go at large.

On the march Monday night, we discerned a bright illumination of the sky at our left. I learned the next day it was occasioned by the burning of two hundred and seventy-five bales of cotton taken by the rebels from the steamer St. Mary, which lay in the river St. Mary, two miles from Camp Finnigan. The steamer herself was scuttled and sunk in deep water. The captain had been in for six weeks, waiting an opportunity to run the blockade. On the advance of our troops he gave up in despair, and to prevent the cargo and vessel from coming into our possession, fired the one and sank the other. A gun which was planted to protect the stream was captured by us the next day. Most of the crew have given themselves up as deserters.

Yesterday morning the gunboat John Adams came in from Fernandina with a locomotive and several cars to be used on the Florida Central Railroad. The rails on this road are in good condition, and have been little used. The track at the Jacksonville end, and that portion which Colonel Henry destroyed, also a half-mile which General Seymour ordered to be burned just above Sanderson, are the only breaks between Jacksonville and Lake City. In a day or two we shall have a train running to our front with supplies. The telegraph is in operation from Jacksonville to Sanderson.

The President's amnesty proclamation will be extensively circulated through Florida. A large supply has just arrived from Washington, and packages have already been sent to the front. I doubt not we shall see a most favorable effect produced by its distribution.

On Thursday the steamer Nelly Baker proceeded up St. John's River, a distance of thirty-five miles from Jacksonville, to a place called Green Cove Spring. Two companies of infantry were on board. Medical Director Swift was in command of the force. After landing, the party went to one of the principal hotels of the place, and discovered therein eighteen barrels of sugar and three barrels of resin, which was brought away in the vessel the same day. Three families of refugees, with their furniture, were also taken off. They had been expecting our forces would go there for some days. The location has been famous in its day as a watering-place. A large sulphur-spring is in the vicinity, around which are bath-houses. The place also has three hotels, each of which is capable of accommodating two hundred guests. The principal hotel is hardly finished, and has never been used. None of the enemy were seen. The rebel Major Phillips had a camp of men near by not long since. The property brought away was marked "Baldwin." The hospital transport Cosmopolitan on the following day went up the same river to a place called Picolata. The troops did not land.

They heard of a large quantity of cotton and turpentine that was in the interior. The vessel was piloted by a negro.

GENERAL SEYMOUR'S ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT FLORIDA, }
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., February 17, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5.

The Brigadier-General Commanding heartily congratulates his command on the brilliant success which has attended all their movements thus far into Florida. Three flags, eight guns, with caissons, battery-wagons, and forge; many wagons and horses, and much subsistence, stores, and clothing have fallen into our hands, besides large amounts of cotton, turpentine, and resin. Property valued at over one and a half millions of dollars is the fruit of the success.

To Colonel Guy V. Henry and his command, the battalion of Massachusetts cavalry, under Major Stevens, the Fortieth Massachusetts mounted volunteers, and to Captain Elder, First artillery, and his battery, this achievement is principally due; and the Brigadier-General Commanding especially desires to praise Captain George E. Marshall, company E, Fortieth Massachusetts mounted volunteers, and his small command of forty-nine men, who captured and held Gainesville for fifty-six hours, receiving and repulsing an attack from more than double his force, and, after fulfilling his mission successfully, returning to the designated place of rendezvous. These deeds will be among those remembered by us with the greatest pleasure and honor, and the command may emulate but can hardly expect to surpass them. By order of

Brigadier-General T. SEYMOUR.

Official: R. M. HALL,

First Lieutenant First Artillery, U. S. A., Asst. Adjt.-General.

BATTLE OF OLUSTEE.

GENERAL GILLMORE'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS D. S., HILTON HEAD, S. C., }
March 7, 1864. }

*Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief U.S.A.,
Washington, D. C.:*

I have the honor to submit herewith copies of certain letters and telegraphic despatches which comprise the instructions given to Brigadier-General T. Seymour, relative to operations in Florida prior to the fight at Olustee on the twentieth ultimo. A brief narrative of events connected with the recent occupation of Florida, west of the St. John's River, will not be out of place.

Under date of the twenty-second December, 1863, I was authorized by you to undertake such operations in my department as I might deem best, suggesting conference with Admiral Dahlgren, etc.

On January fourteenth, 1864, I wrote you that, unless it would interfere with the views of the War Department, I should occupy the west bank of the St. John's River in Florida very soon, and establish small dépôts there, preparatory to an advance west at an early day.

On January fifteenth, I wrote to the Secretary
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of War that I had in contemplation the occupation of Florida on the west bank of the St. John's River at a very early day.

Under date of January twenty-second, you informed that in regard to my proposed operations in Florida, the Secretary replied that the matter had been left entirely to my judgment and discretion, with the means at my command, and that as the object of the proposed expedition had not been explained, it was impossible for you to judge of its advantages or practicability.

On January thirty-first, I wrote informing you that the objects to be attained by the operations were:

1. To procure an outlet for cotton, lumber, timber, etc.
2. To cut off one of the enemy's sources of commissary supplies, etc.
3. To obtain recruits for any colored regiments.

4. To inaugurate measures for the speedy restoration of Florida to her allegiance, in accordance with instructions which I had received from the President by the hands of Major John Hay, Assistant Adjutant-General.

On February fifth, I directed General Seymour, whose command was already embarked, to go to Jacksonville, Florida, effect a landing there, and push forward his mounted force to Baldwin, twenty miles from Jacksonville, the junction of the two railroads from Jacksonville and Fernandina. A portion of the command reached Baldwin on the ninth, at which point I joined it on the evening of the same day. At that time the enemy had no force in East-Florida, except the scattered fragments of General Finnigan's command; we had taken all his artillery. On the tenth, a portion of our forces were sent toward Sanderson, and I returned to Jacksonville. Telegraphic communication was established between Baldwin and Jacksonville on the eleventh. On that day I telegraphed to General Seymour not to risk a repulse, on advancing on Lake City, but to hold Sanderson, unless there were reasons for falling back which I did not know, and also, in case his advance met with any serious opposition, to concentrate at Sanderson and the south fork of the St. Mary's, and, if necessary, to bring back Colonel Henry to the latter place.

On the twelfth, General Seymour informed me from Sanderson that he should fall back to the south fork of the St. Mary's as soon as Colonel Henry, whom he had ordered back from the front, had returned. On the same day I telegraphed to General Seymour that I wanted his command at and beyond Baldwin concentrated at Baldwin without delay, for reasons which I gave him. General Seymour joined me at Jacksonville on the fourteenth, the main body of his command being at that time at Baldwin as directed. He had, however, sent Colonel Henry toward the left to capture some railroad trains at Gainesville on the Fernandina and Cedar Keys Railroad.

After arranging with General Seymour for the construction of certain defences at Jacksonville, Baldwin, and the south fork of the St. Mary's, I

started for Hilton Head on the fifteenth, leaving behind me Captain Reese of the Engineers, to give the necessary instructions for the defences referred to. I considered it well understood at that time between General Seymour and myself that no advance should be made without further instructions from me, nor until the defences were well advanced.

On the eighteenth I was greatly surprised at receiving a letter from General Seymour, dated the seventeenth, stating that he intended to advance without supplies, in order to destroy the railroad near the Savannah River, one hundred miles from Jacksonville.

I at once despatched General Turner to Jacksonville to stop the movement. He was the bearer of a letter to General Seymour. Upon arriving at Jacksonville, after considerable delay, due to the inclemency of the weather, he learned that General Seymour was engaged with the enemy in front, near Olustee, forty-eight miles from Jacksonville by railroad.

When I left Jacksonville on the fifteenth ult., I was entirely satisfied with the success of our operations up to that time. I briefly communicated to you my plans with regard to Florida in my letter of February fifteenth, from which I extract as follows:

"General Seymour's advance has been within four miles of Lake City, but as his instructions were not to risk a repulse or make an attack when there was a prospect of incurring much loss, he has taken up a position at Baldwin, the junction of the railroad from Jacksonville with the one from Fernandina. He holds also the crossing of the St. Mary's South-Fork, about twelve miles west of Baldwin.

"I intend to construct small works capable of resisting a *coup-de-main* at Jacksonville, Baldwin, Pilatka, and perhaps one or two other important points, so strong that two hundred or three hundred men will be sufficient at each point.

"Twenty-five hundred men in addition to the two regiments that have been permanently stationed in this State (one at St. Augustine and one at Fernandina) ought to be ample in Florida."

The artillery captured here will suffice for such defensive works as may be deemed necessary.

I desire to see the lumber and turpentine trade on the St. John's River revived by loyal men, and for that purpose, and to give assurance that our occupation of this river is intended to be permanent, I have written to the Secretary of the Treasury, recommending that the port of Jacksonville be declared open.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General Commanding.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

[A.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
HILTON HEAD, S. C., Feb. 5, 1864, 9 P.M.

Brigadier-General T. Seymour:

GENERAL: You will start your command so

as, if possible, to get the bulk of it at sea before daybreak. Steamers that have tows should be started as soon as they are ready. The whole are to rendezvous at the mouth of St. John's River by daybreak day after to-morrow morning, the seventh instant. I expect to be there in person at that time, but should I fail from any cause, you are expected to pass the bar on the Sunday morning's high-tide, ascend the river to Jacksonville, effect a landing with your command, and push forward a mounted force as far as Baldwin at the junction of the two railroads. The armed transport Harriet A. Weed has been ordered forward to buoy out the St. John's channel, and then await orders. It is not expected that the enemy has any strong force to oppose your landing. I have sent instructions to Colonel Goss, commanding at Fernandina, to have the railroad tracks on both roads torn up in several places after the train comes into Jacksonville to-morrow, and to keep the track obstructed throughout Saturday night.

The object of a prompt advance on Baldwin, and, if possible, beyond, is to get possession of a train if one has been brought up by the enemy. The enemy are known to have a small force of infantry and a battery between Jacksonville and Baldwin.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General Commanding.

P.S.—I have assigned to you a number of regular officers with organized parties.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General Commanding.

[B.]

[Telegraphic Despatch.]

JACKSONVILLE, Feb. 11, 1864.

General Seymour, beyond Baldwin:

Eight companies of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts have been ordered to Baldwin. Don't risk a repulse in advancing on Lake City, but hold Sanderson unless there are reasons for falling back which I don't know. Please inform me how your command is distributed between here and the South-Fork of the St. Mary's. Please report by telegraph from Baldwin frequently.

GENERAL GILLMORE.

[C.]

JACKSONVILLE, 10 P.M., Feb. 11, 1864.

General Seymour:

[By Courier from Baldwin.]

If your advance meets serious opposition, concentrate at Sanderson and the South-Fork of the St. Mary's, and if necessary, bring back Henry to the latter place.

GENERAL GILLMORE.

[D.]

[Telegraphic Despatch.]

BALDWIN, Feb. 11, 1864, 2.30 P.M.

Major-General Gillmore, St. Mary's:

Your telegram just received. Command left for Sanderson. No news yet from Henry. Tilghman is at Baldwin. Two of his companies here.

Tribley is at pickets. No negroes come in, nor any one else. I will keep you advised promptly.

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

[E.]

SANDERSON, 7 A.M., Feb. 12, 1864.

General Gillmore:

I last night ordered Colonel Henry to fall back to this point. I am destroying all public property here, and shall go back to South-Fork St. Mary's as soon as Henry returns. I have not heard from him since last night, when he was seven miles this side Lake City. I hope he will be in this morning. I am sending a regiment out to meet him. Sanderson cannot be fortified to advantage. I would advise sending Tribley's regiment to Pilatka, and to make it a point to be held permanently.

T. SEYMOUR.

[F.]

[Telegraphic Despatch.]

JACKSONVILLE, February 12.

General Seymour:

I want your command at and beyond Baldwin, concentrated at Baldwin without delay. I have information of a mounted force that may trouble your right flank by fording the St. Mary's River. When we landed here, they were eighty miles from Baldwin, on the Albany and Gulf Railroad. You should have scouts well out on your front and right flank. I have sent word to Colonel Tilghman to be on the alert. I think Tribley had better move forward and join you, but you must judge. The locomotive has not yet arrived.

GENERAL GILLMORE.

[G.]

SANDERSON, February 12, 1864.

GENERAL: To leave the South-Fork of the St. Mary's will make it impossible for us to advance again. I have no apprehension of the force you mention. If you can push a part of Goss's force to Dug's Ferry, supported by gunboats, there need be no danger from any thing but annoyance. Henry will go where I have already mentioned. I would like to see you at Baldwin if you can come up. All goes well here, and there are several operations of importance that can be effected, upon which I should like to consult you.

T. SEYMOUR.

[H.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, }
February 17, 1864. }

GENERAL: The excessive and unexpected delays experienced with regard to the locomotive, which will not be ready for two days yet, if at all, has compelled me to remain where my command could be fed. Not enough supplies could be accumulated to permit me to execute my intention of moving to the Suwanee River.

But I now propose to go without supplies, even if compelled to retrace my steps to procure them, and with the object of so destroying the railroad near the Suwanee, that there will be no danger of carrying away any portion of the track.

All troops are therefore being moved up to

Barber's, and probably by the time you receive this, I shall be in motion in advance of that point.

That a force may not be brought from Georgia (Savannah) to interfere with my movements, it is desirable that a display be made in the Savannah River; and I therefore urge that upon the reception of this, such naval force, transports, sailing vessels, etc., as can be so devoted, may rendezvous near Pulaski, and that the iron-clads in Warsaw push up with as much activity as they can exert.

I look upon this as of great importance, and shall rely upon it as a demonstration in my favor.

There is reason to believe that General Hardee is in Lake City, now possibly in command, and with some force at his disposal.

But nothing is visible this side of Sanderson. Saddles, etc., for mounting the Seventh New-Hampshire as rapidly as possible, are greatly needed, and I shall send a portion of that regiment to this point as soon as it can be spared subsequent to my advance.

I have sent for the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts entire, to come to this point. The Tenth Connecticut (eight companies) is to remain at St. Augustine, two companies to go to Picolalia.

I shall not occupy Pilatka or Magnolia at this moment; when I do, portions of the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts will be sent from Jacksonville. The Fifty-fifth Massachusetts will remain here for the present, or until the Twenty-fourth relieves it.

The Second South-Carolina and Third South-Carolina are at Camp Shaw, (late Finnigan,) for instruction and organization.

The First North-Carolina will be left at Baldwin, detaching three companies to Barber's.

Colonel Barton will have the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, and One Hundred and Fifteenth; Colonel Hanlay will have the Seventh Connecticut, Seventh New-Hampshire, and Eighth United States colored; Colonel Montgomery, the Third United States and Fifty-fourth Massachusetts colored; Colonel Henry, the cavalry and Elder's battery, and Captain Hamilton the artillery. As soon as possible, Metcalf's section will be sent back. At present, I should like to use it.

Colonel Goss is ordered to keep six companies in motion from Fernandina constantly, and at least five days out of seven (every seven) toward and beyond Camp Cooper.

Nothing appears to have been done upon the locomotive while at Fernandina. So it is reported to me.

The prompt use of a locomotive and a printing-press with this movement were of the most vital importance, and will continue so to be. I trust both will be economized.

And I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

Brigadier-General S. W. Turner, Chief-of-Staff:

Send me a General for the command of the advanced troops, or I shall be in a state of constant uncertainty.

T. S.

HILTON HEAD, SOUTH-CAROLINA, }
February 18, 1864.

*Brigadier-General T. Seymour, Commanding
District of Florida:*

I am just in receipt of your two letters of the sixteenth and one of the seventeenth, and am very much surprised at the tone of the latter, and the character of your plans as therein stated. You say that by the time your letter of the seventeenth should reach these headquarters, your forces would be in motion beyond Barber's, moving toward the Suwanee River, and that you shall rely upon my making a display in the Savannah River "with naval force, transports and sailing vessels," and with iron-clads up from Warsaw, etc., as a demonstration in your favor, which you look upon as of "great importance." All this is upon the presumption that the demonstration can and will be made, although contingent not only upon my power and disposition to do so, but upon the consent of Admiral Dahlgren, with whom I cannot communicate in less than ten days. You must have forgotten my last instructions, which were for the present to hold Baldwin and the St. Mary's south prong as your outposts to the westward of Jacksonville, and to occupy Pilatka and Magnolia on the St. John's.

Your prospect distinctly and avowedly ignores these operations, and substitutes a plan which not only involves your command in a distant movement without provisions, far beyond a point from which you once withdrew on account of precisely the same necessity, but presupposes a simultaneous demonstration of "great importance" to you elsewhere, over which you have no control, and which requires the coöperation of the navy. It is impossible for me to determine what your views are with respect to Florida matters, and this is the reason why I have endeavored to make mine known to you so fully. From your letter of the eleventh instant, from Baldwin, (a very singular letter by the way, and which you did not modify or refer to at all when you afterward saw me,) I extract as follows:

"I am convinced that a movement upon Lake City is not, in the present condition of transportation advisable, and indeed, that what has been said of the desire of Florida to come back now is a delusion. This movement is in opposition to sound strategy," etc.

And again: "The Union cause would have been far more benefited by Jeff Davis having removed this railroad to Virginia, than by any trivial or non-strategic success you may meet. By all means, therefore, fall back to Jacksonville."

So much from your letters of the eleventh; and yet, five days later, you propose to push forward without instructions and without provisions, with a view to destroying the railroad which you say it would have been better for Jeff Davis to have got, and furthermore, you say in your letter of the sixteenth: "There is but little doubt in my mind, (but) that the people of this State, kindly treated by us, will soon be

ready to return to the Union. They are heartily tired of the war."

As may be supposed, I am very much confused by these conflicting views, and am thrown into doubt as to whether my intentions with regard to Florida are fully understood by you. I will, therefore, reannounce them briefly.

1st. I desire to bring Florida into the Union under the President's proclamation of December eighth, 1863, as accessory to the above.

2d. To revive the trade on the St. John's River.

3d. To recruit my colored regiments, and organize a regiment of Florida white troops; and

4th. To cut off in part the enemy's supplies drawn from Florida.

After you had withdrawn your advance, it was arranged between us, at a present interview, that the places to be permanently held for the present would be the south prong of the St. Mary's, Baldwin, Jacksonville, Magnolia, and Pilatka, and that Henry's mounted forces should be kept moving as circumstances might justify or require. This is my plan of present operations. A raid to tear up the railroad west of Lake City will be of service, but I have no intention to occupy now that part of the State.

Very respectfully, etc.,

J. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, }
March 16, 1864.

ROBERT N. SCOTT,
Captain Fourth U. S. Infantry, A. D. C.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S LETTER

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, }
January 18, 1864.

Major-General Gillmore:

I understand an effort is being made by some worthy gentlemen to reconstruct a legal State government in Florida. Florida is in your department, and it is not unlikely that you may be there in person. I have given Mr. Hay a commission of Major, and sent him to you with some blank books and other blanks, to aid in the reconstruction. He will explain as to the manner of using the blanks, and also my general views on the subject. It is desirable for all to coöperate; but if irreconcilable differences of opinion shall arise, you are master. I wish the thing done in the most speedy way possible, so that when done it may be within the range of the late proclamation on the subject. The detail labor will, of course, have to be done by others, but I shall be greatly obliged if you will give it such general supervision as you can find consistent with your more strictly military duties.

A. LINCOLN.

GENERAL GILLMORE'S ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
HILTON HEAD, SOUTH-CAROLINA, January 31, 1864. }

In accordance with the provisions of the Presidential proclamation of pardon and amnesty, given at Washington, on the eighth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand

eight hundred and sixty-three, and in pursuance of instructions received from the President of the United States, Major John Hay, Assistant Adjutant-General, will proceed to Fernandina, Florida, and other convenient points in that State, for the purpose of extending to the citizens of the State of Florida an opportunity to avail themselves of the benefit of that proclamation, by offering for their signature the oath of allegiance therein prescribed, and by issuing to all those subscribing to said oath, certificates entitling them to the benefits of the proclamation. Fugitive citizens of the State of Florida within the limits of this department, will have an opportunity to subscribe to the same oath and secure certificates in the office of the post commander at Hilton Head, South-Carolina.

By command of Major-General Q. A. GILLMORE.

E. W. SMITH,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Monday, Feb. 22, 1864.

The entire column, numbering a little less than five thousand men, left Barber's at seven o'clock Saturday morning, and proceeded on the main road toward Lake City. I am confident the force did not exceed the number stated, for I am assured* by an aid-de-camp to General Seymour, that rations were drawn that morning for not quite five thousand. The forward movement was made suddenly. On Friday it was not supposed by the commanding officers—not including General Seymour—that an advance would be made for some days thence. With that conviction, the officers and men had built themselves log huts, and provided such conveniences available in that section as would insure a fair share of comfort. Some time during the night General Seymour received information of the enemy's whereabouts and plans, which led him to believe that by pushing rapidly forward his column, he would be able to defeat the enemy's designs, and secure important military advantages. Whatever that information may have been, the events of Saturday would indicate that it was by no means reliable, or that General Seymour acted upon it with too much haste. We all know that General Seymour is not a man to hesitate in his actions when an opportunity offers for a possible success. He is one of the class that believes he has a chance of winning and a chance of losing, and that success would never be obtained if he rested quietly on the bend of the little South-Fork. He means it shall never be said of the army that he commands, that it is all quiet on the line of some river. General Seymour deserves credit for his ambition and dash. If he had allowed himself to rest his command at Barber's for a month or six weeks, without making a single effort to engage the enemy and gain advantage, he would have been the butt for censure, not only from the army here, but the people at home. We take the ground that General Seymour did what nearly every one, before the engagement, said he should do. If he had achiev-

ed a victory, it would have been as every body predicted, and his name would have been mentioned with praise. Now he has suffered a repulse, he will, of course, be looked upon by some as having too much rashness to prosecute a campaign, and for that reason must bear whole loads of censure. Although the result of the fight was not favorable for us, it does not alter the fact that we have a man in the department of the South who has pluck enough to meet the enemy, regardless of his strength, more than half-way; give him battle, and take the legitimate chances of success.

The place at which the fight occurred, is on the line of the Florida Central Railroad, forty-five miles from Jacksonville, and within fifteen miles of Lake City. The nearest station to the ground is called Olustee, which is about three miles further up toward Lake City. The nearest station in the opposite direction is Sanderson, six miles distant from the battle-field. On the march from Barber's, our troops passed through Sanderson at about noon. At this place they did not halt, but pushed forward toward Olustee, the point at which General Seymour believed he should meet the enemy. But instead of coming in contact with the enemy at Olustee, the meeting took place three miles this side, so our troops were not so well prepared for battle as they would have been if Olustee had been the battle-field. Our column moved forward in regular order, the cavalry in the advance, and the artillery distributed along the line of infantry. It may be offered as an objection that the column was without flankers. The only source through which any intimation of the enemy's presence could be received, was the advance cavalry-guard. It would certainly be called a military failing to move a column of troops without the proper flankers through any portion of the enemy's country, even if positive information had been obtained that the enemy himself was a long distance off. The road from Barber's to Lake City lies parallel with the railroad, crossing it at intervals on an average of five miles. It was at one of these crossing-points that the fight was commenced. The head of the column reached this point at two p.m. The men had not rested from the time they left Barber's, at seven a.m. The usual halt of a few minutes every hour was, of course, observed, but we cannot say the troops fairly rested. Neither had they tasted of a mouthful of food. Thus, after a tedious march of sixteen miles, over a road of loose sand, or boggy turf, or covered knee-deep with muddy water, the troops, weary, exhausted, faint, hungry, and ill-conditioned, were suddenly attacked by a large force of the enemy, who had concealed himself behind a thick wood, waiting with complacent satisfaction the entry of our men into his ambush, very much after the manner that the spider would have the fly walk into his parlor. Before reaching the battle-ground, Colonel Henry, with his cavalry of the Independent Massachusetts battalion, and the Fortieth Massachusetts mounted infantry, came upon a party of five mounted rebels who were stationed

behind an old deserted mill, a little to the left of the wood. A few shots were exchanged and then the rebels fled in the direction of their main force. Captain Langdon's battery of regular artillery, was with Henry's cavalry. At the mill, Colonel Henry halted until Hawley's brigade of infantry and Hamilton's regular battery had come up. I will now attempt to give some idea of the order in which our troops came into line, and the character and progress of the battle.

With the view of meeting the enemy's pickets, three miles in advance of the mill, two companies of the Seventh Connecticut regiment were deployed on the left of the railroad, while three companies were left at the mill, for the purpose of supporting the artillery. A small force of cavalry was sent to skirmish on the right of the railroad. Our skirmishers had not advanced a hundred yards when they discovered those of the enemy directly in their front. The result was a brisk fire on both sides, which ended by the enemy's falling back on a second line of skirmishers. Our men continued to drive the rebels back, sometimes on the right and sometimes on the left of the railroad, but principally on the left. While this was going on, two companies of the Fortieth Massachusetts were ordered to the left, with a view of outflanking the enemy's skirmishers. In endeavoring to carry out that order, the Fortieth Massachusetts came upon a heavy line of skirmishers, and were compelled to withdraw to their original position.

Captain Elder, of the First artillery, in order to ascertain the enemy's force and position, brought one of his pieces into battery on the right and fired one shot, but it did not draw a reply. The Seventh New-Hampshire regiment, in connection with the Seventh Connecticut, was then sent forward to the right, and, if possible, to break through the enemy's line. This movement brought on hot firing, and it was evident that an engagement was near at hand. At this time our force on the field consisted of the Seventh New-Hampshire, the Seventh Connecticut, the Independent battalion of Massachusetts cavalry, the Fortieth Massachusetts mounted infantry, the Eighth United States colored, Elder's battery of four, and Hamilton's of six pieces. The remainder of the column was halted on the road. While our men were at work on the right, Colonel Henry in person went over to the left to reconnoitre, and, much to his astonishment, discovered that the enemy's right lapped on our left. This was reported to General Seymour, who immediately gave orders for the advance troops and batteries to come into position. The enemy watched the movement with an eager eye, and the moment Hamilton commenced unlimbering his pieces, his battery was subjected to a galling fire of musketry. A number of men and several horses were shot before he could get ready to fire one round. The fact that the enemy had a force far superior in point of numbers to our own, was now beyond all dispute. The firing became heavier and more destructive as each moment advanced. The railroad as it nears Olustee, takes

a bend, and behind this bend the rebels had taken their position. In the woods at the rear were their supporters and reserves. We had not a moment to lose. Our men were within one hundred yards of the enemy, and the only thing that could be done was to fight. To retreat at that time was impossible, for the road was filled with troops coming up, and the woods on either side would not admit of passage on the flank. By dint of effort, Captain Langdon succeeded in getting his four guns in battery on the extreme left, but not until he had lost five or six men and about the same number of horses. It must be borne in mind, our batteries were within one hundred yards of the enemy's front. This short distance rendered it a very easy task for the rebels to pick off a man or horse at every discharge of their rifles. At the commencement of the fight, the Eighth United States colored troops were supporting Hamilton's battery; but when their assistance was really indispensable, by some strange order they fled to the right in rear of the battery, for the purpose of joining their right on the left of the Seventh Connecticut. At that particular time the movement was decidedly an error, for, by carrying it out, it left Hamilton's battery unsupported. In an attempt to enfilade the enemy on his right, Hamilton moved forward four pieces; but before he got into position, the rebels on that portion of their line had concentrated all their fire upon him and the Eighth United States, who had again come up to his support. In twenty minutes' time, Hamilton lost forty-four men, killed and wounded, and forty horses. The Eighth also suffered severely. At no one juncture of the engagement has the fire of the enemy been more severe than at the time Hamilton attempted his enfilade movement. Hamilton knew very well his pieces were in great danger of being captured, and he also had sense enough to know that by taking them to the rear, it would instantly cause a panic among the infantry, and so inevitably lose the day for us. The behavior of Captain Hamilton at this critical period of the battle is worthy of special note, and I sincerely believe that it was owing mainly to his persistent efforts that the portion of our line at his battery was not broken and scattered in confusion. He had not only his pieces to command, but his infantry supports to keep from leaving the field. It was in the midst of this destructive fire of the enemy, and while Captain Hamilton was urging the infantry to maintain their line, and at the same time giving orders to his battery, he was struck in the arm by a musket-ball, and shortly after was again hit in the thigh. To add to the misfortune, all of his officers—four in number—were wounded. Colonel Charles W. Fribley, of the Eighth United States, was also mortally wounded on this portion of the field. He did not cease for a moment to encourage and rally his men, and by his gallant behavior proved himself to be an officer of no ordinary merit. Captain Hamilton kept his pieces at work until it was evident it would be sure loss to fire another round, and then gave orders to withdraw them. Horses

were attached to only four pieces; the horses to the other two had been shot; consequently two guns fell into possession of the enemy. On the right of Hamilton, the Seventh Connecticut and the Seventh New-Hampshire were doing fearful execution. The Seventh Connecticut especially were standing their ground with marked valor. Every volley from their guns told splendidly on the rebel line. But between the two forces a wide difference existed; the rebels outnumbered us five to one. This crushing superiority gave the two regiments little chance for victory. After losing one fourth of their number, they were compelled to retire to the rear. At the same moment Colonel Barton's brigade, the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, and One Hundred and Fifteenth New-York regiments, took the field, coming up in line *en echelon*. On the right was Elder's battery, and on the left Langdon's and one section of the Third Rhode Island. The enemy had four pieces of artillery. On a railroad car he had mounted a heavy gun, supposed to be a thirty-two pounder, and with this he kept up a regular fire, but not destructive, as the shells passed over the heads of our men. There can be no doubt concerning the fighting qualities of Barton's brigade. On this occasion they fought like tigers; but the same difficulty which opposed Hawley's brigade, presented itself to them, namely, the mass of the enemy.

The last regiments to enter the field, were the First North-Carolina, and Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, (colored,) of Montgomery's brigade. They took a bold position at the front, and maintained their ground with commendable pertinacity. For three and a half successive hours did our brave regiments combat the enemy before them. The instances of personal daring that occurred in the mean time, are numerous. Never before did the troops in this department have such an opportunity for displaying their valor, and on no previous occasion have they exhibited such a high degree of bravery. If the enemy had presented an equal force with our own, or even if it had been only double, no doubt could have been felt as to the final result of the contest. As it was, the enemy resisted us with a force in point of numbers three times that of our own, which, taken together with the circumstances of the long and tedious march, and the ill condition of the men, it would be hardly reasonable to suppose that success would be on our side. The effect of our fire, both of musketry and artillery, was fearful. At every discharge, down went a body of rebels. The gallant Elder on the right, and the dashing Langdon on the left, made an impression on the rebel lines that will go far to offset the misfortune that ultimately overtook us. The fight was by no means a trivial encounter; it was a battle hotly contested, fought at close range, face to face and foot to foot. The commanding officers of the various regiments are entitled to unlimited credit for the heroic manner in which they led their men. At the acme of the battle, Colonel Sammons, of the One Hundred and Fifteenth New-York, was struck in the foot, and was in conse-

quence compelled to leave the field. His horse was shot from under him. Colonel Moore, of the Forty-seventh New-York, was also wounded, a ball striking his hand and passing out at the elbow. Colonel Barton had his coat pierced in several places and his horse shot. Colonel Henry had three horses shot, but himself escaped in a most miraculous manner. Provost-Marshal General Hall had a horse shot from under him, and as for himself, no one would believe it would be possible for him to again pass through what he did on that day, and come out unscathed. Lieutenant Jackson, of General Seymour's staff, had two horses shot. If space would permit, I might fill a column of just such narrow escapes.

General Seymour was not away from the ground for an instant. At first on the right and then on the left, he seemed to be everywhere at one and the same moment. His aim was apparently to be in the thickest of the fight, and at the front of his troops.

At five p.m. the fire slackened on both sides; on ours, in consequence of the ammunition giving out, and on the enemy's, because we did not press him. A demonstration by the rebels to capture Langdon's battery, at about the middle stage of the fight, was prevented by Langdon, who poured into their line a quick and deadly fire. But in coming from the field he was obliged to leave to the enemy three of his pieces, not because the enemy charged upon them, but for the reason that he did not have horses to draw them off. At half-past five o'clock the heavy firing had ceased. The cessation was simultaneous on both sides. We held our ground till seven o'clock, and then the order came from General Seymour to gradually retire.

The retreat was conducted leisurely and orderly. There was no confusion, no panic, nothing that indicated hurry. Colonel Henry, with his cavalry, brought up the rear. At three o'clock Sunday morning, our troops were at Barber's. The enemy followed closely, but did not press. A few of their cavalry only kept well up to the rear of Henry's column. At Barber's, our men rested till nine a.m., and then again took up the line of retreat, reaching Baldwin at about three p.m. They halted here a short time, and then went on toward Jacksonville, arriving at the camping-ground, six miles out, Monday afternoon. On the way down many of the poor fellows could hardly drag one foot after the other.

To estimate our loss is indeed an unpleasant task, but, nevertheless, one which must be performed in giving the record of the day's events. In killed, wounded, and missing I give the number one thousand two hundred. All our killed and the severely wounded, that is, those who were unable to walk from the field unassisted, fell into the hands of the enemy. Last night, at twelve o'clock, about five hundred of the wounded had been conveyed to Jacksonville. Their names are embraced in the list of casualties which I present in another portion of this letter. At that time about two hundred wounded were

on the way, but did not reach Jacksonville in season for me to get their names so as to send on by this mail. The surgeons estimate three hundred wounded to have been left on the field. The proportion of two hundred killed to one thousand wounded is that usually allowed. This would make the aggregate of one thousand two hundred.

We also left on the field five guns, and not a small number of small-arms. The road from Barber's to Baldwin was strewn with guns, knapsacks, and blankets.

At a station on the railroad between Barber's and Baldwin we burnt a building containing two thousand barrels of turpentine. This we might have got away several days previous had transportation been accessible. We also burnt a trestle-bridge on the railroad not far from Barber's. At Baldwin we burnt a large supply of commissary stores, knapsacks, and officers' baggage. The wagons used to transport these things to the army were filled on the retreat with the wounded.

It is customary to make the enemy's list of casualties equal to that of our own. In this instance I believe I can follow the rule, and be not very far from the truth. When we consider that the enemy had but four or five and we sixteen pieces of artillery, in position, it is not difficult to believe we inflicted upon him quite as much injury as he upon us. The fact that he did not follow rapidly is significant of the immense damage he sustained.

Our wounded, that is, those of them who were not left on the field, were all taken to Jacksonville Sunday and Monday morning. We had seven cars running on the railroad. During Sunday morning and afternoon, these cars were drawn by horses. At night, a locomotive that the engineers had been trying to get in order for some days was at last got in running condition, at just the time its use was no longer required. I do not consider the engineer at fault that the locomotive was not ready before, for it was an old concern, made up of half a dozen similar old refuse picked up at Fernandina when our troops arrived there two years ago. It was out of order, and the engineers did not have the requisite material to repair it. Monday morning two hundred and sixty-four of the wounded left on the steamer *Cosmopolitan* for Beaufort. Among the number was Lieutenant-Colonel Reed, of the First North-Carolina (colored) regiment, who was in a critical condition. In the absence of Colonel Beecher, who had gone North with despatches, Lieutenant-Colonel Reed took command of the regiment, and well and nobly did he act his part. The wounded at Jacksonville receive the best of attention from the surgeons in charge. Dr. William A. Smith, of the Forty-seventh New-York, is Post Director, assisted by Dr. Weeks. Some of the surgeons remained on the field of battle to treat our wounded there. Mr. Day, of the Sanitary Commission, and Rev. Mr. Taylor, of the Christian Commission, also remained behind on the field. These two gentlemen were at

Jacksonville when the news of the battle was telegraphed Saturday night. They immediately obtained a car, which they filled with medical and sanitary stores, and sent it forward to the front. At eleven at night they followed the car, walking, before they overtook it, a distance of ten miles.

LIEUTENANT EDDY'S ACCOUNT.

The following is a letter from Lieutenant Eddy, of the Third Rhode Island battery, who participated in the late battle in Florida. It is dated on board the hospital steamer *Cosmopolitan*, in Port Royal harbor, February twenty-second:

"On Thursday morning, the eighteenth, we left our camps at Jacksonville in light-marching order, with ten days' rations. We marched all day, and, as the roads were bad, we made only sixteen miles, when we halted for the night. On Friday morning, the nineteenth, we started early, and marching all day, made seventeen miles, stopping over night at a small place called Barber's. On Saturday morning, the twentieth, at seven o'clock, we started once more for a place called Lake City, thirty-six miles distant, which, if we had succeeded in occupying, we should have stopped supplies being sent to the Western armies of the enemy. We marched eighteen miles, when we met the enemy, and skirmished with them for the next four miles, when we found that they were in force, and had formed their line of battle.

"The columns were at once deployed, and our advance was soon sharply engaged. Hamilton's battery was ordered forward. Four pieces of the battery, including my section, were placed in position within a hundred and fifty yards of the rebel lines, under a severe fire of musketry. We went in with four pieces, fifty horses, eighty-two men, and four officers, namely, Captain Hamilton, Lieutenant Myrick, Lieutenant Dodge, and myself. In twenty minutes we lost forty-five men, forty horses, two guns, and four officers, when we managed to get off with what little there was left. It was our misfortune to have for support a negro regiment, which, by running, caused us to lose our pieces. The fight lasted three hours, when, finding his small army so much cut up, the General ordered a retreat.

"We returned to Jacksonville, fifty-eight miles distant, and reached there last night at twelve o'clock. We had five thousand men engaged on our side, and lost one thousand two hundred, as near as I can learn. The enemy had fifteen thousand men opposed to us, and, of course, whipped us badly. Captain Hamilton is wounded in his left arm severely, and in the hip. Lieutenant Myrick is badly wounded in the left foot, and will probably lose some of his toes. Lieutenant Dodge is wounded in the left arm, but not badly. I am wounded in the right leg, about three inches above the ankle-joint, but not badly. All of us officers had our horses shot under us. We are now on board of this steamer, bound for Beaufort, where all the wounded will be landed except us four officers.

We return to Hilton Head to-morrow. The battery remained at Jacksonville, which I think our forces will find it difficult to hold, as the enemy were following us closely. Taking every thing together, we have done pretty sharp work. In ninety hours we have marched one hundred and ten miles, fought a battle of three hours' duration, got badly whipped, and what there is left of our little army is back again to where we started from."

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT FLORIDA, }
JACKSONVILLE, March 12, 1864.

Our landing in Jacksonville was a complete surprise to the rebels, and they were in no condition to receive us. Our march was, consequently, one continual triumph, with small loss, until our cavalry had advanced within two miles of Lake City, the first objective point of the campaign. It was at this time our first great mistake occurred. Major-General Gillmore supposed the rebels had really no force of any importance in the State, and that they were quite indifferent to its fate. Reconciliation and reconstruction were the leading ideas that occupied the attention of our commanders. Their talk and manners indicated the presence of civil magistrates more than of army officers. "We came here," said General Gillmore, "not so much to fight as to conciliate the inhabitants, and accept their homages of loyalty." No raiding was to be allowed in the State. The new converts to the Federal Government were permitted to go and come as suited their convenience. Privileges were guaranteed to them which were denied to our ever-loyal Northern people. Whilst we were thus resting upon a bed of roses, enjoying sweet dreams of peaceful and easy conquests, the vipers we had warmed to life in our bosoms were in alliance with our deadly foes, and aiding them in their preparations to sting us to death.

But this was not our worst mistake. The policy of conciliation, adopted here, did not allow our officers to levy any contributions upon the country for the support of the army. The most stringent orders were issued in regard to touching, under any circumstance, private property. A captain was put in arrest for permitting his men, who were doing duty on an extreme outpost, to kill a pig for their supper. Thousands of these animals are running half-wild in the woods, and no one in particular pretends to own them. I learn that this officer's name has been sent to the President with a recommendation that he be summarily dismissed from the service. As living off from the country was out of the question, and as it was impossible to transport supplies to meet the wants of an advancing army over sand roads, nothing was left for us to do but call in our advance, and stand still till an engine could be procured, put in repair, and transportation by rail effected. This delay afforded precious time to the enemy, and was fatal to us. Finning calls in his outposts; generals and armies are sent from Georgia and South-Carolina; a point of great strategic importance is selected

near Olustee, and every thing put in a state of readiness to crush at the same time our army and all our visionary hopes. Had no other thought been entertained than that we were in an enemy's country, and had our commanders taken and improved all the advantages which the laws of war had put into their hands, the issues of the Olustee struggle might have been reversed, our army safely intrenched in Lake City, and Florida wrested from the hands of the rebels.

The battle of Olustee will take rank among the bloodiest and most fruitless slaughters of the war. When General Seymour left Jacksonville, the eighteenth February, he expected to fight a battle near Lake City, the twenty-first, and not before. This impression seems to have seized his mind, and clung to it with the force of fatality. When he left Barber's early on the nineteenth, he was told that he would meet a large force which would drive him back again. Native Floridians insisted that, near Olustee, Finning and Gardner had collected an army much larger than our own. All these statements seemed to make no impression whatever upon his mind. And when, about six miles beyond Sanderson, the rebel pickets were driven in, no preparation was made to ascertain the position of the enemy, or for a general engagement. Onward, with all possible speed, onward was the spirit which ruled the hour. Much of the artillery, and the guns of whole companies were empty, but, as if this were a matter of little or no importance, onward was the order. It is the strangest thing in the world that this was so. The enemy's advanced-guard, retreating precipitately on the approach of our force, was but a repetition of what we had witnessed all the way from Jacksonville to near Lake City. This had been done so frequently that it appeared to be the established order of things with the Florida soldiers. Our policy had been to dash after them, and capture and scatter as many as possible. We had met with no repulse and few casualties. Our successes had unfortunately inspired us with a contempt for our foes. A battle commenced unexpectedly and without preparation, must be fought to great disadvantage.

Just as we encounter the rebel pickets, let the reader fancy our army moving along to the west in three columns, in close order, on the south side of a railroad, then turning squarely to the right, crossing to the other side, and making a north-westerly direction. The dirt road makes this detour to the right to avoid a long cypress swamp through which the said road passes. Leaving the army behind for a few moments, let us pass on and examine the ground on which the bloody engagement is about to take place. Soon after crossing the railroad, we come to a series of swamps, which, with ocean pond, stretches from the railroad track in a direction a little west of north-west, on which the enemy's left wing rests, and by which it is amply protected. From this point the rebel line extends south to the railroad. A right-angled triangle, with the rebel line as the

base, only covered, the railroad embankment as the perpendicular line, and the series of swamps as the hypothenuse, will give a clear and remarkably correct outline of the field. The rebel right and left flanks were amply protected by the swamps. There was also a strip of low marsh land in the enemy's front, and perhaps creation affords but few positions that an enemy could occupy to greater advantage. Our army passed into this triangle through the upper part of the hypothenuse, and occupied a position a little below the apex. This dirt road, which was our line of march, passed between two swamps, and was so narrow that many of our men had to wade the swamps knee-deep in mud and water to get into action.

As stated above, the skirmishing commenced at the time our advance-guard crossed the railroad. The Fortieth Massachusetts cavalry, Colonel Henry, the Independent battalion, Major Stevens, and the Seventh Connecticut infantry participated in this preliminary action. Our skirmishers were halted till Captains Hamilton and Elder, with their batteries, came up. As they move on together, two guns are brought into battery and throw a few shells into the woods (pine barrens) in our front, but no response is elicited. The skirmishers we have driven in have disappeared, and they were, in fact, nothing but decoy ducks to lure us on and show the way to the ambushade.

Occasionally a squad of a dozen or so are to be seen in the roads and other exposed points to encourage us in the pursuit of our prey, and on we go, cavalry, infantry, and artillery as near together as possible. No enemy of any importance, nor signs of a camp are to be seen anywhere. No sound is to be heard but the solemn tramp of our army, and the trembling murmur of the winds among the huge and lofty pines. We move on, the Seventh Connecticut in the advance; we pass the swamps, and emerge into the open space beyond, when suddenly a concentric fire from the enemy's curved line is poured upon us. Colonel Hawley, seeing the hot work in which his advance is engaged, orders up the Seventh New-Hampshire; by the way, one of the best regiments in the service. On this occasion, however, it was not possible for it to appear to the best advantage. Arms had been taken away and bad ones given to the men. In the terrible roar of battle, orders were not understood, and in deploying it got into inextricable confusion. It did but little execution, lost heavily, and did well to get out of the way as soon as possible. Hamilton's battery was posted in the centre, Elder's upon our right, and Langdon's on the left. When the Seventh New-Hampshire regiment became confused, Colonel Hawley brought forward the Eighth U. S. colored, Colonel Charles W. Fribley. A part of this regiment came into action with empty guns, and being under a terrible fire, and cramped for room, it was found impossible to form a line of battle to the best advantage. Considering that this was the first time the regiment had been under fire, it be-

haved remarkably well. The reports that it got into confusion and ran from the field are certainly false. I cannot account for its good conduct, considering that the men were raw recruits, only on the ground that they were under the command of superior officers. As the Eighth fell back, having been under fire an hour and a half, Colonel Barton brought his brigade into action. The Forty-seventh New-York was posted on the left, a part of the Forty-eighth New-York to the left of Hamilton's battery, the other part on the right, and the One Hundred and Fifteenth New-York formed the right of our line. This brigade did nobly. The enemy's left pressed hard upon the One Hundred and Fifteenth, but every man stood his ground like a veteran. The Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth held the centre firmly. The battle has now raged furiously for two hours, and our losses in officers and men have been terrible.

Colonel Montgomery, with the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts and the First North-Carolina (colored) regiments, was left back at the crossing of the railroad with the train. Hearing the constant roar of artillery and musketry in front, he sent forward his aid for orders, but, without waiting for him to return, he moved forward with the Fifty-fourth, and, as he passed the swamps, received orders to take position on our left, as the enemy was pressing us hard in that quarter. This was done, and, as General Seymour said afterward, to his entire satisfaction. The Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth New-York are nearly out of ammunition, and have been in action about two hours and a half. The colonel of each regiment and many other officers are badly wounded. Some are killed. Colonel Montgomery brings the First North-Carolina, Lieutenant Reed commanding, into action. It passes between the Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth on the double-quick, and is cheered by those retiring regiments as it goes into battle. The coming of these fresh troops upon the field, and the manner in which it was done, rather staggered the enemy for a moment. But the cars came thundering in, bringing him reinforcements. These North-Carolina colored soldiers and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts now held our left, aided by the artillery, and even pressed the enemy back. The battle rages furiously all along the line, and the slaughter is terrible. Every man seems determined to do his whole duty. No regiment went into action more gallantly, fought more desperately, or did better execution than the First North-Carolina (colored) troops. Their white comrades generally take pleasure in awarding to them this honor. Men were dropping constantly all along the line, but the living fought all the more bravely. These freedmen evidently preferred falling on the field of battle to falling into the hands of their barbarous foes. This regiment was not in action over two hours and a half, and yet its loss in officers and enlisted men was very nearly as heavy as that of any other regiment.

The battle having now raged for four hours, from two to six P.M., it appears the god of war

became satisfied with the slaughter on both sides, and, as if by mutual consent of parties, the fighting ceased. We were allowed quietly to withdraw from the field. The five pieces of artillery we lost were not taken from us, but left on the ground because the horses and gunners had either fled or been killed. All but one of our batteries were within musket-range of the rebel lines, and some artillerymen were killed with buckshot. We withdrew slowly, but the regiments were broken into a large number of fragments, and badly mixed up. It was a painful sight to see so many brave wounded men writhing in agony; but when we were compelled to leave them there—they not being recognized by the enemy as soldiers, especially the negroes—no language can describe our sorrow and regret.

The statement made in the *Providence Journal* by Lieutenant Eddy, of the Third Rhode Island battery, that it was the running of their supports, the Eighth United States colored regiment, which caused them to lose their guns, can be proved to be a base slander by more than five hundred witnesses. The fact is, the negroes held their ground and kept the battery from falling into the hands of the enemy for two hours after this Eddy had left it with his slight wound. These brave but slandered men were the last to abandon the battery. The enemy never drove them from it or took it from them. But the cause of the loss of these guns is under investigation, and a report no doubt will be made fixing the responsibility where it properly belongs. Did we not know Lieutenant Eddy, and his feelings toward colored troops, we might hope that when he recovers from his fright he would take pleasure in correcting his false statements.

The battle of Olustee was fought with all the odds on the enemy's side. Our men were wearied and foot sore with long marching; they had taken but very little refreshments—some not any—since early breakfast; they had no expectations of a fight till actually drawn into it; they fought on ground where the room was not sufficient to form a line of battle or deploy to the best advantage; the enemy was at least three thousand more numerous than our force; we knew nothing of the ground and position of the enemy, except as we learned them by dear experience, and, under such an array of unfavorable circumstances, no bravery or skill could save the day.

Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing is strangely great, being not less than one thousand nine hundred. Previous to the battle we captured property that is worth to the Government a half-million of dollars; and in that battle, together with the retreat, lost not less than a million dollars, besides the precious lives that were sacrificed.

The enemy's loss in killed and wounded is reported by numerous deserters, and in the rebel press, to be not far from eight hundred.

General Seymour was in the hottest of the battle, and seemed to be oblivious to all thoughts or feelings of danger. After getting into the am-

buscade, he did all in his power to bring out, by desperate fighting, a favorable issue. He may be censurable for some things, but cowardice or excessive prudence should not be put into the list.

VIDE.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

ON BOARD COSMOPOLITAN, HOSPITAL SHIP,
IN TRANSIT FROM JACKSONVILLE, FLA., TO
HILTON HEAD, S. C., February 23, 1864.

On Thursday, February eighteenth, General Seymour and his staff left Jacksonville, and reached Baldwin, twenty-two miles distant, the same evening. Here he had established an important dépôt of supplies for the army he was leading into the field. At this point the two railroads of Florida cross each other. Cars had been placed on the track, and a locomotive was in a forward state of reconstruction for service on the road from Jacksonville. Large amounts of food, ordnance, and clothing had been hauled up to Baldwin by horse-power. Here, too, the thrice-blessed Sanitary Commission had a store of comforts and necessities for wounded men. It was a place of no natural strength. Important only as the junction of railroads, it had been seized and rudely fortified. Slight *châteaux de frise* of fir branches had been made, and a few block-houses and rifle-pits were hastily prepared.

From Baldwin, on the morning of the nineteenth of February, the General and his staff moved forward to Barber's Station, twelve miles further, near the railroad. Here were encamped the brigade commanded by Colonels Barton, Hawley, and Montgomery. In the immediate neighborhood, also, were the Fortieth regiment Massachusetts mounted infantry, Colonel Henry; the Independent battalion of Massachusetts cavalry, under Major Stevens; and the artillery, consisting of Captain Hamilton's, Captain Langdon's, and Captain Elder's batteries, as well as a section of the Third Rhode Island artillery. In all, the force amounted to about twenty cannon, four hundred cavalry, and four thousand five hundred infantry. This was intended to operate against an enemy whose strength was reported to be thirteen thousand men, under General Gardiner, (or Gardner,) who was said to have recently arrived from Georgia in order to defend the pasture-yard and shambles of the Confederacy from the invasion of the Union army.

On the morning of the twentieth, at about nine o'clock, the troops set out to find the enemy, moving in three lines, almost parallel to the road. It was intended to reach Lake City the following day, unless the enemy should dispute the way. The route was through the unvarying pine forests of the country, over immense levels where only the pines and the sandy soil could be seen, or through swamps impenetrable to the eye or the foot of man. On Monday, the army arrived at Sanderson, a railroad station surrounded by a few houses, inhabited by turpentine farmers. Here the most positive statements were made as to the large force which awaited the Unionists not more than ten miles beyond.

The residents predicted that our men would re-

turn before night, and get there more in a hurry than they were when they passed forward. Again the devoted soldiers formed, and set out in three columns, keeping, as before, near the railroad track. The column on the right was led by Colonel Barton, of the Forty-eighth New-York, in command of his brigade, consisting of the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, and One Hundred and Fifteenth New-York regiments. The column in the centre was made up of the cavalry, under Major Stevens; the mounted infantry, under Colonel Guy V. Henry; the Seventh Connecticut, Colonel Hawley; and the Seventh New-Hampshire, Colonel Abbott. The left was commanded by Colonel Montgomery, under whom were the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, Colonel Hallowell; the First North-Carolina, Lieutenant-Colonel Reed; and the Eighth United States volunteers, under Colonel Fribley.

About six miles from Sanderson, the rebel pickets were driven in by our cavalry, and fell back upon their main forces, posted between swamps about two miles from Olustee, a railroad station ten miles beyond Sanderson. The railroad intersected their position. Their line rested upon the right on an earthwork, very low and slight, and protected by rifle-pits. In their centre they were defended by a swamp. On their left was a slight elevation, concealed by pines, among which their cavalry was drawn up. On the railroad track a battery was placed to operate against the left of our line, or capable of being turned against the centre. A rifled gun was mounted on a truck, and commanded the road. Sharpshooters swarmed in the pine-tops.

The position chosen by the rebels for our troops to occupy, and which they did occupy during the temporary exigencies of the occasion, was between two swamps; that one in our front prevented a charge upon the rebels' front, that one behind was to impede our retreat. The railroad could only be reached by going up to the waist in water, or by an immense detour. To fall away from the railroad was to cut ourselves off from our reserves, which were coming up on the left of the track, and to endanger the safety of our train, which also was near the reserve. Nothing could have been better planned or more civilly acquiesced in than was this whole scheme. General Seymour accepted the issue just as it stood, pushed the guns into position upon low ground about eighty yards from the nearest rebel battery, and saw his gunners and their horses shot down with unmatched equanimity.

The Seventh New-Hampshire had so deadly a fire poured into their ranks that they broke and fell back in confusion. Dissatisfaction and want of confidence had been created in the regiment by depriving it of the "Spencer repeating-rifle," and the issue, instead, of Springfield muskets in bad condition; some lacking locks, others rusted or wanting crews, proper springs, or otherwise useless. Unable to protect themselves with these curious weapons, one wing of the regiment gave way and could not be rallied. The other wing, which had retained the "Spencer" arm, remain-

ed until they had expended their ammunition, and their officers could supply no more. Then they withdrew to the rear, and the Eighth (colored) United States volunteers, commanded by Colonel Fribley, was pushed forward to stand the brunt of the enemy's fire.

In twenty minutes, three hundred and fifty men, including the Colonel, (killed,) were stricken down by the storm of bullets. They were withdrawn, and the left did not again offer any vigorous resistance to the enemy. Meanwhile, on the right and centre, persistent efforts were made to crush in our lines. A rapid and furious cannonade and concentric fire was poured in. The cannon-shots generally crashed among the trees, and brought down, among the wounded in the rear, branches of the pines, to inflict gratuitous injuries upon the helpless men and their attendant surgeons. Three times successively did Dr. Adolf Majes, Chief Medical Officer with the army of Florida, order the removal of the field-hospitals still further to the rear. The enemy's sharpshooters on the opposite side of the railroad, in the tree-tops or the long grass, poured in bullets upon the bleeding fugitives; and succeeded in making it necessary to remove the wounded eight miles away, to Sanderson.

The stream of disabled men naturally took the railroad track as the easiest path from the battlefield. Unseen enemies pursued them. The spiteful bullets whistled near them. Many were thus killed; among others Colonel Fribley, of the Eighth United States colored, who was being removed from the scene by one of his lieutenants, when both were mortally wounded.

The centre stood firmly until desired to fall back, in order to give the batteries a better and more elevated position. Captain Hamilton, with battery M, Third United States artillery, lost two Parrott guns by the death of his men and horses, after fighting continuously for an hour and a half. Captain Langdon, of the First United States artillery, lost three brass Napoleon guns in the same way. First Lieutenant E. Eddy, of the First United States artillery, received a wound in his leg, and First Lieutenant T. McCrae, of battery M, First United States artillery, was also wounded. Captain Hamilton was wounded in the arm.

Desperate assaults on the Union right failed to drive in the brave One Hundred and Fifteenth New-York, holding the extremity of the line. The genial and chivalrous Colonel S. Sammis was wounded in the foot; Major Walrath's shoulder-strap was cut away by a bullet. He will soon replace it with a device proper to a lieutenant-colonel. With the imperturbable cheerfulness and the cool courage which distinguished him, he moved along the line, cheering and encouraging his soldiers. They lost dreadfully. Among the killed were Second Lieutenant Schaeffer, company G, and Second Lieutenant W. Tompkins, company C. Captain G. Vanderbeer was wounded in the leg and breast; Second Lieutenant J. Davis, of company A, was fatally wounded in the breast, and was left on the retreat at Sanderson, to be treated by the rebels. Second Lieu-

tenant E. Smith, of company B, got a shot in his right shoulder. Captain W. W. French, of company F, had his ankle shattered; Second Lieutenant Clark, of company H, was hurt in the shoulder. As an instance of what the One Hundred and Fifteenth endured, company F may be cited. Out of fifty-nine men brought into the fight, three were killed and twenty-nine wounded.

But the details of the slaughter must be looked for among the lists hereafter to be forwarded. Only fragmentary reports are now accessible. On board this ship are two hundred and forty brave fellows wounded. About five hundred others are left at Jacksonville in the care of the medical staff. On the battle-field are not fewer than five hundred of our dear brothers, most of whom are dead. In the mercy of Providence, the nights have been frosty of late. Cold is the best kind of weather for wounded men, while they are waiting for succor. A flag of truce is to be sent, asking for permission to remove our wounded and bury our dead. At Sanderson, it is understood, that some wounded had to be left with a surgeon in charge. At Baldwin, Mr. Day, of the Sanitary Commission, and Rev. Mr. Taylor, of the Christian Commission, await the arrival of wounded stragglers and of the enemy. Mr. Day has been twice before a prisoner in the pursuit of his calling of mercy.

The Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth, also on the right, suffered severely in their efforts to prevent the enemy from flanking the field. Among the dead of the noble Forty-seventh are Captain Henry Arnold, company K; First Lieutenant Charles C. Every, company B; Second Lieutenant L. Hunting, company I. The Colonel, Henry Moore, was wounded in the arm. Captain J. M. McDonald, company K; First Lieutenant Duffy, company K; and Second Lieutenant G. L. Scholendorff, all got wounds in their legs. Their companies will not muster over twenty-five men each.

As the rebels were preparing to charge with reinforcements just come in by railroad, the reserves, under Colonel Montgomery, arrived. They came up at double-quick.

The Fifty-fourth Massachusetts went in first, with a cheer. They were followed by the First North-Carolina, (colored.) Lieutenant-Colonel Reed, in command, headed the regiment, sword in hand, and charged upon the rebels. They broke, but rallied when within twenty yards of contact with our negro troops. Overpowered by numbers, the First North-Carolina fell back in good order, and poured in a destructive fire. Their Colonel was felled, mortally wounded. Their Major, Boyle, fell dead, and two men were killed in trying to reach his body. Their Adjutant, Wm. C. Manning, wounded before at Malvern Hill, got a bullet in his body, but persisted in remaining, until yet another shot struck him. His Lieutenant-Colonel, learning the fact, embraced him, and implored him to leave the field. The next moment the two friends were stretched side by side; the Colonel had received his own death-wound. But the two colored regiments had stood in the gap, and saved the army!

General Seymour, taking advantage of the diversion thus effected, had reestablished his field-batteries, and with four parting rounds of grape, canister, and solid shot secured impunity for his retreat. The Seventh Connecticut was placed to defend the shattered columns as they fell back; the mounted infantry and cavalry brought up the rear. Lieutenant-Colonel Hall, of the New-York engineers, galloped along the line of retreat, in his capacity of Provost-Marshal General, to secure order and rally fugitives. Arriving at Sanderson about nine o'clock in the evening, he found that Captain Bridgman, of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, had already commenced the good work. More than one thousand men were here collected. Some very slightly hurt; many seriously wounded. Many more had merely left the ground to help away their stricken comrades, and had not returned to take part in the fray.

The retreat continued all night to Barber's Station, and next morning to Baldwin. Here General Seymour arrived on Sunday P.M., and made arrangements for the evacuation of the place, and the burning of the stores. He also caused the destruction of the property of one Derby, a neighboring rebel, who had sought and obtained protection, and then gone over to the enemy with information. The wounded men who had been brought so far, or had painfully marched hither, were packed in horse-cars and sent down the railroad, to be instantly transferred to the Cosmopolitan, or placed in hospitals at Jacksonville.

The Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, which, with the First North-Carolina, may be said to have saved the forces from utter rout, lost about eighty men wounded and twelve killed. The complete list will be forwarded with this letter. Other regiments were not in a condition the next day to make returns.

There are not fewer than one thousand two hundred men, white and black, lost to the army by this heavy calamity. This moment of grief is too sacred for anger. The blame that attaches to the planners or leaders of the expedition will hereafter develop itself. General Gillmore will himself superintend the security of the shattered regiments. There are forces in Jacksonville enough to hold the place. Not all the regiments thereabout were in the fight. Reinforcements for the Department of the South are arriving daily at Hilton Head. It is a dearly bought lesson for us, but not an overwhelming or fatal disaster.

G. B.

DEFENCE OF GENERAL SEYMOUR.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., April 8, 1864.

To the Editors of the New-York Evening Post:

By the Fulton to-day I have received and read, for the first time, all your articles concerning (somewhat) Florida affairs; but more particularly concerning myself.

You assail me professionally and personally. Now, so far as the character of my military service is touched, I may say that you will find it not unkindly referred to in the reports of not a few battles, and in some of these reports I am

credited with considerably more intelligence and skill than you have been willing to accord me. But the reputation of a soldier is not based on the opinions of gentlemen of your profession nearly so strongly as upon those of mine; and by these last only am I content to be judged.

There are a few points, however, upon which it is proper you should be correctly informed.

First. You state that I was once sent from the Department of the South by General Hunter, for "unruly conduct and language." Your information here was worse than imperfect, it was simply untrue. I left the department upon my own application, upon that solely, and for entirely different causes than differences with General Hunter.

Second. You assert that I "planned and urged" the assault on Fort Wagner of the eighteenth of July last.

That is much more credit than I deserve. I had too steadfastly advocated, as a principle, that intrenchments defended by the rifle had not been successfully assaulted in this war, to urge or to plan this assault as an exception. Secessionville and its lesson were too close at hand to be forgotten.

But this assault was virtually successful. Our men entered the work, held a part of it for hours, took prisoners from the garrison. And before attributing any failure to me, would it not have been well for you to have learned the whole truth from the few who know it, (and very few know the entire facts concerning any engagement whatever,) before charging me with so many personal, political, and military crimes, because there was final failure?

Briefly, your statement concerning my connection with that assault is utterly incorrect.

Third. For my opinions upon non-professional matters, I presume, the public cares very little. But as you positively state that I am an "habitual contemner of the race," (colored,) also of "negro troops," and a "virulent pro-slavery man," I am justified in pronouncing you quite as wrong as upon the preceding points. Pro-slavery sentiments—even in a moderate form—I never entertained. But I despise and scorn the hypocritical and sanctimonious philanthropy of some who are fattening—personally, pecuniarily, and politically—upon the wrongs of the black, but who have been very careful never to set him an example on the battle-field. And that I have faithfully carried out the desires and commands of the Government—so far as I have had command of colored troops—the following letters will best show:

CAMP THIRD SOUTH-CAROLINA COLORED TROOPS, }
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 28, 1864.

Lieutenant R. M. Hall, First United States Artillery;

SIR: We have noticed in one of the New-York papers some observations reflecting upon General Seymour's supposed prejudices against, and unfair treatment of colored troops. Speaking from our own knowledge in relation to our own regiment, we have seen no signs of such prejudice,

and have experienced no such treatment at any time during the expedition to Florida. We have been treated precisely in the same manner as the white troops; we have frequently been brigaded with them; and have uniformly received the same attention to the wants and comforts of both officers and men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

B. C. TILGHMAN, Col. Third U. S. C. T.

U. DOUBLEDAY, Lieut.-Col. " " "

F. W. BARDWELL, Major " " "

Official Copy: W. H. BRADSHAW,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-FIFTH U. S. C. T., }
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 30, 1864.

GENERAL: Will you, at your departure from this district, accept a line of cordial good-will from an officer of your command?

I am personally, and in behalf of my regiment, under obligations to you for a kindly consideration and fairness of treatment which will doubtless, after a time, become general in all departments and districts, but which to ourselves has been peculiarly gratifying. We, of the colored organizations, have not and do not ask for special favors, but only for such military equality as may be earned; a fair share of fatigue and field-work, and equal consideration from the quartermaster, commissary, and ordnance departments. To the extent of your power, (speaking for my own regiment,) we have had such equality, and are content.

Wishing you a safe and prosperous passage, and with assurance of kindly remembrance, I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES C. BECHER,
Colonel Commanding.

Copy: W. H. BRADSHAW,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

HEADQUARTERS COLORED BRIGADE, }
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General Seymour, Commanding District of Florida:

GENERAL: I have the honor to give testimony to the kind, just, and impartial treatment my command has received at your hands. It has been my fortune to command six of the colored regiments under you, and I know of no instance where a different line of policy has been pursued toward the colored men than the white. While speaking of this, I wish to say, that I am continually receiving from the North all sorts of complaints in relation to the abuse of the colored soldier, how they are treated in the field, etc. This is all wrong, the spirit which circulates them is bad, and the statements are not true. The welfare of these men demands that less should be said, and more be done. To all who are so solicitous for the colored soldier, I say: Turn your fire upon the Congress of the nation, that the great injustice which has been done to them by not allowing pay enough to clothe themselves, may be remedied, and we will take care of the remainder; we have no complaints to make but this, and the

fault is not with our generals, but those who call themselves our friends, at home.

I have the honor, General, to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. S. LITTLEFIELD,

Colonel Twenty-first U. S. C. T.

Copy: W. H. BRADSHAW,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-FOURTH REG'T. U. S. C. T., }
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 30, 1864. }

GENERAL: I wish to state that I fully and heartily concur with the sentiments contained in the letters of Colonel Tilghman. Please bear with you my hearty acknowledgments of the just and considerate treatment we have received at your hands, and my best wishes for your future success.

I have the honor to be, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MARPLE,

Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Thirty-fourth U.S.C.T.

Brigadier-General T. SEYMOUR, U. S. A.

Copy: W. H. BRADSHAW,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIRST U. S. C. T., }
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 29, 1864. }

Lieutenant R. M. Hall, A.A.A.G.:

SIR: It having come to the knowledge of the undersigned that certain imputations are afloat concerning General Seymour's treatment of colored troops, we deem it but justice to that distinguished officer, in view of his departure from this post, to state that, so far as our own observation has extended, his conduct toward that class of troops has been all that the sincerest friends of the colored race could desire; and it affords us great pleasure to testify to the uniform kindness, courtesy, and liberality with which he has treated the officers and men of this command.

We have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servants,

A. G. BENNETT,

Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Regiment.

R. H. WILLOUGHBY,

Captain Commanding Company B.

E. R. FOWLER,

Captain Commanding Company A.

HENRY SHARP,

Captain Commanding Company C.

EDGAR ABEAL,

Captain Commanding Company D.

C. A. DOW,

Lieutenant Commanding Company A.

Copy: W. H. BRADSHAW,
Lieutenant and A.D.C.

But fourth. As you may possibly consider the case of Robert Small, a brave fellow, whose conduct deserves more consideration than it has yet received—as an exception—I submit his statement, to which you will probably attach more credit than to any assertion of mine:

UNITED STATES STEAMER PLANTER,
LAND'S END, SOUTH-CAROLINA, April 4, 1864. }

To the Editors of the Evening Post:

Please allow me, through your columns, to correct an error which I find by perusing your paper of the — ultimo, under the heading of "General Seymour and the Battle of Olustee,"

in which you say: "His contemptuous treatment of Robert Small, the gallant colored pilot who brought the steamer Planter out of the harbor of Charleston, and who is one of the heroes of our war, has already been recorded in this paper."

Through all courtesy to your paper and justice where justice is due, I must say that from the first day of my arrival within the Union lines, General Seymour has always shown me the greatest regard, whenever in public or private, inquiring how I was or if I was in need.

Shortly after turning the Planter over to the United States Government, General Seymour sent for me, and after several interrogations, ordered me to have my name entered in Colonel Elwell's Pilot list, a position for which I am much indebted to him, and which I occupied until taking command of this steamer.

Never was there a time, when with General Seymour, or any of his aids, that I was treated contemptuously or unkindly.

Trusting you will correct this error, which I fear some reporter has unintentionally made, I am, yours most respectfully,

Captain ROBERT SMALL.

With this evidence of my treatment of such colored troops as have been placed under me, even you cannot find great fault.

Finally, as a soldier of the Republic, I claim some trifling respect from you, and some fairness. Therefore I call upon you to give to this letter, entire, the same publicity with which you have heretofore assailed me.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,

Brigadier-General U. S. Volunteers.

ACTION OF THE COLORED TROOPS.

ON PICKET, SIX MILES WEST OF JACKSONVILLE, }
FLORIDA, February 23, 1864. }

SIR: I deem it but proper that you and the balance of the Supervisory Committee should know all about the operations of the regiment brought into existence under your supervision, and will therefore give you a short history of the part the Eighth regiment had in the slaughter at Olustee, Florida, on the twentieth instant, and will then allow you and the committee to judge whether colored men are the poltroons which their enemies tried to make us believe them to be.

The expedition with which we were identified had all the prospects in the world to prove successful, and would have been, if we had come prepared to advance immediately; but as it was, we gave them time to prepare for us when we did advance.

We left Baldwin, at the junction of the Jacksonville and Tallahassee, and Fernandina and Cedar Keys railroads, about twenty miles west of Jacksonville, on Friday, the twentieth; marched westward eleven miles, and bivouacked for the night at Barber's Ford, on the St. Mary's River. The bugle sounded the reveillé before daylight, and, after taking breakfast, we took up the line of march westward. Our march for ten miles to

Sanderson Station was uninterrupted, but about four miles further west our advance drove in the enemy's pickets, keeping up a continuous skirmish with them for about four miles, when the Seventh Connecticut, who were in the advance, deployed as skirmishers, fell in with the enemy's force in a swamp, strengthened still further with rifle-pits. Here they were met with cannon and musketry. The Seventh were armed with Spencer rifles, which fire eight times without loading, with which they played dreadful havoc with the enemy. They were then ordered to take one of four pieces of artillery the enemy had, but were unsuccessful. They held their ground nobly, as long as their sixty rounds of ammunition lasted, which was perhaps three quarters of an hour, but were retiring just as the main body of our army came up. The Eighth colored marched on the railroad, came up first, and filed to the right, when they were soon met with a most terrific shower of musketry and shell. General T. Seymour now came up, and pointing in front toward the railroad, said to Colonel Fribley, commander of the Eighth, "Take your regiment in there"—a place which was sufficiently hot to make veterans tremble, and yet we were to enter it with men who had never heard the sound of a cannon. Colonel Fribley ordered the regiment, by company, into line, double-quick march; but, before it was fairly in line, the men commenced dropping like leaves in autumn. Still, on they went, without faltering or murmuring, until they came within two hundred yards of the enemy, when the struggle for life and death commenced. Here they stood for two hours and a half, under one of the most terrible fires I ever witnessed; and here, on the field of Olustee, was decided whether the colored man had the courage to stand without shelter, and risk the dangers of the battle-field; and when I tell you that they stood with a fire in front, on their flank, and in their rear, for two hours and a half, without flinching, and when I tell you the number of dead and wounded, I have no doubt as to the verdict of every man who has gratitude for the defenders of his country, white or black.

Colonel Fribley, seeing that it was impossible to hold the position, passed along the lines to tell the officers to fire and fall back gradually, and was shot before he reached the end. He was shot in the chest, told the men to carry him to the rear, and expired in a very few minutes. Major Burritt took command, but was also wounded in a short time. At this time Captain Hamilton's battery became endangered, and he cried out to our men for God's sake to save his battery. Our United States flag, after three sergeants had forfeited their lives by bearing it during the fight, was planted on the battery by Lieutenant Elijah Lewis, and the men rallied around it, but the guns had been jammed up so indiscriminately, and so close to the enemy's lines, that the gunners were shot down as fast as they made their appearance; and the horses, whilst they were wheeling the pieces into position, shared the same fate. They were compelled

to leave the battery, and failed to bring the flag away. The battery fell into the enemy's hands. During the excitement Captain Bailey took command, and brought out the regiment in good order. Sergeant Taylor, company D, who carried the battle-flag, had his right hand nearly shot off, but grasped the colors with the left hand, and brought it out.

I took my position along the railroad, and had the wounded brought there, and while busily engaged a volley was poured into us. About a dozen of cavalry were preparing to make a charge on us, but disappeared as the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts advanced out of the woods. They knew the men were wounded, and that it was an hospital, but disregarded it; and had it not been for the Fifty-fourth, which advanced in splendid order, they would undoubtedly have taken us all prisoners. The Seventh New-Hampshire was posted on both sides of the wagon road, and broke, but rallied in a short time, and did splendid execution. The line was probably one mile long, and all along the fighting was terrific.

Our artillery, where it could be worked, made dreadful havoc on the enemy, whilst the enemy did us but very little injury with his, with the exception of one gun, a sixty-four pound swivel, fixed on a truck-car on the railroad, which fired grape and canister. On the whole, their artillery was very harmless, but their musketry fearful. We were informed in the morning that they had some ten thousand men, and four guns, while we had less than six thousand, but eighteen guns. The troops all fought bravely; the First North-Carolina (colored) did nobly. I saw at an early stage of the fight that we would be whipped, and went round among our wounded and told them, as many as could get away, to start for Barber, and then started the ambulance crowded full. The day and the field being lost to us, we started on the retreat, and reached our old quarters yesterday. We were compelled to leave a few of our men behind, and they fell into the hands of the enemy. It could not be helped; I had but one ambulance to a regiment, and the railroad was useless, because we had no locomotive. However, we got some horse-cars to within eighteen miles of the field, which aided us greatly. How the rebels have disposed of the colored men who fell into their hands we have not heard yet; but we hope that the fear of retaliation, if not the dictates of humanity, will cause them to reconsider their threat of outlawry. If not, we must act accordingly. Our men are neither discouraged nor dismayed, but ready for another fight.

We would like to have our regiment recruited. We should have at least two hundred men immediately. Will the committee not make an effort to send them to us? I have no doubt but the War Department would allow it. Please do your best for us. If it could be done, we would like two flanking companies of one hundred men each, armed with Spencer rifles. I think they are just the thing for bushwhacking. You can tell the committee that we look to them as our

guardians, and therefore hope they will do all for us they can, and do it quickly.

Your friend,
A. P. AEICHHOLD,
Surgeon Eighth U. S. C. T.

To Mr. E. M. DAVIS, Philadelphia.

REBEL ACCOUNTS.

GOVERNOR MILTON'S DESPATCH.

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., February 11.

To the President:

I have just received the following despatch from General Finnigan, dated yesterday: "I met the enemy in full force to-day, under General Seymour, and defeated him with great loss. I captured five pieces of artillery, hold possession of the battle-field, and the killed and wounded of the enemy. My cavalry are in pursuit. I don't know precisely the number of prisoners, as they are being brought in constantly. My whole loss will not, I think, exceed two hundred and fifty killed and wounded. Among them I mourn the loss of many brave officers and men." I understand that General Finnigan also captured many small-arms.

JOHN MILTON,
Governor.

ORDER OF GENERAL FINNIGAN.

The *Floridian* and *Journal* published the following order issued by General Finnigan to the citizens of Florida:

"The enemy, by a sudden landing at Jacksonville, in some force, and a bold effort to penetrate into the interior, succeeded in getting as far as within a few miles of Lake City. The timely concentration of our forces has enabled us to check his progress, and induce him to retire toward Baldwin. The reinforcements now received and expected will enable us to drive him back to his ships. The people of the State can contribute much to the early accomplishment of these results, by combining themselves in efficient military organizations of mounted troops, if they have horses, and of infantry if they have not, and reporting to me for temporary military service, with such arms and accoutrements as they may have, or by reporting singly to me, when they will be assigned to some militia organization for temporary service. You may also render valuable service by furnishing your teams, for the necessary transportation of troops, and supplies for their subsistence. For these the government will pay liberal prices.

"Let the people all come forward and exhibit the patriotism and bravery which are their characteristic traits; and, with their aid, our gallant troops will soon drive the enemy from the country. Let all unite in this honorable and manly purpose, and lose no time in commencing the most vigorous and determined action."

Doc. 88.

FIGHT AT LIVERPOOL HEIGHTS,

ON THE YAZOO RIVER.

VICKSBURG, MISS., Sunday, March 13, 1864.

ONE of the most successful expeditions ever re-
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corded of our operations in this vicinity, was that sent out on the first of last month, commanded by Colonel James H. Coates, of the Eleventh Illinois infantry. The force consisted of the Eleventh Illinois infantry, Eighth Louisiana infantry, and First Mississippi cavalry—the two latter being colored troops.

Lieutenant H. H. Dean, Adjutant of the Eleventh Illinois, kindly furnished me with the following particulars of the campaign: On the thirty-first ultimo, the expedition left Haines's Bluff, and ascended Yazoo River on transports, convoyed by three gunboats, and on the fourth arrived at Liverpool Heights, within eighteen miles of Yazoo City. At this point they found the enemy posted in a strong position on a high bluff, and he immediately opened fire on the gunboats, which were in advance, striking them several times, and putting two shots through one of them.

The Eleventh Illinois disembarked immediately, and attempted to storm the position of the enemy, but were repulsed with a loss of five men killed and twenty-eight wounded. The gunboats opened an effective fire upon the enemy while the infantry reëmbarked, and the fleet ran the blockade in the night, with a loss of six men wounded. From this time there was continued skirmishing along the river till the ninth, when our forces reached Yazoo City, where a detachment surprised and captured five rebel pickets.

On the eleventh, Colonel Coates reëmbarked, and proceeded up the river to Greenwood, and found Fort Pemberton evacuated by the enemy. The First Missouri cavalry, Colonel Osband commanding, went out from this point, had a fight, lost five men, and went to within five miles of Grenada; and ascertaining that Forrest was at that place in force, retraced his steps and joined the main command.

Several days were spent in loading cotton, which was found along the river-shore, and after having secured one thousand six hundred bales, the expedition returned to Yazoo City on the twenty-eighth. Immediately upon arriving there, Major Cook went out with a small cavalry force, and encountered a brigade of Texas cavalry, numbering one thousand five hundred, commanded by Brigadier-General L. S. Ross. A sharp fight ensued, in which Major Cook lost nineteen prisoners, and Colonel Jones, of the Texas cavalry, was killed. On the next morning, while out on a reconnaissance, a party of our troops found eight of the bodies of colored soldiers taken prisoners the day before. The clothing was stripped from their bodies, and all were shot through the head.

Colonel Coates established his headquarters in the town, and eight companies of his regiment, commanded by Major McKee, took possession of the earthwork, on a commanding point, a half-mile distant from the city. Thus matters stood till the fourth instant, when General Ross sent in a communication, asking what would be the treatment of prisoners if taken by negro soldiers. Colonel Coates replied that they

would be treated with the respect due prisoners of war.

On the night of the fourth, Ross was reinforced by a brigade of Tennessee troops, numbering eight hundred men, commanded by Brigadier-General R. V. Richardson; and at seven o'clock on the morning of the fifth, an attack was made upon Major McKee, who held the redoubt, while a portion of the enemy went to the left, flanking his position, and entered the town, and came within twenty feet of Colonel Coates's headquarters before they received a check from our men, who were pouring a deadly fire upon them from the windows. Here was almost a hand-to-hand conflict, which lasted four hours, when finally our sharpshooters had picked off all their gunners, and completely silenced the guns which had riddled Colonel Coates's headquarters with shot and shell at a range of only a few paces, and the rebels began to fall back. A light field-piece had been sent from the gunboat *Matamora* to the town, when the fight began; but the squad sent with it ran at about the first fire, and permitted it to fall into the hands of the enemy, who only had it a moment, till some of the Eleventh boys retook it, and manned it through the fight.

While the fight was progressing in the town, the rebels had Major McKee completely surrounded, and were throwing shot and shell into his works with terrible precision. After they had, as they supposed, obtained every advantage, Richardson sent a message to Major McKee, saying they had taken all the rest prisoners, and demanded his surrender. The Major replied to him that he had "no idea of doing any such thing, but that if he wanted them, to come and get them." They renewed the attack, and several times came up within a few paces of the earthwork, and were as often repulsed with heavy loss. A second message came from General Richardson, demanding an immediate surrender, saying that "for God's and humanity's sake, he ought to surrender—that he would not be answerable for the actions of his men if they had to take the place by assault, and that he would storm it and take it in ten minutes." The Major replied to him: "That he had better come and take them; that they never would surrender—that he might storm and be —." He further told him that he was sorry his demand was coupled with such a threat; that if the fight went on with that understanding, he should kill every man he captured.

At this juncture, our forces in the city had it all their own way, and were driving the enemy rapidly before them, and a general rout of the enemy ensued, and the fight ended at five o'clock in the afternoon.

Our loss was one lieutenant and seven men killed, twenty-four wounded, and thirteen prisoners in the Eleventh Illinois; and the colored troops lost two commissioned officers killed, four wounded, ten enlisted men killed, sixty-one wounded, and six missing.

The redoubt held by Major McKee was one

hundred and fifty feet square, and during the fight, over fifty shells exploded inside the works. Colonel Coates's fighting force was seven hundred men; that of the enemy, according to their own admission, two thousand three hundred. Major Thieme, of the Tennessee troops, was killed within twenty feet of Colonel Coates's door. The loss of the enemy is not known, but it was far greater than ours.

All speak in terms of the highest praise of the gallantry of Major McKee, of the Eleventh Illinois, and Major Cook, of the First Missouri. All did their duty nobly; but I have not space to relate individual acts of heroism. Lieutenant-Colonel Peebles, of the Eighth Louisiana infantry, led his troops in the most gallant manner, and the colored soldiers fought like devils. There seemed to be a mutual understanding between them and the enemy that they should take no prisoners.

This is considered here by military men, as it certainly was, one of the most gallant and successful struggles of the war on our part, and, therefore, I have given greater space to it than I should otherwise have done. The enemy had eight field-pieces in the fight—our troops one small one!

Doc. 89.

RETALIATION IN NORTH-CAROLINA.

The following correspondence passed between Generals Peck and Pickett:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, AND DISTRICT OF }
NORTH-CAROLINA, NEWBERN, NORTH-
CAROLINA, Feb. 11, 1864. }

Major-General Pickett, Department of Virginia and North-Carolina, Confederate Army, Petersburg:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose a slip cut from the *Richmond Examiner*, February eighth, 1864. It is styled "The Advance on Newbern," and appears to have been extracted from the *Petersburgh Register*, a paper published in the city where your headquarters are located.

Your attention is particularly invited to that paragraph which states "that Colonel Shaw was shot dead by a negro soldier from the other side of the river, which he was spanning with a pontoon-bridge, and that the negro was watched and followed, taken, and hanged after the action at Thomasville."

"THE ADVANCE ON NEWBERN.—The *Petersburgh Register* gives the following additional facts of the advance on Newbern: Our army, according to the report of passengers arriving from Weldon, has fallen back to a point sixteen miles west of Newbern. The reason assigned for this retrograde movement was that Newbern could not be taken by us without a loss on our part which would find no equivalent in its capture, as the place was stronger than we had anticipated. Yet, in spite of this, we are sure that the expedition will result in good to our cause. Our forces are

in a situation to get large supplies from a country still abundant, to prevent raids on points westward, and keep Tories in check, and hang them when caught.

"From a private, who was one of the guard that brought the batch of prisoners through, we learn that Colonel Shaw was shot dead by a negro soldier from the other side of the river, which he was spanning with a pontoon-bridge. The negro was watched, followed, taken, and hanged after the action at Thomasville. It is stated that, when our troops entered Thomasville, a number of the enemy took shelter in the houses and fired upon them. The Yankees were ordered to surrender, but refused, whereupon our men set fire to the houses, and their occupants got bodily, a taste in this world of the flames eternal."

The Government of the United States has wisely seen fit to enlist many thousand colored citizens to aid in putting down the rebellion, and has placed them on the same footing in all respects, as her white troops. The orders of the President are so just, full, and clear, that I inclose a copy for your consideration:

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 31, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 252.

The following order from the President is published for the information and government of all concerned:

EXECUTIVE MANNING, WASHINGTON, }
D. C., July 30, 1863.

It is the duty of every government to give protection to its citizens of whatever class, color, or condition, and especially to those organized as soldiers in the public service. The law of nations, and the usages and customs of war, as carried on by civilized powers, permit no distinction as to color in the treatment of prisoners of war as public enemies. To sell or enslave any captured person on account of his color, and for no offence against the laws of war, is a relapse into barbarism, and a crime against the civilization of the age.

The Government of the United States will give the same protection to all its soldiers; and if the enemy shall sell or enslave any one because of his color, the offence shall be punished by retaliation upon the enemy's prisoners in our possession.

It is therefore ordered that for every soldier of the United States killed in violation of the laws of war, a rebel soldier shall be executed; and for every one enslaved by the enemy or sold into slavery, a rebel soldier shall be placed at hard labor on the public works, and continue on such labor until the other shall be released and receive the treatment due to a prisoner of war.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Believing that this atrocity has been perpetrated without your knowledge, and that you will take prompt steps to disavow this violation of the usages of war, and to bring the offenders

to justice, I shall refrain from executing a rebel soldier until I learn your action in the premises.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
Major-General.

REPLY OF GENERAL PICKETT.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NORTH-
CAROLINA, PETERSBURGH, VIRGINIA,
February 16, 1864.

Major-General John J. Peck, U. S. A., Commanding at Newbern:

GENERAL: Your communication of the eleventh of February is received. I have the honor to state in reply, that the paragraph from a newspaper inclosed therein, is not only without foundation in fact, but so ridiculous that I should scarcely have supposed it worthy of consideration; but I would respectfully inform you that had I caught any negro, who had killed either officer, soldier, or citizen of the Confederate States, I should have caused him to be immediately executed.

To your threat expressed in the following extract from your communication, namely, "Believing that this atrocity has been perpetrated without your knowledge, and that you will take prompt steps to disavow this violation of the usages of war, and to bring the offender to justice, I shall refrain from executing a rebel soldier until I hear of your action in the premises," I have merely to say that I have in my hands and subject to my orders, captured in the recent operations in this department, some four hundred and fifty officers and men of the United States army, and for every man you hang I will hang ten of the United States army.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. PICKETT,
Major-General Commanding.

Doc. 90.

DESTRUCTION OF REBEL SALT-WORKS.

REPORT OF ADMIRAL BAILEY.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP DALE, }
KEY-WEST, FLA., March 6, 1864.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: I have the honor to report that two expeditions have recently been fitted out from the United States steamer *Tahoma*, for the destruction of extensive salt-works, the property of the rebel government, in the neighborhood of St. Mark's, Florida.

The first expedition left the ship on the morning of the seventeenth of February, in two detachments, one under command of Acting Master E. C. Weeks, and the other in charge of Acting Ensign J. G. Koehler. The salt-works being some seven miles in extent, the first detachment commenced at one end of the line, the other at the other. A day and a night of unremitting labor was spent in the work of destruction, when the expedition returned safely to the vessel, having marched through swamps and dense woods a distance of forty miles, and successfully accomplished the object of the undertaking.

On the twenty-seventh, a week later, a second expedition was planned, and carried through with equal success, the object being to destroy some government works at Goose Creek, some ten miles distant. The party was, in this case also, in charge of Acting Master Weeks, and the works to be destroyed were under the protection of a rebel cavalry company, whose pickets the expedition succeeded in eluding. Twelve prisoners were brought off, one the captain of an infantry company raised for coast service.

The works destroyed by these two expeditions produced for the confederates two thousand four hundred bushels of salt per diem. I inclose herewith Lieutenant Commander Harmony's list, forwarded to me, of the articles captured and destroyed.

Very respectfully, THEODORUS BAILEY,
Acting Rear-Admiral Commanding E. G. B. Squadron.

List of government property destroyed and captured, belonging to the rebel government, by boats' crews and refugees, on the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth February, 1864:

Three hundred and ninety salt-kettles, average capacity, 100 gallons; 52 sheet-iron boilers, average capacity, 900 gallons; 170 furnaces, made of brick and stone; 150 pumps, wells, and aqueducts; 55 storehouses, used for storage, salt, etc.; 165 houses and shanties; 60 sheds and stables; 6000 bushels of salt, in barrels; a large number of axes, shovels, and hoes; one carpenter-shop, with tools, etc.; one fishing-house; 600 bushels of corn; 350 cords of wood.

Captured—Five large wagons; eighteen mules and sets of harness; 2500 pounds of bacon; two fine horses, saddles, and bridles; about 1000 head of cattle, and one prisoner, G. R. Paul, government agent.

All the articles captured I gave to the refugees, as they were of no use to us. The estimate value of the above property to the rebels cannot be less than \$3,000,000. That is the value put upon it by the most intelligent refugees.

List of articles and property destroyed on Goose Creek by the boats' crew from the United States steamer Tahoma, February twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh, 1864:

Two thousand bushels of salt in barrels and bins; three corn-cribs, containing about 1000 bushels; large quantity of hay and fodder; blacksmith's shop and tools; carpenter's shop and tools; about 100 store and other houses, stables, etc.; 165 kettles and pans, average capacity, 100 gallons; 53 large boilers, of about 800 gallons capacity each; 98 well-constructed brick furnaces; nine wagons and carts, 20 sets mule harness.

Doc. 91.

GENERAL MAGRUDER'S ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TEXAS, NEW-MEXICO, }
AND ARIZONA, HOUSTON, Feb. 15, 1864.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46.

THE Commanding General, learning that some

doubt still exists among the troops as to the permanence as cavalry of those regiments which have been dismounted, again takes occasion to assure the troops that he shall keep all of the regiments in service as cavalry, which have been recently dismounted; that he prefers to have these regiments to march on horseback and fight on foot, provided their officers will perfect them in the infantry drill, and that nothing but an absolute necessity, arising from scarcity of forage, or where railroads offer a more rapid transportation, will induce him to dismount his cavalry regiments; and further, that when so dismounted it will be but temporarily, unless in the case of regiments which, having the opportunities, will not avail themselves of them, to perfect themselves in infantry drill, so essential to the success of our arms and the safety of the men themselves. He also again urges upon the officers and men the imperative necessity of taking care of their bayonets, however inconvenient it may be to do so, and upon the officers the duty of preparing bayonet-scarbards out of rawhides, as previously ordered.

The Commanding General avails himself of this opportunity to notice the fact that Terrell's regiment lost not a man by desertion when ordered to be dismounted, notwithstanding the example set them by some others. He holds the officers responsible for the conduct of his men, and hereby calls upon them to use their weapons, at all hazards, against those who attempt to desert under any circumstances, or who may be guilty of mutiny, or of aiding, abetting, joining in, or exciting the same; and in all cases where efficient steps are not taken by the commanding officers to prevent and punish such crime, they will be arrested and brought before a general court-martial for trial, conviction, and punishment.

In cases where troops temporarily dismounted are moved from one locality to another, their horses will also be removed to places which are convenient to the men, and where forage at the same time can be procured. It is to be understood, that the short marches, occasionally required to be done by the troops of the regiments temporarily dismounted, when their horses cannot be procured in time, are not to be considered as violations of the assurances held out by this order, and are only here alluded to by the Commanding General to prevent a misinterpretation by his troops, with whom he shall always deal, as he has ever done, with frankness and truth.

By command of Major-Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER.

E. P. TURNER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF TEXAS, NEW-MEXICO, }
AND ARIZONA, HOUSTON, Feb. 2, 1864.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 33.

VII. It being absolutely necessary to take possession of the cisterns upon Galveston Island for the use of the troops, Mr. Thomas M. League is authorized to take control and possession of all of the said cisterns. He will permit each family to use what may be necessary for their purposes

at all times, reserving a sufficient quantity for the troops.

The labor necessary to carry water to the commands will be furnished by the Post-Quartermaster.

By command of Major-Gen. J. B. MACRUDER.
EDMUND P. TURNER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 92.

ESCAPE OF THE FLORIDA.

REPORT OF COMMANDER PREBLE

UNITED STATES SLOOP-OF-WAR ST. LOUIS, }
FUSCAL ROADS, MADEIRA, March 1, 1½ A.M., 1864. }

SIR: The Florida has succeeded in getting to sea. I shall follow at once, though hopeless of catching her out of port. Nelson said, the want of frigates in his squadron would be found impressed on his heart. I am sure the want of steam will be found engraven on mine. Had the St. Louis been a steamer, I would have anchored alongside of her, and, unrestricted by the twenty-four hour rule, my old foe could not have escaped me. The Governor, true to his declared intention, would only allow her to take on board twenty tons of coal, sufficient to take her to the nearest port. Her commander plead for sixty tons, next forty, asserting that he needed that much to ballast his vessel. The Governor told him, at the suggestion of Mr. Bayman, that he came in without it, and he thought he could go without it; but if ballast was needed, there was plenty of stone on the beach that he might take.

As it was supposed that she would go to sea during the night, and certainly in the morning, and I had an intimation, that, in passing us, she might pour in a broadside, I shotted and cast loose my guns, and had men to man them; got a slip-rope on the chain, and stationed lookouts all over the ship and in the tops; cautioned the officers to extra vigilance, and was repeatedly on deck myself to watch and see that my orders were executed. The night was dark and squally. The Florida lay close into the beach and under the highland, with all her lights covered, and, notwithstanding all this vigilance, she crept out, unseen, to the eastward, and her departure was not discovered until the morn rose, a few minutes since. A blockade-runner, the Julia, which arrived in the afternoon, reports the Kearsage as having left Cadiz three days ago, destination unknown. The Florida gave out that they were going to Cadiz for coals; but I think not, and shall go direct to Teneriffe, hoping, if I do not find her there, to put the Sacramento on her track.

The prevailing winds would not permit me to get to Cadiz from Madeira in season to do her any injury, even if I thought that port her destination.

The authorities here have done all they could to hasten her departure and prevent her full supply, and I do not imagine that the island will be troubled by the presence of the rebel vessels-of-war very soon again. I waited on the Governor,

to inform him of her intention to ship men to complete her crew. He assured me that it should not be allowed, though it might be done clandestinely, which he could not help. I have reason to believe that she made no addition to her crew, and know from the statement of my gig's crew, that three of the men she brought with her, deserted. Her crew is described to me as made up of Spaniards, Frenchmen, and Portuguese, with a few Englishmen, and but one American. Her First Lieutenant is Thomas A. Dernin, formerly a midshipman in our service.

I notice no change in the appearance of the Florida since I last saw her, except that now she has yards on her mainmast: then she had none, and she has changed her billet-head for a shield surrounded by scroll-work, in which is borne the arms of the rebel States. My men have been wild to fight, and I drew the shot from my guns the day she came in, fearing that in their excitement they would fire into her without orders, and break the neutrality of this port. One thing is certain, the Florida does not intend to fight unless the chances are largely in her favor, for she skulked away from the old St. Louis.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. HENRY PREBLE,
Commander U. S. N.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

Doc. 93.

BLOCKADE PROCLAMATION.

By the President of the United States.

Whereas, By my Proclamation of the nineteenth April, 1861, 'the ports of the States of South-Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, were, for reasons therein set forth, placed under blockade; and whereas the port of Brownsville, in the District of Brazos Santiago, in the State of Texas, has since been blockaded, but as the blockade of said port may now be safely released, with advantage to the interests of commerce; now, therefore, be it known, that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, pursuant to the authority in me vested by the fifth section of the act of Congress, approved on the thirteenth of July, 1861, entitled, "An Act further to provide for the collection of duties on imports, and for other purposes," do hereby declare that the blockade of the said port of Brownsville shall so far cease and determine, from and after this date, that commercial intercourse with said port, except as to persons, things, and information hereinafter specified, may from and after this date be carried on, subject to the laws of the United States, to the regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury, and, until the rebellion shall have been suppressed, to such orders as may be promulgated by the General commanding the Department, or by an officer duly authorized by him, and commanding at said port. This proclamation does not authorize or allow the shipment or conveyance of persons

in, or intending to enter, the service of the insurgents, or of things or information intended for their use, or for their aid or comfort; nor except upon the permission of the Secretary of War, or some officer duly authorized by him, of the following prohibited articles, namely, cannon, mortars, fire-arms, pistols, bombs, grenades, powder, salpêtre, sulphur, balls, bullets, pikes, swords, boarding-caps, (always excepting the quantity of the said articles which may be necessary for the defence of the ship and those who compose the crew,) saddles, bridles, cartridge-bag materials, percussion and other caps, clothing adapted for uniforms, sail-cloth of all kinds, hemp and cordage, intoxicating drinks, other than beer and light native wines.

To vessels clearing from foreign ports, and destined to the port of Brownsville, opened by this proclamation, licenses will be granted by the Consuls of the United States, upon satisfactory evidence that the vessels so licensed will convey no persons, property, or information, excepted or prohibited above, either to or from the said port, which licenses shall be exhibited to the Collector of said port immediately on arrival, and, if required, to any officer in charge of the blockade. And on leaving said port, every vessel will be required to have a clearance from the Collector of the Customs, according to law, showing no violation of the conditions of the license. Any violation of said conditions will involve the forfeiture and condemnation of the vessel and cargo, and the exclusion of all parties concerned from any further privilege of entering the United States during the war for any purpose whatever. In all respects, except as herein specified, the existing blockade remains in full force and effect as hitherto established and maintained, nor is it relaxed by this proclamation, except in regard to the port to which relaxation is or has been expressly applied. —

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the City of Washington, this eighteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WM. H. SEWARD,

Secretary of State.

Doc. 94.

REBEL PARTISAN RANGERS.

In the rebel House of Representatives, on the fifteenth of February, Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to repeal an act to organize partisan rangers, approved April twenty-first, 1862, and for other purposes.

The bill being taken up, Mr. Miles advocated its passage. He said the Senate bill, in relation to cavalry, contained a provision to abolish corps

of partisan rangers; but the Committee had deemed it too sweeping in its character, and had stricken it out. The House objected to the bill altogether, and refused to pass it. The Committee had instructed him to report the present bill, which they thought was demanded by the necessities of the service. It was a measure warmly urged by General Lee and other distinguished officers.

The bill was debated, amended, and passed in the following shape:

Section 1. *The Congress of the confederate States of America do enact*, That the act of Congress aforesaid be, and the same is hereby, repealed: *Provided*, that organizations of partisan rangers, acting as regular cavalry at the passage of this act, shall be continued in their present organization; *Provided* they shall hereafter be considered as regular cavalry, and not as partisan rangers.

Sec. 2. That all the bands of partisan rangers organized under the said act may, as the interests of the service allow, be united with other organizations, or be organized into battalions and regiments, with the view of bringing them under the general condition of the provisional army as to discipline, control, and movements, under such regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe.

Sec. 3. The Secretary of War shall be authorized, if he deems proper, for a time or permanently, to exempt from the operations of this act such companies as are serving within the lines of the enemy, under such conditions as he may prescribe.

Doc. 95.

RECONNOISSANCE TO DALTON, GA.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

THREE MILES BEYOND RINGOLD, GA., February 22.

It will be long before the Fourteenth army corps will forget the period of anxious expectation which commenced on Saturday, the thirteenth day of February, and only ended on Sunday, the twenty-first of the same month. During all the intervening time, the troops composing the Fourteenth corps, and those of Stanley's division, at least, of the Fourth corps, were held in constant readiness to move, and once or twice actually loaded up their wagons for the purpose of marching. But as often as they got ready, that often the order was countermanded, and the movement postponed, until the morning of the twenty-second.

The general object of this movement may be stated in a few words. It had a two-fold, and, in a certain eventuality, a three-fold design.

The aspect of things in East-Tennessee had been somewhat threatening, from the time we made our unfortunate advance upon, and precipitate retreat from, the town of Dandridge. The bad management and almost disgraceful result of that operation was as encouraging to

the rebels as it was damaging to us; and it actually became a question with many of our military men as to whether we could, without very serious danger, continue to hold East-Tennessee at all. My own opinion, based upon that of men in whose judgment I am accustomed to repose much confidence, was, that with any reasonable degree of good management, our hold upon East-Tennessee was perfectly secure. Nevertheless, Longstreet held, in reference to our forces there, a menacing position. We did not know exactly how great his strength was. We did know that he might at any time be reinforced either from Johnston's army or Lee's; and it became us to watch him with the utmost vigilance, and, if possible, prevent these reinforcements from reaching him. Any force from Lee's army could join him in spite of us; but in reference to detachments from Johnston, we could do one of two things: either we could, by threatening Dalton, prevent them from being sent out at all, or we could intercept them on their way. To effect, if necessary, the latter object, certain dispositions of troops were made, of which I shall not now speak.

Of course these dispositions had reference to other and almost as important objects as the one I have mentioned; but these, also, I have not now occasion to mention.

Suffice it to say, that with our troops thus disposed, neither Johnston could send reinforcements to Longstreet, nor could Longstreet rejoin Johnston, without meeting tremendous opposition, and running terrible risks of destruction. Only by traversing almost impassable routes through the vast mountain regions of West North-Carolina and North-Georgia, or by making an immense circuit by railroads running far to the east, could they avoid coming in contact with our vigilant and well-prepared forces.

But Sherman was penetrating to the centre of the Gulf-State region. The fifteen thousand troops under Bishop Polk were confessedly unable to check his progress; if the rebel army of the Mississippi were not reinforced, and that right speedily, Sherman would unquestionably soon reach his destination, whether that were Mobile, Montgomery, Selma, or Rome. If, on the other hand, Johnston were allowed to send any considerable portion of his army to the Bishop's assistance, Sherman might be overwhelmed or his march seriously retarded. This would interfere with the general plan for the conduct of the spring campaign, and must at all hazards be prevented.

No other means of effecting this prevention offered itself, except a direct movement from Chattanooga toward Dalton, menacing the enemy at the latter place.

But this movement might possibly develop the fact that the enemy had already so seriously weakened his force at Dalton, that he could offer no effectual resistance to a strong column moving upon him there. In that case, of course, we should have no objection to taking possession of Dalton itself, and continuing to hold it or not,

as might suit our further convenience or necessities.

To briefly recapitulate: the objects of the movement commenced on the twenty-second instant were, first, to prevent the enemy at Dalton from sending reinforcements to Longstreet; second, to prevent him from sending the same to Bishop Polk; third, to ascertain his strength at Dalton, and if he had already been seriously weakened, to take possession of that town.

The morning of February twenty-second was not a bright one at Chattanooga. There were no clouds, but a dense pall of smoke had settled down upon the earth, obscuring Lookout, snatching Mission Ridge from our eyes, and at first hiding even the sun. When that luminary at last became visible, it looked more like a huge bloody disk than a globe of fire.

Under this canopy of smoke could be heard the rattle of a hundred drums, announcing the fact that the long-expected, oft-delayed movement had at last commenced, and that large portions of the Fourteenth army corps were upon the march. They were not now moving toward East-Tennessee, as intended ten days before, but, in accordance with the later plan I have sketched, were directing their steps toward Tunnel Hill and Dalton.

Near the old battle-field of Chickamauga, the column passed the commands of Generals Morgan and Daniel McCook, which were preparing to follow.

The infantry was preceded by a detachment of the Thirty-ninth Indiana, (Eighth cavalry,) two hundred strong, commanded by Colonel T. J. Harrison. Colonel Palmer, with one hundred and fifty of the Fifteenth Pennsylvania cavalry, (Anderson Troop,) and Colonel Boone, with three hundred of the Twenty-eighth Kentucky, moved upon the right flank.

Colonel Harrison pushed forward through Parker's Gap in Taylor's Ridge, a pass to the left of Ringgold Gap, and outflanking a party of rebel cavalry, drove them back toward Ringgold Gap, hoping they would there be intercepted by our infantry. Unfortunately, however, the latter were not up, and the rebels managed to escape.

It was three P.M. when myself and companion left Chattanooga and started to overtake our forces. Riding leisurely along, we soon found that night was approaching; but were in nowise alarmed at the prospect, for the idea of passing quietly through a Georgia forest, amid the silence and darkness of the night, had its charms for us, especially as we had never been over this ground before. The scene is one of utter desolation. No farmer appears preparing his fields to receive the grain. Dreary pine forests alternate with small patches of cleared land, the latter utterly destitute of fences. Three fourths of the houses are deserted; and from the few that are left, you can see peeping out only some dirty-looking women and children. The whole region is being rapidly depopulated. Before sundown we must have met at least a dozen wagons drawn by blind and bony horses, broken-down mules, shadowy

oxen, and fleshless cows, and filled with sorrow-stricken specimens of Georgian humanity, all flying from the doomed land, and intending to make their way to the free and peaceful North.

It was fully ten o'clock P.M., when we descried our camp-fires shining red in the distance, through the thick smoke and fog. It was not difficult to find friends, and we partook, for the night, of hospitality springing from generous hearts and dealt out with liberal hands. My only misfortune was, that during the night my horse became loose, and straying off to the vicinity of some teamster's quarters, had his halter stolen, and was brought back in the morning minus that most useful, and, in the wilderness, irreplaceable article. I consoled myself, however, with the reflection that, after all, it was much better to lose a halter than a horse.

The sun rose bright and beautiful on the morning of the twenty-third, and we were soon on our way galloping toward Ringgold, around which town the troops had encamped.

Here another scene of desolation met our eyes; for on the day following Hooker's terrible fight at Taylor's Ridge, the greater portion of this town had been burned by our troops. Nearly all the good buildings were used as store-houses and offices by the rebel army, and every one of these was set on fire. A mass of ruins in the centre, a hundred uninhabited houses scattered around—such is now the town of Ringgold. In our rides through it, we did not see three houses which were not deserted.

Ascending half-way to the summit of Taylor's Ridge, we could see numerous marks of the fierce conflict which had taken place; amongst others the graves of a score of soldiers buried side by side along the slope. My companion announced his intention of presenting the public with a howl over the rebel store-houses which had been burned in the town below; I could not but feel that if I had tears to shed, it should be for our poor dead heroes buried here.

It was perhaps nine o'clock when the beating of drums announced that the troops were in motion, and a column of cavalry came filing down the road. It was Colonel Harrison at the head of his Thirty-ninth Indiana boys. He was going to push forward through Ringgold Gap, in Taylor's Ridge, supported by the infantry at proper distance. General Carlin's brigade, and the Nineteenth Illinois, of General King's brigade, were prepared to support the cavalry. General R. W. Johnson, to whose division these troops belonged, himself accompanied them. Your correspondent accompanied Colonel Harrison with the cavalry.

Passing by a house which stood near the mouth of the gap, and was now occupied by General King as his headquarters, we again saw proofs of the desperate nature of that conflict in which our own valiant Seventh Ohio suffered so severely. The house itself, the fences surrounding it, and the trees in the yard were fairly honeycombed with bullets; and in addition, an

out-house which stood near was riddled and torn with grape.

The rebels made no resistance to our passage through the gap, although they had held the further mouth the night before, and had captured Lieutenant Ayres, of the Nineteenth infantry, who was examining the ground for the purpose of posting pickets.

Winding along its banks for a time, we finally crossed the East-Chickamagua, a clearer and more lively stream than its namesake in the west, which will always excite a shudder in the heart and limbs of him who remembers the awful tragedy once enacted near it. Both these streams unite to form the South-Chickamagua, which flows into the Tennessee a few miles above Chattanooga.

As we advanced into the open ground on the other side of the creek, small squads of cavalry were sent galloping in all directions, to protect our flanks, and feel for the still silent enemy. In full sight of the junction, between the Tunnel Hill and Red Hill roads, Colonel Harrison drew up his men in line of battle, and waited the approach of the infantry. No sooner were the latter seen, than the horsemen again advanced; and passing by an ancient, dilapidated stone church, whose dark and gloomy walls seemed to be in mourning for its lost worshippers, we wheeled to the right, and took the direct road for Tunnel Hill.

A few dropping shots now revealed the presence of the enemy. At once our skirmishers were deployed, and the line steadily advanced, driving the enemy, whose purpose it seemed to be merely to annoy rather than fight. It was at once amusing and interesting to see, every few minutes, a small squad of them break from their cover as our boys advanced, and go galloping away, followed in almost every instance by a half-dozen bullets. Colonel Harrison's men were armed with the deadly Spencer rifle, a weapon which the rebels could not be induced to examine at short-range.

At length, at a distance of five miles from Ringgold, a low, wooded eminence, over which ran the road, afforded the rebels an opportunity to make a stand. But they did not remain long. A portion of the Thirty-ninth, dismounting, moved forward under so severe a fire, that I could only wonder how so few were hurt by it. But they steadily advanced, again driving the enemy, and occupying the wooded eminence, which they continued to hold until two P.M., the rebels occupying a position about a mile further toward Tunnel Hill, and exhibiting a serious intention of making a fight. Colonel Harrison would have moved upon him immediately, had he not considered it best to wait for Colonel Boone, of the Twenty-eighth Kentucky, who had been sent off to the right, and was moving along another road which runs through Wood's Gap in Taylor's Ridge.

The delay appeared to encourage the enemy; and it soon became evident that he had collect-

ed for a stand the whole of the First Tennessee cavalry, whose camp was now plainly in sight. The open ground, across which the rebels had been driven, narrowed as it approached their present position, until at last its dimensions were reduced to those of a single small field. Across this they had constructed a barricade of rails, and had posted behind it a considerable force of dismounted cavalry. On some higher ground to the rear of that, they showed a small body of horsemen, who went galloping back and forth, and seemed to be, each moment, on the point of retreating. The design was obvious. They wished us to go dashing after these mounted men; and, when we were near enough, the force behind the rail barricade would, with a volley or two, sweep us away.

But Colonel Harrison was not to be caught in any such trap. "We shall have to fight a little," he quietly remarked, after closely examining the rail barricade with his glass; and waited for the infantry. General Carlin's brigade came up shortly after; the skirmishers of the Ninety-fourth Ohio and Tenth Wisconsin boldly advanced over the open space; the Thirty-ninth, assisted by the Eighty-eighth Indiana and Nineteenth Illinois, moved in line upon the rebel right, through the woods. The display of force was too formidable; the bullets fired by our skirmishers began to clink against the rail barricade; the rebels could endure the thing no longer; and after delivering a couple of volleys, at so long-range, so scatteringly, and with such insufficient effect, that our boys answered them only with shouts of derision, they jumped upon their horses and ran off as before. Company K, of the Thirty-ninth Indiana, Lieutenant Jacob Mitchell commanding, had stolen around upon the left flank of the rebels unobserved. As soon as the latter manifested a disposition to break, company K charged down upon them, precipitated their flight, and pursued them with shout and spur, to the great amusement of the infantry, who set up a perfect yell of delight.

All that Colonel Harrison had of his gallant Thirty-ninth now broke into a gallop and started off to take part in the pursuit. The town of Tunnel Hill was in sight, with Tunnel Hill Ridge just rising beyond. Pursuers and pursued put their horses to the very top of their speed, and dust and leaves and dirt and sticks and gravel were sent flying in all directions through the air by the heels of the frantic steeds. As our boys dashed on toward the town, a whole regiment of rebel cavalry—First Tennessee and part of another, Second Kentucky—were seen filing out of it, along a road which ran over the ridge toward Dalton. It was a novel sight to see Colonel Harrison's forty or fifty men pursuing, taunting, challenging, and firing at this body of four or five hundred rebels. Each of our men fought upon his own hook, and each displayed a reckless daring which I have never seen surpassed. It must be said, too, that the rebels took the whole thing very coolly after they had all got together, and rode out of the town as

leisurely as if on parade; making a singular and ludicrous contrast with the frightened and precipitate manner in which a portion of them had entered it.

No sooner had their cavalry disappeared, than they opened upon us with four pieces of artillery placed along the slope of the ridge. This of course compelled our little cavalry squad to call a halt; and the rebels turned their attention to Colonel Boone, who was coming up on the right, throwing a number of shells at him, but doing no damage. Colonel Boone speedily rejoined Colonel Harrison near Tunnel Hill.

General Carlin's brigade advanced into the town about nightfall, the rebel artillery meanwhile ceasing to play.

Your correspondent believes that himself and Lieutenant Shaw, of General Palmer's staff, were the first persons to enter the town of Tunnel Hill. There were houses sufficient for a population of four or five hundred; but for some time it seemed as if there was really not a living soul in it, except myself and the Lieutenant. Presently, however, a few women and children began to peep out at us here and there, and we ascertained that about nine families still remained in the place. Some of these were literally upon the verge of starvation, and declared that for months they had not had a mouthful to eat, except a scanty pittance of meal and pork dealt out by the rebel commissaries. All seemed pleased with our arrival; all had fearful tales to tell of the rapacity and brutality of the rebel soldiers; and all protested, in an earnest, simple way, that carried conviction with it, their entire innocence of ever having done any thing, by word or deed, to bring on or encourage the rebellion.

The enemy still held Tunnel Hill Ridge; and just at dark, as myself and another gentleman were conversing with one of the citizens, the rebel videttes took occasion to hurl at us a half-dozen bullets. This we took as a gentle hint to retire, and riding through the town rejoined our forces, just as General Johnson, who did not think it prudent to remain there all night with a single brigade, was giving orders to fall back to the main body of our forces, encamped about three miles from Ringgold.

TUNNEL HILL, GA., February 26.

It was somewhat late on Wednesday morning before our column again got in motion; but when it did move, it was with strength which augured well for its success, whatever it might undertake.

Our cavalry, about seven hundred strong, all the detachments now operating together under command of Colonel Harrison, took the advance, immediately supported by General King's brigade. Other portions of General Johnson's, Davis's, and Baird's divisions, followed. It was a gallant array, and there was a spirit of buoyant enthusiasm amongst the troops, as they talked of their close proximity to the enemy, and wondered if there would be a battle.

The rebels did not seem inclined to dispute the

ground over which we had marched the previous day, and there were very few shots fired by either side. At half-past eleven A.M., we were again in the immediate vicinity of Tunnel Hill.

Just where you emerge from the woods and enter the open ground around the town, is a house which belongs to, and is inhabited by a member of the numerous and honorable tribe of John Smiths. Here the cavalry halted, there being unmistakable signs that the rebels had been reënforced upon the Tunnel Hill Ridge, and meant to hold the position. A line of log breastworks, begun some time ago, but completed on Tuesday night, could be seen extending all along the crest. Artillery could also be plainly perceived at two different points.

It was half-past twelve before we were ready to move forward, and then our cavalry marched in column along the road, into the open ground, directly toward the point whence the rebel artillery had been fired the day before. Myself and Lieutenant Shaw were riding near the van of the force, and were remarking upon the great advantage which our movement in column would give the enemy, provided they opened upon us with their cannon. They would be enabled to assail us with a raking fire, which could scarcely fail to do us much damage.

On the slope of the ridge, and near the road, which, running over it, leads on to Dalton, is a white frame-house. Behind this the rebels had, during the night, concealed a battery; and just as our cavalry column had all passed into the open ground, they ran their cannon out from behind the house, and blazed away at us with vigor and a will. The first shell fell into soft ground, a dozen feet from where I was at the moment. Either it was a fuse-shell and burst when in near proximity to the earth, or it was percussion, and the ground was not soft enough to prevent its explosion. At any rate, it exploded and threw the dirt, with numerous fragments of itself, in every direction around it. A liberal sprinkling of the former sufficed for my share.

The dirt and mud had scarce ceased to fall, when a second shell struck the ground, about twenty feet beyond the first. Bursting, one half of it flew into atoms, slightly wounding several persons. The other half, in one solid mass, struck a very young man, a member of the Twenty-eighth Kentucky, squarely in the stomach, tearing out his bowels. His horse, also wounded, dashed away toward the rear. A hundred yards from the spot where the shell exploded, the hapless rider fell off, stone-dead. A few feet further, and his horse also lay stretched upon the earth.

I did not note the effect of any other individual shell, for, as word was given to the horsemen to seek shelter, I was not slow in obeying the order, and by a rapid and masterly movement soon found myself beneath the friendly shelter of some woods upon our right. Our cavalry stood firm until the order to retire was given. Then they left in good earnest; so that when I turned and looked out from the woods where I had taken refuge upon the open ground, not a

man was to be seen. Yes, there was one man. As soon as Colonel Harrison had given orders to his men to retire, he himself descended from his horse, and stood there in full view of the enemy until the storm was over.

For full fifteen minutes the rebels kept up a furious fire, throwing their missiles clear back to John Smith's house, and even disturbing for a moment the equanimity of our infantry. One of the shells burst so near General Whipple, Chief of Staff to General Thomas, that all who saw it wondered how he escaped with life. Not even his clothes, however, were touched.

Would you picture to your mind a view of this somewhat singular battle-field? Imagine yourself, then, at John Smith's house, and looking south. The road passing it runs nearly north and south. Going south a quarter of a mile, you reach the railroad; here the common road turns squarely to the left, and by following a furlong further, you enter the town of Tunnel Hill. To the right of Smith's house is a wooded range, intersected by ravines, behind which Colonel Hambright's brigade was posted, after our cavalry had sought shelter from the rebel artillery. Carlin was in the centre of our line, along the road. Off to the left is a tolerably high range, subsiding about three hundred yards from the road. Between this and Tunnel Hill Ridge, General Cruft's division (Stanley's) was advancing. Looking across some open fields to the south-east, you behold the town. Occupying entire space between south and east, extends Tunnel Hill Range, held by the enemy. One high round peak, lying south-south-east, runs up most ambitiously toward the clouds; the remainder of the range is comparatively low. The rebel battery which had already worked us mischief, was just below the high peak. Around the town the cleared ground is undulating. The high eminences of Rocky Face can be seen at various places, rising up behind Tunnel Hill Ridge.

Such is a picture of what has already been the scene of a combat, and may yet witness a great battle.

While Colonel Hambright was putting his brigade into such a position as to threaten the enemy's left, General Morgan, commanding brigade in General Davis's division, had been sent over to our left to connect with General Cruft's men, and, climbing Tunnel Hill Ridge, where it is quite low, and there was no force of the enemy to oppose, to move along the summit, until he could assail the rebel works upon their right flank.

In the mean time, two pieces of Hotchkiss's battery opened upon the rebel battery from the hill upon the right of the road. An animated duel continued for some time. The rebels threw missiles with much precision. Captain Hotchkiss planted his shells where they would have been very effective, had they not for some unknown reason mostly failed to explode.

Captain Harris moved two guns of his battery (Nineteenth Indiana) over into the fields upon the left, and fired a few effective shots.

Between the two, the rebel battery had too

much of it, and withdrew at about half-past three p.m., just as General Morgan's men were seen marching along the summit of the ridge, toward the rebel works. Seeing themselves thus outflanked by General Morgan upon their right, and seriously threatened by Colonel Hambright upon the left, the rebels abandoned their position and fled precipitately, without firing a gun from the time Morgan first appeared. Thus, with but trifling loss, this strong and important position fell into our hands.

Not a moment was lost in following up the enemy, General Morgan taking the advance, and Colonel McCook, with his splendid brigade, belonging to the same division, following closely behind.

We were now traversing country over which Union troops had never trod before; and consequently we found the citizens in the most appalling state of confusion and dismay, expecting all and singly to have their throats cut immediately upon our arrival. The men had fled to the hills, and the women and children, as soon as the head of our column appeared, uttered piercing shrieks as if they were on the point of being murdered, or falling down upon their knees begged piteously for their lives. When they found they were in no danger whatever from our soldiers, their surprise and joy exceeded, if possible, their previous fear.

A little before five o'clock our forces came to an awful gorge cleft in an inaccessible and lofty range of mountains, called Rocky Face. On the left side of this gorge ran the railroad; on the right the common road, with a monstrous pine-covered rock rising between. Never had I beheld so formidable a position for defence; and my experience was in this respect the same as that of every officer in the army. Reaching out into the gorge from the perfectly impassable mountains on either side, spur after spur could be seen, rising one above the other as you looked toward Dalton, and forming a series of fortifications as perfect in design as the hand of man ever traced, while vastly superior in magnitude to aught that he ever constructed.

From the first of these spurs upon the right, the enemy poured forth a volley of musketry. Our brave boys, rushing forward, carried the spur; but from a higher one beyond, six pieces of artillery commenced hurling death among them, and they were compelled to withdraw.

The enemy continued a fierce artillery fire until night, when General Morgan's brigade moving into the left of the gorge, and Colonel Daniel McCook's into the right, they held the mouth of it until morning.

As I rode back toward the town, the heavens were lighted up with the lurid fires of Cleburne's old camp, (upon the east side of Tunnel Hill Range,) which our troops had set on fire. In the town I learned that General Wheeler himself was in command of the rebel cavalry which had all along been opposing us.

Simultaneously with the advance of the column from Chattanooga, General Crufts moved

down from the vicinity of Cleveland, joined afterward by Matthias's brigade, of the Fifteenth army corps, commanded at present by Colonel Dickerman, of the One Hundred and Third Illinois.

Colonel Long, with some seven hundred cavalry, preceded General Crufts. This column skirmished as successfully with the enemy as the other, and on the twenty-third, Colonel Long penetrated to within four miles of Dalton.

Another sunny, warm, pleasant, smoky morning dawned upon us on the twenty-fifth, and all portions of our forces being prepared to act in concert, it was determined to make a bold move, which might test whether or not the enemy's strong position on the Tunnel Hill road could not be turned.

Accordingly, General Baird took up the line of march very early in the morning, and crossing Tunnel Hill, joined General Crufts in the valley between the range and Rocky Face. Passing through a gap in Rocky Face, about three miles beyond Tunnel Hill Ridge, the entire force passed along the Cleveland road toward Dalton, the enemy opposing them only by feeble skirmishing, and everywhere flying before them.

It soon became evident, however, that they had passed beyond another range still further to the east than Rocky Face, and that a force of the enemy occupying the valley between the two might easily pass to the rear and cut off their retreat. To prevent this, they retired along the line of their march until they had reached the head of Rocky Face Valley, down which they marched in order of battle, General Baird upon the right and General Crufts upon the left. The rebels gave way as before, until they reached a point where the Cleveland road, running toward Dalton, descends into this valley. Just across this road and on the left side of the valley, was a high point in the bounding ridge, and this the enemy manifested a disposition to hold at hazard of a fight. Colonel Grose's brigade advancing along the slope of the ridge, immediately prepared to carry the hill. The enemy's outposts were driven in with rapidity, and the gallant brigade, moving steadily forward with loud cheers, and never once wavering under the fierce fire kept up by the rebels, hurled the latter from the hill in confusion, and planted the Stars and Stripes upon the summit.

This was about half-past eleven a.m. Captain Simonson, Chief of Artillery on General Crufts's staff, ran his old battery, the Fifth Indiana, to the top of the hill, and treated the rebels to constant doses of shot and shell the remainder of the day. Very heavy skirmishing was kept up until one p.m. by the opposing infantry, but no advance was attempted upon either side.

Myself and the gentleman whom I accompanied during the greater portion of this trip, had remained on the west side of Rocky Face, until assured, by one who knew, that the principal fight of the day was certain to take place upon the other side. A change of base was immediately determined upon. We struck across Tunnel Hill Range in the direction indicated by the

sound of Crafts's and Baird's cannon, and after a by no means pleasant ride of a couple of hours, amongst rocks and hills, and valleys and ravines, scowled at by the natives from whom we could learn not a word concerning the whereabouts of our troops, and in imminent danger of being picked up by some straggling squad of rebel cavalry, we at length had the unspeakable satisfaction of getting upon General Baird's trail; and riding on a mile or two further, found that, almost unknown to ourselves, we had turned the formidable barrier of Rocky Face, which now appeared upon our right.

Every step we took, the sounds of conflict became more and more distinct, until at last we caught sight of our troops stretched across the valley, the advance line skirmishing briskly with the enemy. The order of battle I have named, was still preserved. Of Baird's division, Van Derveer's brigade was on the left, Turchin's upon the right.

It was one o'clock when we arrived upon this part of the field, and scarcely had we reached our lines, when it became evident that a severe struggle was just on the point of taking place.

In truth, the position the rebels held in this valley, was almost as strong as that upon the road from Tunnel Hill. The valley was wider than the gorge, but the natural fortifications were of a similar nature, and only required to be held by a somewhat stronger force. The passage into Dalton along this valley, would evidently be accomplished only by copious effusion of blood.

A hill near the centre of the valley seemed to form the key to the position. To the right of this was another, the possession of which would enable us to operate with great advantage against the other. Just as I rode up, General Palmer announced his intention of attempting to carry this latter point.

The task of taking the hill was assigned to General Turchin, than whom a better, braver man can scarcely be found in our army. He had only a portion of his brigade with him, but he had such regiments as the Eleventh, Eighty-ninth, Ninety-second Ohio, and the Eighty-second Indiana, and with these he was sure to win, if success, under the circumstances, were possible, for these regiments scarce ever fail, and when they do, it is with undiminished honor.

A heavy strip of timber runs along the lower portion of the east slope of Rocky Face. Through this Turchin and his men steadily advanced, the General in the front ranks, drawing repeatedly upon his own person the fire of the rebel skirmishers. Forming his line of battle along the slope of the mountain, just opposite to and facing the hill which he was to carry, he gave the order to advance. Immediately the whole valley resounded with a terrible roar of musketry, and the enemy's cannon, replied to by our own Fourth regular battery, added to the awful din. The rebels were swept away from the foot of the hill. Half-way up they endeavored to make a stand, but our boys, charging forward with loud shouts, drove them across the summit.

The victory seemed gained, and the brigade rushed to the top of the hill to secure what it had won. But the enemy had rallied half-way down, supported by a fresh force outnumbering Turchin's two to one. No sooner had our boys reached the summit than a withering storm of bullets swept up the hill. Bravely they replied for a time, making many a rebel bite the dust. But the galling fire could not long be borne. It would be madness to charge down the hill into the midst of twice or thrice their numbers. Hence, they withdrew slowly and reluctantly to their former position along the slope of Rocky Face. The rebels did not attempt to follow, but contented themselves with repossessing the hill.

This was the bloodiest, as it might be called the closing, conflict of this interesting campaign. A brisk cannonade and a fierce and determined skirmishing were kept up until nightfall; but no advance was made upon either side. All the remainder of the afternoon the two armies stood confronting each other, so close together that the skirmishers of either could fire entirely over the rear-lines of the other. A number of incidents, at once singular and interesting, fell under my own observation, but I shall only mention this one.

General Palmer was standing near our skirmishers, when a bullet, fired by one of the opposing rebels, passed through both the skirts of his coat and both legs of his pants, without even grazing the skin! Probably there is not a similar case on record.

When night came on, a spectacle met our eyes, at once brilliant, beautiful, and sublime. During the course of the conflict, the leaves, rendered inflammable by several weeks' dry weather, had taken fire; and now long lines of the devouring element could be seen everywhere running up and down the mountains, twisting and writhing and hissing like monstrous serpents of living fire. The fine twigs and cones, of which vast quantities lay upon the ground, added to the hugeness of the conflagration; in some places the progress of our withdrawing troops was seriously impeded by the smoke and heat; and at ten P.M., it really seemed, to a spectator gazing from Tunnel Hill, as if the whole State of Georgia was on fire, and her eternal mountains were melting beneath the flames.

It was after night when the troops began to retire; and ere they closed their eyes in slumber that night, they were on the west side of the Tunnel Hill range.

About three in the afternoon, General Davis, who with Morgan's and McCook's brigades, supported by General Johnson's command, was holding the mouth of the gorge on the Tunnel Hill road, began to advance slowly and feel the enemy. The latter manifested the utmost sensitiveness, and raking the gorge with his cannon, inflicted upon General Morgan considerable loss. After night, this force retired to Tunnel Hill, which we continue to hold.

Thus ended this highly important expedition. It has again, if that were needed, demonstrated

the fighting qualities of our own troops. It has familiarized us with a section of country, comparatively unknown before. It has shown the tremendous strength of the enemy's position at Dalton. It has for ever set at rest the silly stories of Johnston's army having gone to Mobile and other points; and, above all, it has prevented that army, or any considerable part of it, from being so sent away.

It was well ascertained that Cleburne's division did not start away until the evening of the twenty-first, and at least one brigade of it had returned by the twenty-fifth. Stevenson's, Stuart's, Loring's divisions, one brigade of Cleburne's, one of another division, whose commander could not be ascertained, and Wheeler's cavalry, were all known to have been in the fight of Thursday. Although this correspondent would be very glad to have Joe Johnston evacuate Dalton, he cannot but feel somewhat proud of this triumphant vindication of the statement he made weeks ago, and has since had occasion several times to repeat, concerning the presence and strength of the rebel army at Dalton.

The expedition could not well fail of being an entire success, as it was managed throughout with wisdom, prudence, and skill. I venture to say that however high General Palmer may have stood in the estimation of his corps, he has risen still higher since the commencement of this expedition.

General Whipple seemed everywhere present, and I am assured by those who ought best to know, that his advice throughout the whole affair was most timely and valuable.

Generals Johnson and Davis discharged the duties imposed upon them with a cheerfulness and self-sacrificing alacrity which did much to keep up the efficiency and morale of their men.

General Crufts and Baird both sustained their reputation as soldiers, and the latter especially seemed to understand how to impart vigor and spirit to his troops.

It remains for all these generals to be tested upon a severe field, but here, at least, they did well. Our losses will not exceed two hundred killed, wounded, and missing. The enemy's will not fall below five hundred. Y. S.

Doc. 96.

CAPTURE OF FORT DE RUSSY, LA.

ON BOARD FLAG-SHIP,
FORT DE RUSSY, March 13, 1864. }

To understand the importance of the great expedition up Red River, it is necessary to review the military situation in the beginning of March. Sherman had returned to Vicksburgh from his grand but disappointing raid into Mississippi, and instead of directing his forces toward Mobile, the point greatest and almost the only position of vital concern to the rebels, he detached a portion of them to General Banks's assistance, who, it appears, had predetermined on scatter-

ing or demolishing the forces in West-Louisiana. It is altogether probable that something in the seasons had dictated this choice to General Banks. For example, the Red River is only high enough to be navigable by the largest vessels during this month and the next, while the task of taking Mobile is one which might be undertaken at any time, though it is unaccountably strange that it was not begun in December instead of May.

As is well known, the column under General Franklin crossed from New-Orleans to Brashear City about the first instant, and thence took up the line of march along the Bayou Teche, substantially the same route pursued nearly a year ago, *via* Opelousas to Alexandria. The forces under General A. J. Smith, from the department of the Tennessee, comprising the brigades under Generals F. K. Smith, Thomas, and Ellet, embarked at Vicksburgh on the tenth, and proceeded down to the mouth of Red River, where they found an immense fleet of gunboats ready for the ascent.

Touching the naval force, it may be well to remark that a more formidable fleet was never under single command than that now on the Western rivers, under Rear-Admiral Porter; and, it might be said also, never to less purpose. At the time of departure, the strength of the rebellion in the inland waters had been crushed. Its forts had been demolished at Henry, Donelson, Columbus, Island 10, Vicksburgh, Hudson, and New-Orleans, by the gallant Foote and Farragut, united with the army. Its fleet had been sunk by Ellet, Farragut, and Davis. All that remained to be extinguished was one insignificant fort at Gordon's Landing, and one ram and one gunboat on Red River. To meet this force, we had collected twenty powerful war-vessels of all classes, from the light draught to the heaviest monitor. Among them were the monitors Ozark, Osage, Neosho; the iron-clads Benton, Carondelet, Pittsburgh, Mound City, Louisville, Essex, and Chillicothe; the rams Price, Choc-taw, La Fayette, besides the lighter boats, Blackhawk, Ouachita, Champion, and Taylor. Contemplating this vast array of armed vessels to meet so weak a foe, those who are familiar with the history, cannot but contrast with it the different equipments with which the lamented Colonel Ellet was despatched on the same errand more than a year ago, with the Queen of the West only.

The twenty transports, preceded by the twenty gunboats, started from the Mississippi on the tenth, and ascended the Red River as far as what is called the Old River, when we turned into the Atchafalaya instead of continuing up Red River. Many were the speculations upon our course as they saw us descending the stream instead of ascending. To a person unacquainted with the peculiarities of this region, it seems indeed strange that the water should run up and down consecutively. The whole of West-Louisiana is overspread with a network of bayous, which are interlaced with each other in a very

unusual manner. Indeed, though Red River is usually accounted one of the tributaries of the Mississippi River, there is abundant evidence to believe that at no great period back the Red River continued its course to the Gulf through the Atchafalaya. The latter stream is now mainly fed by the former, and should properly bear its name. We found it for twelve miles a deep and navigable stream.

At Simmsport the fleet came to a landing. The town itself does not exist, a few chimneys alone marking the former site, having been burned up by Colonel Charles Rivers Ellet, in retaliation for their having fired on his boat, the Queen of the West. Colonel John Ellet afterward visited the place with the Switzerland, during the siege of Port Hudson, when he had a severe engagement with the batteries, and finished the work of his cousin.

Two new earthworks were found in course of construction, and abundant evidences of the traffic across the stream at this point. A short distance up the bayou, which enters at this point, were found twenty-four pontoons used for a bridge; also, portions of a raft of timber long enough to stretch across. News reached us that a camp near the river had been hastily evacuated at the sight of the fleet; afterward we heard that about two thousand had a fortified camp three miles from the river, at the intersection of Bayou Glaize, (Yellow Bayou.) Next morning the land forces were disembarked, and marched out by sunrise to find the camp broken up and the enemy gone; the bridge leading across the stream burning, and evidence of a fright. There were two extensive earthworks, still incomplete, and a prodigious raft being constructed across Bayou Glaize so as to prevent the gunboats ascending the little channel during high-water. This location of their principal fortifications is significant in two things: their intention to make the Atchafalaya as their line of defence, and their distrust of their ability to hold forts immediately on the banks of navigable streams. Henceforth we imagined their policy would be to hold the roads to the interior by works erected beyond the range of the gunboats. Their abandonment of Simmsport was indicative that they had lost hope of defending successfully these latter.

Five miles further out, our force overtook five teams loaded with tents, which they burned, and loaded up the teams with sugar and molasses, which the rebels had unsuccessfully attempted to destroy. The whole column then returned to the boats. I should not be a faithful historian if I omitted to mention that the conduct of the troops since the late raid of General Sherman, is becoming very prejudicial to our good name and to their efficiency. A spirit of destruction and wanton ferocity seems to have seized upon many of them, which is quite incredible. At Red River landing they robbed a house of several thousand dollars in specie, and then fired the house to conceal their crime. At Simmsport, a party of them stole out, and robbed

and insulted a family two miles distant. In fact, unless checked by summary example, there is danger of our whole noble army degenerating into a band of cut-throats and robbers. I am glad to say that General Smith is disposed to punish all offenders severely.

It was decided that the column should march overland to Fort De Russy, the place to which it was supposed they had retreated, distant thirty-five miles. At daybreak, they started in light marching order. The boats were steamed up the Red River, which proved to be extremely tortuous and difficult of navigation. At a point sixty-five miles above the mouth, and twenty-five above Black River, we came upon a small earthwork, without guns, distant by land about five miles from the main fort. Hewn piles and timbers had floated past during the day, preparing us for the evacuation above.

Meanwhile the column under General Smith, with Morse's brigade in the advance, made a night march across from Simmsport. Before they had gotten five miles out on their march, they were beset by the enemy's cavalry, which kept harassing front and rear during the entire route. A company of cavalry, under Captain Hughes, preceded the column, skirmishing continually. General F. Kilby Smith, who commanded the division in the rear, was often obliged to form in line to repel their threatened attack. Notwithstanding that a delay of three hours occurred in rebuilding a bridge destroyed by the flying enemy, the entire march, thirty miles, was accomplished in twenty hours, and, as the result showed, captured a strong position before sundown—a feat which has hardly a parallel. The country back of the Fort is an undulating table-land, beautiful to behold, and inhabited by descendants of the early French settlers. Indeed, many of them had hoisted over their porches the tri-color of France, although they have been living here, receiving the privileges of citizenship, for more than twenty years.

It was about three o'clock as the head of the column neared Fort De Russy; some time was spent in making cautious approaches to the position, when the lines were moved up to the edge of the timber. The Fort then opened heavily with four guns, firing shells and shrapnel, our forces bringing two batteries into action. The cannonading continued two hours, when General Smith ordered a line of skirmishers to advance, when a heavy fusillade followed. A charge was ordered; the Fifty-eighth Illinois and the Eighth Wisconsin led, when just as the men had reached the ditch the garrison surrendered. About this time the boats made their appearance, the Eastport in the lead. They fired two shots without effect, across a rock, when the cheers of our delighted soldiers told them the Fort was ours. The gunboats were not engaged; the honor of this victory may be set down to the credit of the land forces.

The Fort consists of two distinct and formidable earth-works connected by a covered way.

The upper part, the one facing the road from the interior, is a beautiful specimen of engineering skill, and is remarkable for the substantial and permanent manner in which every part is constructed. It mounted at the time of capture four guns, two field and two siege, though capable of accommodating twenty. It is perhaps a quarter of a mile from the river-bank, and seated on the gradual slope of a ridge, the first seen on ascending the river. In the lower work commanding the river was a casemated battery of three guns of superior construction. Upon a solid frame of twenty inches of timber were laid two layers of railroad iron, the upper tier reversed and laid into the interstices of the lower. But two guns were in position in it—one eleven-inch columbiad, taken from the Indianola, and an eight-inch smooth bore. On each side were batteries of two guns each, one a seven-inch rifle, of Parrott pattern, making in all eight siege and two field-pieces. There were found besides large quantities of ammunition and a thousand muskets, besides flour, sugar, etc.

Our loss in the affair was four killed and thirty wounded; rebels, five killed and four wounded. Two hundred prisoners constituted the garrison then in the Fort, all of which fell into our hands, with twenty-four officers. A force of about a thousand men has been stationed at De Russy until recently. The smallness of the garrison is a matter of much surprise, as the enemy must have known of our presence for some days; besides, it appears that a small number left in the morning before the attack. Two thirty-two pounders, on wheels, were hauled off only a few hours before our arrival, and narrowly escaped capture by our forces. It is unaccountable that the rebels should leave so valuable a position almost defenceless at this time, and can only be accounted for on the ground that General Banks was menacing Alexandria, and they decided to sacrifice one of the two places to hold the other. The troops have already reëmbarked, and are on the way to Alexandria.

Fort De Russy takes its name from Colonel De Russy, who formerly commanded in this vicinity, and lives not far distant. Lieutenant-Colonel Bird was in command, though he reported to General Walker, whose headquarters were at Alexandria.

The following officers are prisoners: Captains Stevens, Morran, Wise, Wright, Laird, and King; Lieutenants Denson, Fuller, Fogarty, Claydon, Trumbull, (Eng.) Burbank, Hewey, Assenheimer, Fall, Hauk, Ball, Little, Barksdale, Spinks, Brighurst, and Stout.

From various sources we gather that the rebels here have about abandoned the idea of defending any of their navigable streams. When asked to account for their apparent neglect of so important a fort, they reply that this was considered merely as an experiment in engineering, (certainly a very creditable one, and one which the gunboats alone might have vainly assailed for a month,) but claim that so soon as we leave the rivers they will fall on us for destruction. This

certainly does not find corroboration in the fact that they surrendered to forces which marched across the country. Of this sort was the unfinished obstruction of piles about nine miles below here, which the gunboats had to tear away to allow the huge transports to pass through. As nearly as I can learn, Walker has two thousand men, mostly infantry, south of us. Taylor has, perhaps, as many at Alexandria, and it is probable that they may be united at the latter place. Banks has some, doubtless, in his front about Opelousas.

The Red River has not been used for large transports or gunboats since May last, being hitherto too low. The Webb, Missouri, Grand Duke, and Mary Keene are at Shreveport, armed. The distances on this river from the Mississippi are: Black River, forty miles; De Russy, seventy miles; Alexandria, one hundred and forty miles; Shreveport, four hundred and fifty miles.

Doc. 97.

REBEL CURRENCY.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 20, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 21.

The following Act of Congress is published for the information of the army:

[No. 116.]

An Act to reduce the Currency and to authorize a new issue of Notes and Bonds.

Sec. 1. The Congress of the confederate States of America do enact, That the holders of all treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, not bearing interest, shall be allowed until the first day of April, 1864, east of the Mississippi River, and until the first day of July, 1864, west of the Mississippi River, to fund the same, and until the periods and at the places stated, the holders of all such treasury notes shall be allowed to fund the same in registered bonds payable twenty years after their date, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, payable on the first day of January and July of each year.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue the bonds required for the funding provided for in the preceding section; and, until the bonds can be prepared, he may issue certificates to answer the purpose. Such bonds and certificates shall be receivable, without interest, in payment of all government dues payable in the year 1864, except export and import duties.

Sec. 3. That all treasury notes of the denomination of one hundred dollars, not bearing interest, which shall not be presented for funding under the provisions of the first section of this act, shall, from and after the first day of April, 1864, east of the Mississippi River, and the first day of July, 1864, west of the Mississippi River, cease to be receivable in payment of public dues; and said notes, if not presented at that time,

shall, in addition to the tax of thirty-three and one third cents imposed in the fourth section of this act, be subject to a tax of ten per cent per month until so presented; which taxes shall attach to said notes wherever circulated, and shall be deducted from the face of said notes whenever presented for payment or for funding, and such notes shall not be exchangeable for the new issue of treasury notes provided for in this act.

Sec. 4. That on all said treasury notes not funded or used in payment of taxes at the dates and places prescribed in the first section of this act, there shall be levied at said dates and places a tax of thirty-three and one third cents for every dollar promised on the face of said notes. Said tax shall attach to said notes wherever circulated, and shall be collected by deducting the same at the treasury, its depositories, and by the collectors, and by all government officers receiving the same, wherever presented for payment or for funding, or in payment of government dues, or for postage, in exchange for new notes as herein-after provided; and said treasury notes shall be fundable in bonds as provided in the first section of this act, until the first day of January, 1865, at the rate of sixty-six cents and two thirds on the dollar, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, at any time between the first of April, east, and the first of July, 1864, west of the Mississippi River, and the first of January, 1865, to substitute and exchange new treasury notes for the same, at the rate of sixty-six and two thirds cents on the dollar: Provided, that notes of the denomination of one hundred dollars shall not be entitled to the privilege of said exchange: Provided, further, that the right to fund any of said treasury notes after the first day of January, 1865, is hereby taken away; and provided, further, that upon all such treasury notes which remain outstanding on the first day of January, 1865, and which may not be exchanged for new treasury notes, as herein provided, a tax of one hundred per cent is hereby imposed.

Sec. 5. That after the first day of April next, all authority heretofore given to the Secretary of the Treasury to issue treasury notes, shall be, and is hereby, revoked, provided the Secretary of the Treasury may, after that time issue new treasury notes in such form as he may prescribe, payable two years after the ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States, said new issue to be receivable in payment of all public dues, except export and import duties, and to be issued in exchange for old notes, at the rate of two dollars of the new for three dollars of the old issues, whether said old notes be surrendered for exchange by the holders thereof, or be received into the Treasury under the provisions of this act; and the holders of the new notes, or of the old notes, except those of the denomination of one hundred dollars, after they are reduced to sixty-six and two thirds cents on the dollar, by the tax aforesaid, may convert into call certificates, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, and payable two years after a ratification of

a treaty of peace with the United States, unless sooner converted into new notes.

Sec. 6. That to pay the expenses of the government, not otherwise provided for, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue six per cent bonds to an amount not exceeding five hundred millions of dollars, the principal and interest whereof shall be free from taxation; and for the payment of the interest thereon, the entire net receipts of any export duty hereafter laid on the value of all cotton, tobacco, and naval stores, which shall be exported from the Confederate States, and the net proceeds of the import duties laid, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay annually the interest, are hereby specially pledged: Provided, that the duties now laid upon imports, and hereby pledged, shall hereafter be paid in specie, or in sterling exchange, or in coupons of said bonds.

Sec. 7. That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized from time to time, as the wants of the Treasury may require it, to sell or hypothecate for treasury notes said bonds or any part thereof, upon the best terms he can, so as to meet appropriations by Congress, and at the same time reduce and restrict the amount of circulation in treasury notes within reasonable and safe limits.

Sec. 8. The bonds authorized by the sixth section of this act may either be registered or coupon bonds, as the parties taking them may elect, and they may be exchanged for each other under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe; they shall be for one hundred dollars or some multiple of one hundred dollars; and shall, together with the coupons thereto attached, be in such form and of such authentication as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe; the interest shall be payable half-yearly, on the first of January and July in each year; the principal shall be payable not less than thirty years from their date.

Sec. 9. All certificates shall be fundable, and shall be taxed in all respects as is provided for the treasury notes, into which they are convertible, if not converted before the time fixed for taxing the treasury notes. Such certificates shall from that time bear interest upon only sixty-six and two thirds cents for every dollar promised upon their face, and shall be redeemable only in new treasury notes at that rate; but, after the passage of this act, no call certificates shall be issued until after the first day of April, 1864.

Sec. 10. That if any bank of deposit shall give its depositors the bonds authorized by the first section of this act in exchange for their deposits, and specify the same on the bonds by some distinctive mark or token, to be agreed upon with the Secretary of the Treasury, then the said depositors shall be entitled to receive the amount of said bonds in treasury notes, bearing no interest, and outstanding at the passage of this act: Provided, the said bonds are presented before the privilege of funding said notes at par shall cease, as herein prescribed.

Sec. 11. That all treasury notes heretofore issued of the denomination of five dollars shall continue to be receivable in payment of public dues, as provided by law, and fundable at par under the provisions of this act, until the first of July, 1864, east, and until the first of October, 1864, west of the Mississippi River; but after that time they shall be subject to a tax of thirty-three and a third cents on every dollar promised on the face thereof; said tax to attach to said notes wherever circulated, and said notes to be fundable and exchangeable for new treasury notes, as herein provided, subject to the deduction of said tax.

Sec. 12. That any State holding treasury notes, received before the times herein fixed for taxing said notes, shall be allowed until the first day of January, 1865, to fund the same in six per cent bonds of the confederate States, payable twenty years after date, and the interest payable semi-annually. But all treasury notes received by any State after the time fixed for taxing the same, as aforesaid, shall be held to have been received, diminished by the amount of said tax. The discrimination between the notes subject to the tax and those not so subject shall be left to the good faith of each State, and the certificate of the Governor thereof shall in each case be conclusive.

Sec. 13. That treasury notes heretofore issued, bearing interest at the rate of seven dollars and thirty cents on the hundred dollars per annum, shall no longer be received in payment of public dues, but shall be deemed and considered bonds of the confederate States, payable two years after the ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States, bearing the rate of interest specified on their face, payable the first of January in each and every year.

Sec. 14. That the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby authorized, in case the exigencies of the Government should require it, to pay the demand of any public creditor, whose debt may be contracted after the passage of this act, willing to receive the same in a certificate of indebtedness, to be issued by said Secretary in such form as he may deem proper, payable two years after a ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, and transferable only by special indorsement, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; and said certificate shall be exempt from taxation in principal and interest.

Sec. 15. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to increase the number of depositories, so as to meet the requirements of this act, and with that view to employ such of the banks of the several States as he may deem expedient.

Sec. 16. The Secretary of the Treasury shall forthwith advertise this act in such newspapers published in the several States, and by such other means as shall secure immediate publicity; and the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy shall each cause it to be pub-

lished in general orders, for the information of the army and navy.

Sec. 17. The forty-second section of the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May first, 1863, is hereby repealed.

Sec. 18. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required, upon the application of the holder of any call certificate, which, by the first section of the act to provide for the funding and further issue of treasury notes, approved March twenty-third, 1863, was required to be hereafter deemed to be a bond, to issue to such holder a bond therefor, upon the terms provided by said act.

Approved February seventeenth, 1864.

By order, S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General.

Doc. 98.

VALUABLE SUGGESTIONS

ADDRESSED TO THE SOLDIERS OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

BY REV. A. B. LONGSTREET, LL.D.

CHAPTER I.

I do not know that the attempt has ever been made to improve soldiers by an address to their reason and understanding. I propose to try the experiment, beginning with the new recruits.

It has grown into a proverb that "one hundred regulars will whip four hundred raw troops."

The history of all wars proves this to be substantially true. And yet, the hundred and four hundred are made up of the same material. How happens it that there is such a disparity between them? Can mere drilling make one man bolder than another? Impossible, as is proved by the fact, that when brought into battle for the first time they are all alike—all equally alarmed and all equally apt to run. But the regulars soon become accustomed to battle, and nothing gives us alarm to which we are accustomed. They soon discover, too, that the roar of cannon and the bursting of bombs, which terrify them so much in the first battle, are the most harmless of all implements of warfare brought into the field. They are better than raw troops simply because they have got over the fears of raw troops. If, therefore, it were possible for new recruits to engage in their first battle with the coolness and self-possession of veterans, they would be equal to veterans. Is this impossible? Certainly not; for most of the troops with which Bonaparte fought the battle of Waterloo were new levies, and they fought as gallantly as the best on the field. This they did from confidence in their General. They, doubtless, felt all the alarms common to troops engaging in battle for the first time, but they did not yield to their fears. And to this point it seems to me any raw troops may bring themselves by the force of reason alone, especially when assisted a little by experienced officers. Let each man go into the battle-field with this

train of reflections: "I shall be frightened of course. At what? Why, at the danger to which my life is exposed. Well, now, what is really the extent of the danger? In the most sanguinary battle, not one fifth of the combatants are killed or wounded. The chances are, therefore, five to one that I shall not be hurt. The proportion of the slightly and recoverably wounded is to the killed and mortally wounded as five is to one. The chances are, therefore, five to one, that if touched at all, I shall not be mortally wounded. The cannon are the common engines which unnerve men. Now, of the whole number of killed in battle, not more than one in one hundred are killed by cannon.* A hundred to one, therefore, that those noisy bellows do not hurt me. The alternative is presented to me to stand my ground in spite of my fears, or to run. Now, in which is the most danger? Why, surely in running; for, as a general rule, of a given number, more men are killed in flight than in fight. While I stand my ground, I am all the time destroying, weakening, and disheartening the enemy, and encouraging my companions in arms. Victory, therefore, is likely to insure my safety. But in running, I may be killed by the very men whom I would have disabled had I stood firm. I weaken our forces, throw the battle upon a reduced number, expose them to increased labors and losses, become then an object of their hatred and contempt, dispirit them and invigorate the foe, not only for this battle, but for all future battles. The regulars show that battles lose their terrors when we become used to them; how am I ever to become used to them by running? If I save my life by it, I increase the danger of being made prisoner a hundred-fold. Fear or no fear, then, I will fight as long as the regulars fight."

Now, in all this, I put love of country, Yankee insolence, and brutality entirely out of the question; for with panic-stricken troops, carrying in their bosoms no antidote for their fears or moral remedy for their natural defects, these considerations are utterly worthless, as has been most lamentably proven in our last great battle. The remedy is found in the foregoing train of reflections. They cannot make brave men of cowards; they cannot prevent fears on the battle-field; but they surely ought to make the coward and the timid fight manfully in spite of their infirmities. Officers should impress them on the minds of their new recruits; and as such men fight well under a general in whom they have confidence, they should always, if practicable, be attached to the brigade, division or corps in whose generals they have the most confidence. Lord Wellington is reported to have said that by nature he was a great coward, but that his pride of character, self-respect, and love of country predominated over his fears. The consequence was, that he became the hero of heroes. I see no reason why every soldier in the confederate army might not

become a hero upon the same principle. I am aware of the military dogma that men, to become good soldiers, must first become mere machines. If this be true, then it were better for us (policy aside) to make up our armies of stout, able-bodied negroes, inured to toil, than of their high-minded, chivalrous, but more feeble masters. At the opening of the war, our armies were composed mainly of troops of the latter class—men of science, men of wealth, men of the learned professions, Congressmen, legislators, professors, and students—all accustomed to a life of comparative ease. There was little drilling of them, or time for drilling them, before they were engaged in a series of battles. The conscript laws filled our ranks with men from all grades of society, and of all descriptions of character—in the main, hard-working, strong-muscled, able-bodied men, accustomed to hard living and constant fatigue. They have been long in the machine factory, long enough to have every attribute of humanity drilled out of them. Has this class proved themselves to be better soldiers than the other? Have they fought better? Have they gained any more victories? Have they endured any more hardships, and with more patience? Let the advocates of machinery answer these questions.

The dogma which I have been considering is not only false, but is in the highest degree mischievous. If scientific war be but a conflict of machines, it necessarily follows that the power which has the greatest number of machines must in the end be victorious. How is it possible for nine millions of population—six, we may say—to bring into the field as many men as can twenty-three millions? And yet we seem to be trying the hopeless experiment. Every body is to be called to arms. In reason's name, I ask, Why? We have plenty of men enrolled to whip all the Yankees in the field at this time, if our men will but fight as they did at the beginning of the war! Did we lose the battle of Mission Ridge from want of men? No, but from derangement of our machinery. And why should that defeat run us all crazy? I see nothing alarming in it. One of the bitter fruits of the dogma in question is that officers who subscribe to it will take no pains to inspire their men with courage, self-confidence, and high-toned patriotism, but will treat them pretty much as they would so many prize-fighters. Away with the false, demoralizing dogma! Soldiers, you are moral agents; do for yourselves, then, what I would do for you, if I could. Nerve yourselves up by your own mental energies to deeds of noble daring and unflinching valor, though your enemy be three to your one.

CHAPTER II.

My first chapter was addressed to raw recruits. It was not designed to dissipate their fears in battle, for no counsel can do this; but to teach them to be good soldiers in spite of their fears—to show them that if they will consult their own personal safety, they will fight in fear rather than run from fear. I now address the soldiers gen-

* I state this upon the authority of a brigadier-general of many battles, who has turned his attention to this matter on the field.

erally. Much that I have said to the first class is equally applicable to this.

Men who engage in battle expecting to be whipped, are very certain to be whipped. The reason is plain; they fight without object and without spirit—their thoughts more occupied in finding apologies for running than the achievement of victory. Now, I can conceive of but these four things which can induce a rational being to expect defeat in battle:

- 1st. Superiority in numbers opposed to him.
- 2d. Superiority in arms.
- 3d. Superiority in valor.
- 4th. Superiority in generalship.

Let us consider these matters in their order:

1. *Superiority in Numbers.*—This is the bugbear that made cowards of us for thirty years before we seceded, which seems to have turned the heads of half the nation, civil and military, within the last two months, and which seems likely to make us destroy ourselves to keep the Yankees from destroying us.

I have already bestowed a few remarks upon this head; let us consider it a little more in detail. To give the instances in which brave men conquered twice and thrice their numbers would be to write a book. Take a few cases from our own history. At Big Bethel one thousand three hundred confederates put to confusion and flight four thousand Federals. At the battle of Blackburn's Ford (Bull Run) one brigade whipped twice its number. At the first battle of Manassas thirty-eight thousand completely routed seventy-five thousand. It is said the Yankees fight better now than they did then; and that the Western Federals fight better than the Eastern. This may be true, but it would be a harmless truth if we did not fight worse. We whipped Western troops at Chickamauga, and we would have whipped them again at Mission Ridge if a brigade or more of our men had not played the coward.

Even in the rout which these men led off, Cleburne's gallant band arrested the whole Federal army, when they were probably four to one against him. This I regard as by far the most brilliant feat of the war. To have stood his ground would have been creditable to him and his men, but in the midst of confusion and flight to have formed his men in an advantageous position, and to have maintained it against repeated assaults of overwhelming numbers, and to have defeated them, entitles him to a monument as high as Lookout, and to each of his men one as high as Mission Ridge. I hope he will preserve with peculiar care the name of every man that stood by him in that memorable conflict.*

Here, then, we have an illustration from the same battle-field, of the difference between running from superior numbers and fighting them bravely. Cleburne demonstrated, under every discouragement, that Western troops, even in the exultation of victory, may be whipped by infe-

rior numbers, when possessed of superior valor. Let the renegades remember this, and retrieve their credit by fighting gallantly in their next battle.

There are other considerations which it seems to me should divest numbers of their terrors to reflecting troops; at least so far as to raise them above cowardly conduct.

These truths all will admit; the more men in the army, the more unwieldy and sluggish does it become, the more difficult is it to make them effective in action, the more on the sick-list, the more killed by a given number of shots, the more transportation and provisions do they require, and the more unlikely that they will have a commander capable of directing their movements skillfully and usefully. These are most serious drawbacks to a large army, especially when far away from home. They will, of themselves, exhaust it in time. A small army, then, has every advantage of a large one, except in the single matter of numbers. They are more immediately under the eye of their commander, more readily concentrated, more prompt in reaching the points of attack, lose fewer in battle, and in retreat (orderly retreat I mean) are absolutely unapproachable by their cumbersome foe. These facts are of themselves sufficient to account for the many victories which inferior numbers have gained over superior. Let us suppose that Grant commands a hundred thousand men, and Johnston but fifty thousand. There are twenty positions between Dalton and Atlanta which Johnston may occupy, with the certainty of whipping Grant, if his men will fight bravely. (It is to be hoped he has examined all these positions.) Should he be driven from one of these positions after hard fighting, his losses, compared with those of the enemy, will be about as one to five. And so of all the other positions. But there is one view of the subject which should quiet all fears of the soldier on the score of numbers, and it is this: that it is absolutely impossible for Grant to conquer Johnston in the case supposed, because it is absolutely impossible for him to force Johnston into a fight upon ground of his own choosing. Upon the whole, then, there is no great cause of alarm to the soldier in the numbers opposed to him. The Fabian policy avoids defeat at least.

2. *Superiority in Arms.*—Except in artillery, I know of no advantage the enemy have of us in arms—certainly none to be feared. Of artillery I have already spoken, and shown that they are the least formidable implements of war of any that are used. For the destruction of fortifications, ships, and towns, cannon are useful; but for field service they are the most inconvenient, cumbersome, inefficient, expensive, worthless engines of war that ever were invented. A man told me he had been in six battles, and he had never seen a man killed by a cannon or bomb in his life. Another told me that he had belonged to an artillery corps for two years; that in that time they had broken down four teams of horses, and been brought into action but once, in which he had no reason to believe that they

* If the papers speak the truth, according to Bragg, Bates and his small brigade are entitled to all the credit that I have given to Cleburne and his men. If so, let the names be changed and the honors stand.

had killed a single man. They fear cannon, then, simply because men cease to reason when they engage in battle, and surrender themselves to their instinctive impulses.

3. *Superiority in Valor.*—This the Yankees have never shown, and never will show, until our troops become the biggest of fools and the meanest of cowards.

4. *Superiority of Generalship.*—Certainly there is no cause for fear from this source, as yet.

Reason down your fears then, soldiers; but if you cannot, fight them out.

CHAPTER III.

In all that I have said to you, or mean to say to you, I suppose you fight against superior numbers. I have endeavored to demonstrate to you that there is not near the danger in meeting superior numbers in the field that is generally supposed. In a conflict of one thousand against two thousand, the first of unyielding valor, and the second of common soldiery, which is likely to conquer? Every man in the world will answer: "The first." Is not this an unquestionable truth? Why, then, will not reasonable beings reduce it to practice in the war? "Because," it will be answered, "men cannot screw themselves up to unyielding valor." True, but with a man of common-sense, it should require but very little screwing to do that which will insure him victory, or no valor. When I was a boy, about thirteen years of age, my father lived fourteen miles from Augusta. On the road to the city, there was one point where a man had been murdered, and another where a woman had been killed, and stories were rife in the neighborhood of terrific sights seen at these places at night. I do not suppose that a house full of gold could have induced me to pass them alone at night. One day my father remarked, in my presence: "I never allowed my children to be frightened with foolish stories about ghosts, etc. There is my —, who, if necessary, would go from here to Augusta at midnight, with no more fear than I would feel at doing so." "Mercy on me!" thought I; "how little my father knows of his —!" But the remark had a magical effect upon me. It set me to thinking of the folly of my fears, the glory I should have in verifying my father's opinion of me, and the shame that I should feel at his discovering that he had over-estimated me, and I began to entertain a timid desire to prove my heroism. Not long after this I was belated, and had to pass one of these places at night, and alone. I was awfully alarmed as I approached the spot, but I determined to go slowly by it. When I reached it my fears rapidly subsided; "and now," thought I, "if I can only tell, when I get home, that I stopped and searched for ghosts and blue-lights, and listened for groanings, etc., what an honor it will be for me!" I did so, and thenceforward became a tolerably brave boy.

Now, if such inducements as these could make a timid boy act the hero, why should not love of country, the glory of victory, and the shame of defeat, make even cowards act the hero? But I

am departing from the subjects proposed for this article. I come now to speak of actual operations in the field.

If ten thousand engage twenty thousand, the labor of fighting is about equal on both sides. The human constitution can only endure a certain amount of labor and fatigue, and at this point the belligerents must stop. All other things being equal, then, if the ten thousand hold on to this point, they cannot possibly be conquered; and it's a hundred to one, that the twenty thousand yield the contest before they reach the point of exhaustion.

Charge of Bayonets.—If the soldier forgets all else that I have written or may write, let him not forget what I say upon this head. It has been said that in all Bonaparte's battles there were but three instances of a fight with bayonets. With these exceptions, whenever he or his adversaries brought the battle to a hand-to-hand fight, one or the other party invariably gave way. Now he fought every nation in Europe, and, with one exception, always with inferior numbers. The Turks he fought in Egypt and Syria—a barbarous people. At Acre, he fought the Turks, assisted by the English. I do not remember that his troops ever recoiled from a charge of bayonets. Be that as it may, we all know that up to his Russian campaign, his battles were little else than one unbroken series of victories. I have inquired of a number of our officers and soldiers whether they ever witnessed a fight with bayonets during the war, and I have not found the man who has seen such a thing. And yet I have heard of a hundred, if not five hundred, charges being made during the war. In all these charges, then, one or the other party must have given way. Now what is the conclusion from all this? Why, that whether you fight with civilized or barbarous nations, or with civilized and barbarous mixed, with royalists or republicans, with equal or unequal numbers, (the disproportion not being very great,) you have only to stand firm in a bayonet-fight, to assure you of victory. There is nothing in war more certain than this. When the battle, then, comes to a cross of bayonets, whatever may be your alarms, see it through, and your triumph is sure.

Charging up to the Cannon's Mouth.—This is considered the very acme of heroism. Well, now, there is not the one tenth part of the danger in it that is generally supposed. The reason is plain. Cannon cannot be constantly adjusted to an ever-approaching object. Many of you know how wildly they shoot, until the gunner, by a number of experimental shots, "gets the range," as it is called, even of a stationary object. But that range is lost with every approach of the object to the cannon. None but the most expert riflemen could hit a squirrel rapidly descending a tree. Now, the movement of a cannon to hit an approaching regiment must be like that of the rifleman's gun, constantly lowering, but with a variable velocity, as the regiment approaches more or less rapidly. If the regiment oblique a little from the first line of approach, the cannon

must undergo two adjustments to hit it: the one perpendicular, and the other lateral. Now, who is competent to make the lubberly thing fulfil all these conditions? No man that ever lived or ever will live. To keep a cannon sighted upon a moving object is difficult enough, but to load and fire it, and still keep it on the moving object, is impossible. "Marching up to the cannon's mouth," then, if done quickly, is demonstrably less dangerous than remaining stationary at exact cannon-range.

A word more and I have done. Possibly, before the war ends, you may get under a general who may command you to pursue a routed foe. In that event, stop not as long as you can keep your feet. Bear hunger and thirst to the utmost point of endurance, rather than stop; and cut off your arm sooner than pause to gather booty at such a time. The reason is obvious: when your enemy is in flight, he is impotent, and you destroy him without hazard to yourselves. His dispersion is so great that he cannot be brought to face you again for months, if ever. His all falls into your hands. His spirit is broken for all time. And oh! remember, as we pass along, that all these evils, half told, become yours, when you flee.

Soldiers! lay to heart the things that I have written, and reduce them to practice, and our liberty is sure.

Doc. 99.

THE FIRE AND BLOOD OF REVOLUTION.

THE following was published under the above title in the Charlottesville (Virginia) *Review*, in April, 1861, before Virginia had passed her ordinance of secession:

"That is the cue. They propose to give you a taste of Mr. Yancey's medicines. It will be a nice little operation. Sowing wheat is nothing to marking time and walking sentry at two o'clock in the night, under a drizzling rain. Shucking corn is flat, compared to a charge of bayonets.

"You will also make your arrangements to have your barnyards lit up at night with the fires of the revolution. Set your boots at the head of the bed, for at any moment the same fires may be sputtering and crackling on the roof of your dwelling-house.

"Glistening bayonets on the south bank of the Potomac in front, burning straw-ricks and burning houses behind you, something worse than that, perhaps, in the shape of death produced by invisible and unconfrontable agencies, the State deprived of its labor, those laborers escaping by hundreds, or sold at half their value in the South, your fields unploughed, your public works ruined, land depressed to the lowest figure, State stocks, insurance stocks, bank stocks, railroad stocks, hawked at a mere song—these would be the immediate effects of the "Fire and Sword" which Governor Wise proposes in his speech at Norfolk.

"A peaceable dissolution of the Union is sometimes suggested.

"Let us allow that the result could be effected peaceably.

"The next thing we should want would be a standing army. The John Brown affair cost us three hundred thousand dollars. Make the calculation.

"You would maintain a line of posts all along your frontier.

"You would also want a navy, though Norfolk only produces a few fishing-smacks, except the vessels built there by order of the Government.

"You would pay a Southern President, with all the ordinary government officials. You would pay a diplomatic corps.

"You would have to pay for an independent Senate and House of Representatives, and for a new Judiciary.

"Perhaps you think all this would be readily managed. They tell you you are rich. We tell you, that no purely agricultural people ever was rich. The wealth of Philadelphia alone is equal to the entire wealth of the State of Virginia.

"Take the Post-Office alone. The total receipts from the post-offices in Virginia for 1857-58, were \$242,951; the expenditures were \$458,848. In South-Carolina, the receipts were \$101,145; the expenditures were \$248,600. In Alabama, the receipts were \$111,092; the expenditures were \$248,750. In Mississippi, the receipts were \$88,456; the expenditures were \$382,508. In Arkansas, the receipts were \$35,727; the expenditures were \$244,589. How is this deficiency made up now? Part of it is made up thus: The receipts in the State of New-York are \$1,488,711; the expenditures are \$1,164,141. In Massachusetts, the receipts are \$565,683; the expenditures are \$425,237. In most of the Northern States there is a deficit. But in all the Southern States the deficit is enormous. The whole Northern deficit is some \$800,000. The whole Southern deficit is some \$8,000,000.

"Suppose, however, the civil war disposed of. Suppose the government established. Suppose us with our army, our navy, our fortifications. Suppose us to have survived the shock with some slaves left, and our depreciated lands. What then? We belong to a Southern confederacy. The Cotton States begin an agitation for the re-opening of the slave-trade, or some coolie system. Our remaining negroes are to compete, if they succeed in their schemes, with the new labor. At all events, we are still to be a section, a section as regards the Cotton States, which has no trade with the other section. We are still to have sectional quarrels. There are still to be charges and counter-charges, aggressions and counter-aggressions. We have not conquered a peace.

"We have now two sections to plague us. On the frontier we have to guard against the North. On the South we have to meet the extreme views of the Gulf States. After a while, perhaps, Virginia would have lost her slaves, and she, with

Kentucky, Maryland, and Missouri, would be an anti-slavery section in the Southern republic.

"If any one can find a remedy in a Southern confederacy, we see it with different eyes."

Doc. 100.

OPERATIONS ON JAMES RIVER.

CO-OPERATION WITH ARMY EXPEDITION UNDER
GENERAL GRAHAM.

REPORT OF ACTING REAR-ADMIRAL R. P. LEE.

FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
OFF NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 2, 1864. }

SIR: Returning here Sunday afternoon, thirty-first ultimo, after an absence of a few hours at the navy-yard, I was informed by Lieutenant Commander Upshur, of this ship, that General Graham had a few hours previously gone up the James River with the army gunboats on an expedition, the object of which was to capture some rebel troops, said to be about forty, (40,) and tobacco, and that, on the application of General Graham, Captain Gansevoort had sent Lieutenant Commander Gillis with the Commodore Morris, in the Nansemond, to coöperate.

The Commodore Morris being very short of her complement, a detail of fifty (50) men from this ship was put on board of her to supply her deficiencies, and Lieutenant Commander Gillis was instructed by Lieutenant Commander Upshur not to allow them to land without it was absolutely necessary.

On my return I ordered the Shokokon and Commodore Barney to follow General Graham, and coöperate.

At half-past seven next morning, in a dense fog, I received from General Graham a letter explaining his situation, and asking for assistance. Immediately ordered the Minnesota's launches to be got out, armed, provided, and despatched to the assistance of the army expedition, and telegraphed to General Butler on the subject.

Soon afterward Acting Ensign Harris, of the navy, who is on service with the army, and was in this expedition, came off in the fog to our picket-boat, Commodore Jones, and reported that the detachment of cavalry, infantry, and a howitzer squad, in all about ninety (90) men, which General Graham had landed at Smithfield the previous afternoon, had on their march to Chuckatuck encountered a superior force of the enemy, and at eight P.M. had been driven back to Smithfield, where they were surrounded, and in great danger of being cut off. Unfortunately, none of the army gunboats or transports were then at Smithfield to protect or bring off the detachment.

The fog still prevailed. I sent Ensign Miller, with Acting Ensign Harris, and General Graham's letter to me, to General Butler, that General Butler might understand the situation, and if he thought proper, might send troops in the rear to relieve this beleaguered detachment. At the same time I despatched the Shokokon to tow our launches, as near as the water would allow her to go, in the direction of Smithfield, and I sent

the Commodore Barney up the Nansemond with an order to Lieutenant Commander Gillis, providing for the assistance which General Graham desired there.

At five P.M. the launches returned, and reported the army gunboat Smith Briggs had, after the Shokokon had taken them up as far as her draught would allow, towed them several miles, to within close proximity to Smithfield, where a hot engagement immediately commenced between the enemy and our forces on shore, supported by our launches and the Smith Briggs, which resulted in the capture and destruction of the Smith Briggs by the rebels, with the capture of nearly all the detachment landed at Smithfield by General Graham.

The reports of Acting Ensign Birtwistle and Acting Master's Mate Jarvis—who, after the wounding of Acting Master Pierson, had command of the launches sent from this ship—show that, after sustaining a heavy fire of musketry and artillery in these open boats, and the guns of the Smith Briggs being turned upon them by the rebels, the launches were compelled to retire without being able to render any further assistance.

Acting Master Pierson and three (3) men of this ship were, I regret to state, seriously wounded.

It appears from the report of Lieutenant Commander Gillis that the second detachment, composed of thirty-two (32) men from the Smith Briggs, and twelve (12) from the Commodore Morris, landed in the Nansemond with instructions to meet the first detachment from Chuckatuck, returned safely.

I inclose the following papers pertaining to this affair, among which is a request from me to General Butler that expeditions requiring naval coöperation, or passing the lines of the blockade, should be previously determined between him and myself.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully yours,

S. P. LEE,

A. R. Admiral Commanding N. A. S. Squadron.
Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

COMMUNICATION FROM GENERAL GRAHAM TO ADMIRAL LEE

HEADQUARTERS NAVAL BRIGADE, DEPT. VA. AND N. C., }
ON BOARD TRANSPORT LONG BRANCH,
OFF HALLOWAY'S POINT, 5 A.M., February 1, 1864.

ADMIRAL: I landed a party of ninety men, consisting of twenty cavalry, one howitzer squad, and the remainder infantry, at Smithfield, at twenty-five minutes past one P.M. yesterday, with orders to march to Chuckatuck, where I was informed there was a small force of the enemy.

At Chuckatuck they were to have been met by another detachment which left Halloway Point. This latter detachment marched as far as Chuckatuck; saw no enemy; heard distant firing, which the commanding officer supposed to be the first detachment endeavoring to make a landing at Smithfield. This last detachment returned to its place of landing about sundown.

At three o'clock P.M. yesterday, I despatched the gunboat *Flora Temple* to Chuckatuck, but unfortunately she grounded, and remained ashore until I came up with the General *Jesup*, and transport *Long Branch*.

The *Flora Temple* had been despatched to Chuckatuck to occupy the attention of the enemy on shore, while the other parties were advancing from the points indicated.

I left Smithfield at forty minutes past three P.M., having remained there at the request of the officer commanding the first detachment, so that his detachment might return to the vessels, if it met with any serious opposition, before it had marched a distance beyond possibility of communication.

Up to the time I left, no firing was heard at all. After the vessels with me had succeeded in drawing off the *Flora Temple*, we steamed as rapidly as possible for the mouth of the Chuckatuck, but it was quite dark and very hazy when we reached there; consequently we kept on for the Nansemond and reached there at eight o'clock P.M., when I was informed by Lieutenant Commander Gillis that the second detachment had reported as above.

Immediately thereupon I sent orders by the *Smith Briggs* to the *Flora Temple* and General *Jesup* to proceed at daylight to the Chuckatuck, make a reconnoissance, and report to me as early as practicable at the mouth of the Nansemond.

At daylight I intend landing with a detachment and feeling my way, cautiously, to Chuckatuck village.

As soon as I have definite tidings I will communicate with you again.

In the mean time, please request your vessels to keep a look-out on the banks of the James River for any of our men that may have strayed from the main body, if it has been captured.

Please communicate the above facts to Major-General Butler, and oblige.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General, etc.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.

Please send a boat up the Nansemond to me, and the bearer, Captain Rowe, will proceed with his vessel to Smithfield.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN GUERT GANSEVOORT.

UNITED STATES IRON-CLAD ROAMER,
NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 4, 1864. }

ADMIRAL: I have the honor to inform you of the facts (as far as I can recollect) relating to the expedition which went up the river on January thirty-first, under the command of General Graham.

Sunday morning, January thirty-first, about ten A.M., three army steamers came up from Fortress Monroe and went near the Minnesota, and shortly after I saw a boat coming toward this vessel with an army lieutenant (whose name I do not remember) and Lieutenant Commander Gillis. On their arrival, the army lieutenant

stated to me that General Graham was going on an expedition, and wanted Lieutenant Commander Gillis to go with him. I referred him to the Admiral, and was informed that he was absent at Norfolk and would not be back until late in the afternoon. I replied that I did not consider that absence; to which they said that, to all intents and purposes, it was absence as far as the expedition was concerned; that the time that will be taken in sending to the Admiral and the return would defeat the object of the expedition. I then asked him what was the object of this expedition. He replied that it was to capture about "fifty (50) men." I asked him how he expected to accomplish it. He said that they intended to go up the river a short distance, land the men, and then march down. I then asked what assistance Lieutenant Commander Gillis would be to them. He said that General Graham wanted him to take charge of the boats. I asked him if he expected the sailors were to be landed. He told me no; that they had a force large enough, and that it was not the intention to land the sailors.

He also stated that they were not going far from the ship, and would be back in sixteen or eighteen hours, as they were ordered to return in that time.

Under these conditions, I consented to let Lieutenant Commander Gillis accompany the expedition, believing that it would meet with your approbation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

GUERT GANSEVOORT,
Captain United States Navy.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding N. A. B. Squadron, Newport News, Va.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JAMES H. GILLIS.

UNITED STATES GUNBOAT COMMODORE MORRIS,
NEWPORT NEWS, February 1, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by this vessel in an expedition under Brigadier-General Graham, having for its object the capture and breaking up of the camps of a body of rebels on the Chuckatuck Creek, in Isle of Wight county. At the request of General Graham, and after communicating with the senior officer present, I took command yesterday of the forces on Nansemond River, both army and navy, which were to act in conjunction with the forces (under the immediate command of General Graham) from Smithfield, on Pagan Creek. The force placed under my command by General Graham consisted of the army gunboat *Smith Briggs* and two launches, manned by thirty-four (34) men of the Naval Brigade, under command of Captain McLaughlin; besides which, I had fifty men obtained from the Minnesota. The force under General Graham consisted of seventy (70) men of the Naval Brigade, and twenty (20) cavalry; this latter force to land at Smithfield and march to the village of Chuckatuck, on Chuckatuck Creek. It was supposed that at two o'clock they would have

been two hours on the road, and therefore General Graham directed that the party he had placed under my command should land at that hour, and also march on Chuckatuck, where he expected they would form a junction. I did not arrive at Ferry Point, from which place they were to debark, until about five minutes before two o'clock, but at a quarter past two all the men were landed, and at twenty minutes past two they had taken up their line of march for Chuckatuck, with directions to proceed to that place and remain two hours, at the expiration of which time, if they neither saw nor received any intelligence of the other party from Smithfield, they were to return; which instructions were carried out, they having remained the specified time and received no intelligence of the other party, but hearing heavy firing in the direction of Smithfield, which led them to suppose that the enemy had been met in considerable force, and that our men had been obliged to retire. Returning without having seen any of the enemy, they re-embarked at half-past six P.M. I then got under way, the Smith Briggs in company, towing launches, and stood down to opposite Town Point, where I came to anchor, feeling certain that the expedition had most signally failed. At half-past seven, General Graham arriving in the Long Branch with the information that the party which he had taken had landed and were on their way across the peninsula, I got under way, and in company with the Long Branch and Smith Briggs returned to Ferry Point, where we again came to anchor, hoping to receive some intelligence. Having received none during the night, at seven o'clock this morning General Graham started for Chuckatuck with thirty (30) men of the Naval Brigade, and the fifty (50) men belonging to the Minnesota, hoping either to meet or receive some word from those about whom he now began to feel great anxiety; but being unsuccessful in his efforts, he returned to the vessels, determined to proceed again to Smithfield, to which place he had sent the Smith Briggs at an early hour in the morning. Before getting under way, however, the United States gunboat Commodore Barney brought your despatch of this date to me, and at the request of General Graham I immediately proceeded to the mouth of Pagan Creek, where I communicated with the commanding officer of the United States steam gunboat Shokokon, who informed me that the launches sent to Pagan Creek by yourself had been repulsed at Smithfield, with a loss of five wounded, one being Acting Master Pierson, of the Minnesota, and that the Smith Briggs and all on board had been captured; and that the smoke which had been seen in the direction of Smithfield was supposed to be from the burning of that vessel, which supposition was confirmed in a short time by the rapid explosion of her shells; and soon thereafter, at fifty minutes past three P.M., by the explosion of her magazine.

About this time a flag of truce was discovered on shore, on the lower side of Pagan Creek near the mouth, and a launch belonging to the Naval

Brigade, under command of Captain McLaughlin, was sent in to communicate. He brought off five of our men, including Captain Lee, (who had command of the force landed at Smithfield,) who had succeeded in making good their escape.

Captain Lee informed me that in the fight of Sunday he succeeded in driving the rebels; but having received information that heavy reinforcements were coming in from Ivor station to cut him off from his advance on Chuckatuck, and also that there was a company of cavalry at Cherry Grove, he deemed it advisable to fall back on Smithfield, where he hoped to be able to communicate with General Graham in time to receive assistance before the enemy could advance in sufficient numbers to render his capture or destruction certain; but the Smith Briggs, which had been sent to his assistance, did not arrive until too late. The strength of the enemy, as reported by Captain Lee, was one regiment of infantry, one of cavalry, and one battery of artillery.

Deeming any further demonstration with the means at hand against so strong a force of the enemy impracticable, not being able to get up the river any further with my vessel, I directed the commanding officer of the Shokokon to return to the Minnesota with the launches and their crews, and the wounded men and officer, after which I returned and reported to you in person.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. H. GILLIS,

Lieutenant Commander United States Navy.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,

Commanding N. A. B. Squadron, U. S. Flag-Ship Minnesota, Newport News, Virginia.

LETTER FROM ACTING REAR-ADMIRAL LEE TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER J. H. GILLIS

FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA, February 1, 1864.

SIR: I send this by the Barney. Ensign Harris has just come off on the Commodore Jones, and reports that the first detachment fell back upon Smithfield at eight P.M. yesterday, where they are surrounded and short of howitzer ammunition. I have sent him to General Butler.

I am sending on launches to Pagan Creek, with plenty of ammunition. The Morris or Barney can bring General Graham out and take him there if he wishes it. Leave a gunboat in the Nansemond to pick up stragglers.

Respectfully yours, S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.
Lieutenant Commander GILLIS,
Commanding Commodore Morris.

REPORT OF LIEUT. COM. JOHN H. UPSHUR.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
OFF NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 1, 1864. }

SIR: In your absence yesterday, at the Norfolk navy-yard, Brigadier-General Graham appeared here with three armed steamers and a detachment of men, and sent a request that a gunboat might go up the Nansemond River to assist in an expedition, the object of which, as stated to me by one of General Graham's lieutenants, was to capture a number of the enemy's troops,

(about forty,) and a quantity of tobacco, supposed to be located on the peninsula formed by the Nansemond River and Pagan Creek.

The matter was referred to the senior officer present, Captain Gansevoort, who gave his consent, and the Commodore Morris, Lieutenant Commander Gillis, commanding, was assigned the duty. A detail of fifty men was sent from this vessel to the Morris to supply the deficiencies in her crew.

This morning, in obedience to your order, the launches of this ship were armed and equipped, put under the command of Acting Master Pierson, and sent to aid in rescuing a party of General Graham's men at Smithfield, said to be in a critical position.

I herewith inclose the reports of Acting Ensign Birtwistle and Acting Master's Mate Jarvis, officers of the launches, of the part taken by them in an engagement with the enemy at Smithfield, Virginia, Acting Master Pierson having been seriously injured.

I also inclose the surgeon's report of the wounded belonging to this ship.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. UPSHUR,

Lieutenant Commander, Com's U. S. Steamer Minnesota.
Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.

REPORT OF ACTING ENSIGN JAMES BIRTWISTLE.

UNITED STATES STEAMER MINNESOTA,
OFF NEWPORT NEWS, February 1, 1864. }

SIR: In obedience to your orders I left the ship this morning, at half-past nine, in charge of the second launch, heavy twelve-pound howitzer, and crew of twenty-three men, subject to the orders of Acting Master Pierson, who had command of the first launch, rifled howitzer, and twenty-three men. We were taken in tow by the United States steamer Shokokon, and arrived off Smithfield Creek at about twelve A.M. The army steamer Smith Briggs came to us; we cast off from the Shokokon, and were taken in tow by the Smith Briggs, up Smithfield Creek, to within about two thousand yards of the village of Smithfield, when we discovered our army detachments on shore, and the enemy engaged—the enemy having a battery to the southward of the village, on which the Smith Briggs and first launch opened fire, it being about three thousand yards distant. We continued in line toward the village, when we discovered our army men on shore running from the direction of the battery. The Smith Briggs ran alongside a wharf, and our men commenced getting on board of her, when the rebel riflemen opened a murderous fire on her and the launches from behind houses, etc., on the hill, about two hundred and fifty yards from the wharf, driving the men from their guns on the Smith Briggs, and capturing her by charging down the hill; the launches during this time kept up a fire with shrapnel. We could then no longer stand the fire of the riflemen, and Mr. Pierson headed the first launch down the creek, and, as he passed me, told me

to follow him. We rounded the point near the village, rounded to, and fired a few more shots. Our flag was still flying on the steamer, and they appeared to be working her about. This I thought strange; but as soon as we were fairly under way down the creek again, they turned the guns of the Smith Briggs on us, and also artillery from the side of the hill. During the engagement, George Anderson, (seaman,) while at the gun in the second launch, was wounded in the right hand, and when I overhauled the first launch at the mouth of the creek, I learned that Mr. Pierson was wounded in the abdomen and right arm; George Cook, (seaman,) thigh and testicle; William B. Kelly, (seaman,) in bowels by sword-thrust by Mr. Pierson.

In nearing the Shokokon, which was lying off the mouth of the creek, we met a boat from her in charge of her executive officer, with Shokokon's doctor and steward with necessaries for wounded; landed our wounded on the Shokokon. At about forty-five minutes past two P.M., she towed our launch to the Minnesota. During the attack on the Smith Briggs, the first launch was about two hundred yards from her, and the second launch was about five hundred. I think it was well that we retreated; could they have managed the steamer and outflanked us on the beach, we could not have returned.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

JAMES BIRTWISTLE,

Acting Ensign.

Lieutenant Commander J. H. UPSHUR,
Commanding U. S. Steamer Minnesota.

REPORT OF ACTING MASTER'S MATE JAMES JARVIS.

UNITED STATES FRIGATE MINNESOTA,
February 1, 1864. }

SIR: The following is a true report of the boat expedition which left this vessel ten A.M., in charge of Acting Master Pierson, in tow of the United States gunboat Shokokon.

We proceeded to the mouth of Pagan Creek, and finding we could not proceed any further, we then were taken in tow by the United States gunboat Smith Briggs and proceeded up the creek. Mr. Pierson and the pilot then went on board.

At half-past eleven A.M. the enemy opened fire; it was immediately returned, and silenced the enemy's. Mr. Pierson gave orders to haul up alongside; he and the pilot returned to the launch. We cast off and proceeded nearer the town. Mr. Pierson then gave orders to Mr. Birtwistle to look out for his launch, for he should give him no more orders. Mr. Pierson said he would go above the town, but not fire, for our men held the town. When abreast of the town, the enemy commenced firing with muskets, (I should judge about one hundred and fifty,) which caused a confusion with the greater part of the launch's crew.

Mr. Pierson gave orders to turn the launch so the howitzer would come to bear on the enemy, using profane words to the crew. When the second volley was fired, wounding Mr. Pierson and three men, Mr. Pierson then said, "I am gone; you must get out the best way you can," giving

the order to strike the flag. I then made answer: "That cannot be done." The coxswain, Thomas McCarty, and quartermaster, Julius Bartlet, repeated the answer: "No, no." By this time we were out of musket-range, with the exception of those who ran down the bank and kept up a brisk fire until we were out of range.

The muskets in the boat were discharged at the enemy by those who did not man the oars. We then proceeded down the creek to the United States gunboat Shokokon, having our wounded put on board and cared for. At five P.M. reported on board.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES JARVIS,

Acting Master's Mate.

Lieutenant Commander J. H. UPSHUR,

Commanding Minnesota, off Newport News, Va.

REPORT OF ACTING MASTER W. B. SHELDON.

UNITED STATES STEAMER SHOKOKON,
OFF NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 1, 1864. }

SIR: I beg leave to submit the following report, so far as my knowledge extends, of the circumstances of the attack on the boats, and wounding one officer and three seamen (up Smithfield Creek) belonging to the United States flag-ship Minnesota. About ten o'clock A.M. this day I left the flag-ship with two launches belonging to the Minnesota, and proceeded with them in tow up the James River, arriving off Smithfield Creek at half-past eleven A.M. The army gunboat Smith Briggs arriving, offered to take the launches alongside of her and tow them in, there not being water enough for this vessel to proceed further, it being very foggy at the time.

The Smith Briggs proceeded up the creek with the launches about four miles. I heard heavy and rapid firing; soon after it cleared away enough to see that the firing was from shore, and was returned by the Smith Briggs and launches; they then passed around a point of land, from sight. About a half-hour after, saw the launches returning. I immediately sent a boat with the surgeon to assist the wounded, if any. At half-past three P.M. the boats returned, having on board Acting Master Pierson and three seamen, wounded. I learned that the Smith Briggs had been captured and destroyed. I started with the wounded for the flag-ship, arriving at about half-past five P.M. this day. Yours, very respectfully,

W. B. SHELDON,

Acting Master, Commanding.

Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding N. A. Blockading Squadron.

REPORT OF PILOT HENRY STEVENS.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
OFF NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 1, 1864. }

SIR: According to your orders, I proceeded as pilot of the expedition in command of Acting Master A. B. Pierson, he having the two launches of this ship under his command. After leaving this ship, the United States steamer Shokokon took the launches in tow and proceeded to the mouth of Smithfield Creek, where she anchored, the water being too shallow for her to proceed up

the creek. The army boat Smith Briggs, on coming up, volunteered to take the launches in tow, which Mr. Pierson agreed to. After proceeding about two and a half miles up the creek, we perceived a man on the shore waving a white rag. The captain of the Briggs hove his vessel to, and sent a boat to get the man, who proved to be a soldier belonging to our forces, and was taken the night previous by the rebels, but had escaped. When within half a mile of Smithfield wharf, the captain of the Briggs said: "I must let you go; I cannot tow you further." We cast off then from the Briggs and immediately opened fire on the rebel battery, they having opened fire on our forces about five minutes previous, and being about a mile and a half distant from us. After firing about five rounds, we followed the Briggs toward the village. After getting to within about two hundred and fifty yards of the dock, I observed that it was crowded with soldiers, the Briggs at that time lying close to the docks, and firing at right angles to it. We kept on our course toward the wharf for a couple of moments longer, when a body of rebels ran down a hill and charged on our soldiers on the wharf, driving many of them overboard, and at the same time opening fire on the launches from the left bank of the creek. At that time Mr. Pierson gave the order to turn round with her head down the creek, and at the same moment received a shot in the right arm, and ordered the flag to be hauled down. Mr. McCarty, coxswain of the launch, said, "I will kill the first man that touches the colors," or some words to that effect. Mr. Pierson said then: "If you will not haul it down, let it stay up." At this time the boats were going slowly down the creek, the enemy meanwhile keeping up a brisk fire at us. Mr. Pierson received another shot which struck him in the breast, and after a moment or so said, "I must lie down; I feel faint;" which he did accordingly. I think the rebels had possession of the Smith Briggs at that time, for while we were going down her guns were trained on us, and opened fire. We made the best of our way down the creek, and got alongside of the Shokokon at half-past two P.M.

I ought to have stated that previous to the boats turning round, three of the men were wounded and fell to the bottom of the launch. I saw the Briggs on fire, and also saw her blow up at fifty minutes past three P.M.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY STEVENS,
Pilot.

Lieutenant Commander J. H. UPSHUR,
Commanding United States Steamer Minnesota.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT-SURGEON A. MATTHEWSON.

UNITED STATES STEAMER MINNESOTA,
OFF NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 1, 1864. }

SIR: I respectfully report, that in the engagement of this date with the rebel force at Smithfield, Va., the following persons, attached to the United States steamer Minnesota, were wounded: A. B. Pierson, Acting Master, by a musket-shot, producing severe flesh-wounds of the right-arm

and chest; George Cook, ordinary seaman, by a musket-shot, producing flesh-wounds of left thigh and scrotum; John B. Kelly, seaman, by a sword-thrust in the abdomen, producing a serious wound; George Anderson, seaman, by musket-shot, producing flesh-wound of left hand.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR MATTHEWSON,
Assistant-Surgeon United States Navy.
Lieutenant Commander JOHN H. UPSHUR,
Commanding United States Steamer Minnesota.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

NORFOLK, VA., Tuesday, February 2.

Shortly before dark, on Saturday, an expedition started from here, under the command of Brigadier-General Graham. It was composed of the army gunboats Smith Briggs, Flora Temple, General Jesup, and the transport Long Branch, with detachments of men to the number of one hundred and fifty from the Third Pennsylvania artillery, Twentieth New-York cavalry, Ninety-ninth New-York, and Twenty-first Connecticut infantry.

The expedition proceeded up the James River to Logan Creek, to the small village of Smithfield. Here Captain Lee, of the Norfolk Harbor Police, landed at about one o'clock on Sunday noon, with ninety men from the Long Branch. He took command of the party, and the boats then left to go up the Nansemond River to reconnoitre, it being understood that after Captain Lee and his command had accomplished what they intended, they would march down to the north-western bank of the Nansemond, and there again join the boats.

Taking a direct road for Suffolk, he penetrated the country to the distance of about four miles and a half, where, in a dense wood, he met a force of the enemy, about two hundred and fifty strong, with two twelve-pound guns. Notwithstanding the inferiority of our numbers, the rebels were completely surprised, their advance-guard captured, the main body driven back, and so great was their consternation, that they finally retreated in the greatest confusion.

Information was then received from prisoners and darkeys that there was a strong force of the enemy posted a short distance beyond, at a place called "The Mill." Their position was such that our men could not pass them on either flank, and consequently they were compelled to fall slowly back to Smithfield, which was reached about a half-hour after dark. Captain Lee then intrenched his force on the main street of the town. Previous to this, however, as he was marching into the place, he was fired on from both sides of the road, and his advance-guard of five cavalymen, of the Twentieth New-York, was captured.

About half-past seven o'clock yesterday morning the rebels made a fierce attack with their cavalry and infantry. The fight continued with great vigor until nearly eleven o'clock, when a communication came, under flag of truce, from Colonel Gordon, commander of the attacking forces, for an immediate and unconditional surrender.

In order to gain as much time as possible, and thinking that in the mean while some assistance might come to hand, Captain Lee sent a reply to the rebel Colonel asking for a personal interview to be granted. This was denied, and a peremptory demand was made for a surrender within five minutes. The second reply of Captain Lee was that he would not surrender, and that if the rebel commander wanted him he would have to come and take him.

In less than a quarter of an hour, he opened with four guns, beside the infantry and cavalry fire. A reply was made with a howitzer as rapidly as possible, which was kept up with great spirit until about half-past twelve o'clock, when Captain Lee was so hard pressed on all sides that it became evident that he would soon have to yield.

But, in the mean time, the gunboat Smith Briggs hauled in sight. The position becoming untenable, the howitzer was rolled into the stream, and the men then followed along its line to reach the protection of the gunboat. They were followed by nearly a regiment of rebel infantry and cavalry, which harassed them in their flight. A stand was then made opposite the Smith Briggs, and a desperate engagement continued until our men were completely overpowered by the superior forces of the enemy, which was continually augmented by the arrivals of reinforcements.

All this time the gunboat kept up a constant fire, but so great were the numbers that had to be contended with, that at last our men had to give up fighting and take to the boat. To reach it, however, the poor fellows had to swim from the shore to where she lay in the stream, and in doing this many yielded up their lives to the merciless foe, who shot them as they were really drowning.

Upon reaching the boat, Captain Lee found its Commander, Rowe, severely wounded in the throat. The engineer was also seriously wounded, and out of a crew of about fifty there were left on board hardly a half-dozen men who were not disabled. At the request of Captain Rowe, Captain Lee took command of the boat.

He found her to be greatly damaged from the fire of the enemy. The pilot-house was entirely demolished. The wheel could not be worked, and it was with much difficulty that the engine could be gotten to move sufficiently to propel her further out into the stream from the range of the rebel guns.

Firing was continued, and about three o'clock a shell from the enemy entered the boiler of the boat, and a great explosion followed. Resistance could no longer be continued, as the boat was now a mere wreck. She then surrendered, and all on board of her were prisoners. Some, to make their escape from captivity, jumped overboard, and, no doubt, the most of those who were not recaptured, sealed their fate with a watery grave.

Captain Lee, a Pamunky Indian pilot, and George Smith, a volunteer pilot, with two other men, are the only ones out of the whole party,

which in the aggregate amounted to nearly one hundred and fifty, that escaped, except two others that were sent out the night before in a small boat to report the perilous situation of the force under Captain Lee. These men were picked up near the mouth of the James River, and taken on board the flag-ship of the navy that is stationed there. Their mission was to go up the Nansemond River to report to General Graham for reinforcements, but being detained, word did not reach him as soon as the exigency of the case required.

Captain Lee and those who escaped with him, five in all, walked about seven miles, when they fell in with the gunboats of General Graham going to their relief. They were taken on board of one of the boats, and reached Fortress Monroe last night about eight o'clock.

The gunboat Smith Briggs is a total wreck, and what remains of her is in the possession of the rebels. Nearly all our brave men who fought so valiantly are now prisoners. The most of them are supposed to be badly wounded. The number killed is not known, but must be very large. The rebels, too, must have suffered severely, as our men fought long, persistently, and to much effect.

It is surmised that, though the rebels were finally victorious, they lost at least three to our one in killed and wounded. The rebels greatly outnumbered us. They had a full regiment of infantry, one of cavalry, and a battery of artillery, while our whole force engaged did not amount to over one hundred and fifty men.

During the fiercest part of the shelling, two small navy boats came up, and were apparently about to render assistance to the army gunboat Smith Briggs, when their commanding officer was shot through the breast. They then immediately retired, as the officer was evidently badly wounded.

Our men cannot be too highly praised for their valor, and it is to be greatly regretted that they suffered so much. The boats that reconnoitred the Nansemond returned safely.

Doc. 101.

EXPEDITION UP THE BLACK AND WASHITA RIVERS.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
Red River, March 6, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report that I sent an expedition up the Black and Washita Rivers on the first instant, under command of Lieutenant Commander F. M. Ramsay. The following vessels composed the expedition: Ouachita, Lieutenant Commander Byron Wilson; Fort Hindman, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant John Pierce; Osage, Acting Master Thomas Wright; Lexington, Lieutenant George M. Bache; Conestoga, Lieutenant Commander Thomas O. Selfridge; Cricket, Acting Master H. H. Gorringe.

The expedition was perfectly successful. The rebels, about two thousand strong, under General Polignac, were driven from point to point, some extensive works captured, and three heavy thirty-two-pounders brought away. The works were destroyed. The enemy suffered severely from our guns, and the vessels brought away all the cotton they could find. They also destroyed a pontoon-bridge, cutting the rebels off from their main body, at or near Alexandria; but, having no force to put on shore, they had time to escape.

The water falling very rapidly, forced the expedition to give up the intended trip further into the interior. Some houses were necessarily destroyed; but as the community is all rebel, it is not to be regretted.

I regret to say that we lost two killed and fourteen wounded, and the Fort Hindman was badly cut up with shot and shell, being struck twenty-seven times, but nothing to impair her efficiency.

I inclose Lieutenant Commander Ramsay's report. I am well pleased with the result of the expedition.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER F. A. RAMSAY.

UNITED STATES STEAMSHIP CROCKETT, }
March 5, 1864. }

SIR: In obedience to your order, I left here on the Fort Hindman at half-past one P.M. on the twenty-ninth ultimo, taking the Osage, Cricket, Ouachita, Lexington, and Conestoga with me, and proceeding up Red River, anchored at dark about fifteen miles from the mouth of Black River. At daylight on the first instant, I got under way and proceeded up Black River. At four P.M., when about fifteen miles below Trinity, we were fired into by sharpshooters, concealed behind the levee. All the vessels immediately opened on them with shrapnel, grape, and canister, and drove them away. When we reached Trinity, white flags were shown on the lower side of the town, but as soon as we rounded the point we were opened on by a battery of two twelve-pounder rifle guns. We immediately opened fire, and in a few moments drove the rebels, who were under the command of General Polignac, from the town. I then proceeded two miles above the town, and anchored for the night. At daylight on the second, I got under way, and proceeded up the Ouachita, with the Osage leading and the Hindman next. We had not proceeded more than five miles when the Osage became disabled, by the main wheel of the turret breaking in three pieces, which rendered it impossible to revolve the turret. Fortunately, the guns were pointed directly ahead at the time of the accident. When we arrived within two miles of Harrisonburgh, we were attacked by a brigade (General Polignac's) of sharpshooters, lying behind the levee, and a battery of twelve-pounder rifle-guns. The fire of the battery was directed entirely at the

Fort Hindman. She was struck twenty-seven times by shot and shell, one shot disabling the starboard engine. I immediately dropped her down below the other vessels, and then went on board the Ouachita. The Ouachita was struck three times, but no damage done. The firing of the vessels was excellent, and soon drove the battery away. The banks were so high that it was impossible for the vessels abreast of the sharpshooters to do them any damage; but the lower vessels enfiladed the banks, and, I afterward learned, killed and wounded a great many. A deserter reported that the colonel of his regiment was killed. Leaving the Hindman in a safe place, I proceeded up the river, with the other vessels, to Bayou Louis, which enters Sicily Island. The water was so shoal that the lightest boat I had could not enter. I then proceeded to Catahoula Shoals, where I found plenty of water to enable me to proceed to Monroe; but the water was falling so fast, I deemed it best to return. On our arrival at Harrisonburgh, I landed with the Ouachita, and set fire to some of the largest houses in the town. While the houses were being fired, a body of cavalry and infantry were observed coming down a ravine. I called the men on board, and opened fire from the vessels, causing the troops to scatter in every direction. The works at Harrisonburgh are very formidable. There are four forts on high hills, commanding the river for two miles below the town, and more than a mile above. Rifle-pits run all around, and connect the forts. At dark, I anchored two miles above Trinity. At daylight on the third, I got under way and proceeded to Trinity. At this place, two excellent earthworks are thrown up, one of which commands the river for more than two miles. It was my intention to burn the town; but finding so many women and children in it, I spared it.

We found there three thirty-two pounder guns and carriages. The guns I brought away, and burnt the carriages and platforms. Hearing that the rebels had a pontoon-bridge a mile from the mouth of Little River, I sent the Cricket up, and burned it. I remained at Trinity until the morning of the fourth, when we proceeded down Black River, and picking up all the cotton near the bank, anchored at dark about twelve miles from the mouth. At daylight on the fifth, I got under way, and arrived at this place at meridian.

I am much indebted to the officers of the different vessels for the manner in which they performed their duty. I regret to report that eight men were wounded on the Fort Hindman, one mortally, (since dead,) and two severely. One man was wounded severely on the Osage; Acting Ensign Ezra Beaman, of the Choctaw, whom I took with me as signal officer, was wounded in the right foot while on board of the Ouachita. I would respectfully bring to your notice James K. L. Duncan, ordinary seaman; Hugh Melloy, ordinary seaman; and William P. Johnson, landsman, of the Fort Hindman, for their gallant conduct during the engagement with the battery near Harrisonburgh. A shell burst at the muzzle

of one of the guns, setting fire to the tie of the cartridge, which had just been put in the gun. Duncan immediately seized the burning cartridge, took it out of the gun, and threw it overboard. A shell pierced the bow casemate on the right of No. One gun, mortally wounding the first sponger, who had the sponge in his hand, which he dropped out of the port on the forecastle. Melloy immediately jumped out of the port on the forecastle, picked up the sponge, sponged and loaded the gun, standing outside, under a heavy fire of musketry. Johnson, although badly wounded in the hand, took the place of a wounded man, sponged and loaded the gun during the entire action.

The following is the list of casualties in the different vessels: Hindman, one man mortally wounded, since dead; eight wounded, two severely; hit twenty-seven times. Osage, one wounded. Ouachita, one killed; two wounded; struck three times. Choctaw, one wounded.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. M. RAMSAY,

Commanding Expedition to Black and Washita Rivers.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,

Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

SURGEON MIXER'S ACCOUNT.*

UNITED STATES STEAMER LEXINGTON, OFF }
TRINITY, OUACHITA RIVER, March 2, 1864.

The Admiral came down on the afternoon of the twenty-ninth of February, and, true to my prediction, he has furnished us with something to do. We are on an expedition up the Ouachita. (Pronounce that Washitaw.) There are six vessels in the fleet, carrying seventy guns. The Ouachita rises in Arkansas, and empties into the Red, about forty-five miles from the mouth of the latter. The last sixty miles of the course of the Ouachita is sometimes called the Black River.

We started at noon on the first of March, and during the first day met no opposition. To-day we were also unopposed, until within four miles of our present position, when about one hundred men, concealed behind a levee, opened on us with musketry. The fire was replied to by the fleet, and we kept on our course until we were directly in front of the town. Trinity is a little town on the west bank of the river, and contains, perhaps, about three hundred inhabitants. When directly in front of this place, the rebels opened on us with two pieces of artillery, planted in the centre of the town. It was the most atrocious piece of folly ever committed, and if they had counted on our not firing on the town, they were very soon undeceived. Of our seventy pieces of artillery, we could bring to bear about forty, and they were discharged almost simultaneously. The shock may be imagined, but cannot be described. For about twenty minutes, the war of artillery was almost continuous, and the smoke hid every thing from view. Finding that we elicited no reply, we ceased firing. When the

* Surgeon Mixer was attached to the Lexington.

smoke cleared away, we found that their guns were dismounted, nearly every house riddled; and, huddled down close to the water, under the bank, were scores of women, in an agony of terror, beseeching us, for God's sake, not to kill them. May I never see another such a sight! The ordinary horrors of war are bad enough, but the atrocity of making it necessary to open fire upon a village filled with women, I have never seen equalled. We have not landed, and know nothing of the loss they have suffered. No one was hurt on our side.

We are at anchor half a mile above the place; and the order is, that no lights shall be used on board to-night, and nobody undress. I am writing, with coats hung up over my windows, to hide my light, and am suffering from a slight headache.

Fifteen miles above here, at a place called Harrisonburgh, the rebels have a fort. We know nothing yet of its strength or weakness, but, as King William said, at the battle of the Boyne, I think, "strong or weak, we shall know all about it," for we are going up in the morning to attack it.

March 2d, Evening.—Thanks to a kind Providence, I am still alive and uninjured. As I told you in my letter of yesterday, we went up and attacked the fort at Harrisonburgh, this morning. Our fleet consists of the Osage, Fort Hindman, Ouachita, Cricket, Lexington, and Conestoga, and we went into battle in the order I have placed them.

I think I never said the rebels were cowards, but, if I ever did, I take it back. They fought like demons. They were deficient in artillery, but they used what they had with spirit. They occupied a high, commanding position, and had fortified it with skill. It was a series of hills, the top of each crowned with an earth-work, and the whole connected by rifle-pits.

The battle commenced about nine o'clock, and lasted two hours and a half. I should judge the rebels had three thousand men, and six pieces of artillery. We were completely successful; silenced every gun, and drove the last man from the field. We have no infantry force with us, and could not land, to know what we had accomplished. We burned the town, and proceeded five miles farther up the river, where, finding the water too shallow for us, it was decided to turn back, and are here at our old anchorage of the night before, just above Trinity.

Our losses are considerable. Fort Hindman is disabled, with a loss of nine men. The river is narrow, so that but one vessel can go at a time, and she and the Osage bore, for a time, the whole weight of the battle. All the vessels have lost more or less, except the Conestoga and Lexington.

While I am writing, a deserter brings us the intelligence that the rebels are assembling in force at Trinity. If this information proves to be correct, and I have no doubt it is, we are in for another fight in the morning.

March 3d, 10 o'clock A.M.—We came down here this morning, in confident anticipation of a fight, but the rebels got enough yesterday. During the night they abandoned their works here, burned their guns, and fled. The fleet now lies off the town, throwing an occasional shell over the place, to prevent an approach, while our crews are ashore, unearthing their guns, destroying the gun-carriages, dismantling the fort, collecting plunder, bringing off their guns, etc. It now seems probable that we may not have another fight while we are up here. They may attempt to annoy us with musketry, but are too much demoralized to make another stand, and, between here and the mouth of the Red, there is no place so favorable for them to give battle in, as this. Their losses in yesterday's battle must have been very severe. The guns in this fleet equal the artillery that would be used by an army of seventy-five thousand men; and this, directed against the limited force of the rebels, must have inflicted terrible loss on them. It seems to me now, incredible that they should have held their ground so long against such a fire. In a good cause they would be heroes; they are desperadoes.

No report has yet come on board of the number of guns found here, and I have, of course, no knowledge of the length of time we shall be detained, but think it probable we shall be able to get under way and start down in two or three hours. I can scarcely make myself believe, except as I pass around and see the sick, that we all went through the battle of yesterday, and came off without a mark.

1 o'clock P.M.—We have remained here all day. The fruits of the victory are, the destruction of two forts, the capture of three heavy siege-guns, the repulse of the rebels, with a loss we know not how heavy, and the opening of the river. We had demolished the fort and got the guns on board by one o'clock P.M.; but, unfortunately, the Conestoga got aground, and all our efforts to get her off have, thus far, proved unavailing. We are abundantly able to protect her, and she will ultimately be got off, but the delay is extremely vexatious. The river is falling, and we can remain up but a limited time, and we wish to use this time in picking up a little stray cotton, thus combining business with pleasure.

This Ouachita country is the finest portion of the South I have yet seen. The climate is delightful, and the soil yields its riches in never-ending productiveness. As we see it now, it is in the first blush of spring. Flowers of many-varied hues beautify the turf of richest green; the peach and plum are in full bloom, and forest trees are brightening into verdure hourly. I mean to see this country at some time, when we do not, as now, come with fire and sword to desolate it. Except that it is malarious, (and all the South is so,) I do not believe there is a finer country in the world.

H. M. MIXER.

Doc. 102.

CAPTURE OF REBEL GUERRILLAS.

CAPTAIN RING'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES, ISLAND No. 10, }
February 18, 1864. }*Captain J. H. Odlin, A. A. G. :*

SIR: I have the honor to report that having received information that four deserters from the Union army were secreted near Tiptonville, Tennessee, I went with forty men of my command and embarked on a steamer at two o'clock A.M., February seventeenth, 1864, and proceeded down the river to Riley's Landing, six miles below Tiptonville. At Riley's house we seized a small amount of Government ammunition and several guns. Being unable to carry away the arms, we destroyed them, and then went to the house of a certain Lewis, where we succeeded in capturing five of a gang of guerrillas, which had been infesting the bend for five months past; and, together with them, captured their arms, shot-guns, revolvers, and eight horses. These men were in bed, having their pistols under their pillows, but being taken completely by surprise, made no resistance. From this point we marched to the place where Federal deserters were reported to have been employed, but could find no trace of them.

There being no prospect of effecting further captures, we hailed a boat at Tiptonville, and returned to the post.

One prisoner, Owen Edwards, who was lieutenant to Merriweather's company of bushwhackers, is reported to have been in command of a party which fired into a Government boat below Tiptonville, about three months ago. Another one, Lewis Claims, belongs to Faulkner's command. Gregg says he was a private in Merriweather's gang, but deserted him when Merriweather went South. George Moore, also member of the same party, formerly of the army of Clayton, we have no particular information of, but he was found with the rest at Lewis's house. Lewis is a paroled prisoner, and was formerly a captain in the Fifteenth Tennessee volunteers, of the rebel army, and states that during the last six months the guerrillas have eaten over two hundred dollars' worth of provisions at his house. He has a pass from General Quimby, formerly commanding this district.

Of the captured horses eight have been sent to Columbus.

At nearly every house we visited, we found guns, which we destroyed.

The prisoners will be examined and sent to Captain Williams.

M. E. RING,
Captain Company C, Thirty-fourth New Jersey Infantry,
Commanding Post.

Doc. 103.

CAPTURE OF THE "CUMBERLAND."

KEY WEST, FLA., Feb. 14, 1864.

For some months past an English steamer has been lying in Havana waiting for a favorable op-

portunity to run the blockade. Her name is the Cumberland. What added to the interest felt in this was the impression that should she succeed in getting into a rebel port with her valuable cargo, she would be fitted out as a privateer, and issue forth for the purpose of preying on our commerce, after the manner of the Alabama, Florida, and other Southern rovers. To this end, it was alleged that the Cumberland had a formidable armament on board, furnished by some accommodating British firm, of the Laird Lindsay stripe, ready to be mounted as soon as her cargo was discharged in Mobile or some other port in rebeldom. Under such circumstances, a strict watch was kept on the Cumberland, and information of her doings was from time to time transmitted from Havana to Rear-Admiral Bailey, commanding the East-Gulf squadron at this station, and that indefatigable officer issued a general order for all the vessels belonging to the squadron to be on the alert for the would-be privateer.

Not for one moment was the vigilant surveillance by the blockading vessels relaxed. Every thing consistent with international comity and the rights of neutrals was done to prevent the Cumberland from giving our blockaders the slip and depriving our gallant tars of one of the richest prizes of the present war, when, lo! two weeks and a half ago, the portentous news reached this place: "The Cumberland has escaped from Havana." But while this unpalatable morsel was being digested by some, and others were "chewing the cud of reflection" thereon, as Smollett hath it, the loyal folks of this little island had their hearts cheered by the intelligence that the United States steamer De Soto, Captain Scott, had just arrived, and that the Cumberland, captured by her, was close behind. This was on Monday last, and, sure enough, two or three hours after, the Cumberland herself, in charge of Acting Master L. H. Partridge, as prize-master, was seen coming through the north-west passage, whither she had been conveyed by the De Soto, in consequence of the valuable cargo on board, while the De Soto herself, from her great draught of water, came through the ship-channel. Much adroitness seems to have been exercised by Captain Scott, and considerable ingenuity manifested in leaving the coast clear for the Cumberland to run out of Havana, and then falling in with her at the right time and in the right spot to make her an easy prey. To those who can see deeply into a millstone, I leave the putting of this and that together, and arriving at a correct solution of the *modus operandi* by which the whole delicate transaction was carried out.

Of the capture itself, I have nothing of an exciting nature to record. There was no long, stern chase; no waste of "villainous saltpetre"; no screaming shot and shell. The whole affair was conducted in the most prosaic, commonplace manner, and did not differ from the most ordinary capture of a ten-ton sloop, laden with physic and notions. What matter? Some seven

hundred thousand dollars in gold changed hands in the space of a few minutes, to the profit of Uncle Sam and his handy mariners. The main chance being secure, the romance can be dispensed with. But to the record.

On the fifth of February, as the Cumberland was making the best of her way toward Mobile, her captain and passengers felicitating themselves on the speedy termination of a prosperous run, with large profits looming up in perspective, a check was suddenly put to their gayety by the appearance of the much-dreaded enemy. At the time she was sighted from the deck of the De Soto, about half-past eight o'clock in the morning, the Cumberland was in twenty-nine degrees forty minutes north latitude, and eighty-seven degrees thirty minutes west latitude. On sighting her the De Soto immediately gave chase, and was soon running at the rate of twelve and a half knots, gaining on the Cumberland (which the stranger was known to be) very fast, although she had been reported as a fifteen-knot vessel. At twenty minutes past ten the Cumberland was under the guns of the De Soto, from which a boat was hoisted to board the prize. Captain Blakeney, commanding the Cumberland, together with her officers and crew, were then transferred to the De Soto, when a prize crew of twenty-seven men and two engineers, commanded by Acting Master Partridge, were sent from the cruiser to the Cumberland, and she was brought into this port under convoy of the De Soto, as already mentioned.

The cargo of the Cumberland is a well-assorted one, and very valuable. Among other things found on board, were one hundred barrels of gunpowder and a large number of Enfield rifles. She has also in her hold a very large quantity of fine gray rebel uniform cloth, and bales upon bales of superior navy blue, besides an immense number of ready-made rebel uniforms, boots and shoes—in short, every thing necessary for the outfit of both sea and land forces. I have it on good authority that the cargo cost seventy thousand pounds in gold, in England; that the ship was sold there for fifty thousand pounds, and that ten thousand pounds more were expended on her in Havana. The cargo has not yet been disturbed, and it is therefore impossible to tell whether there are any cannon in the hold, and the captain and passengers, of course, keep dark on the subject; although, as the captain was engaged only in Havana, and most of the passengers are from that place, it is just possible that they know nothing about the matter.

Doc. 104.

CROSSING OF THE RAPIDAN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, }
Monday, February 8, 1864.

The heavy reconnoissance sent out to the Rapidan on Friday evening and Saturday morning last, returned to camp last night, having, it is asserted, accomplished the object of its mission

—the exact position and probable strength of the army of North-Virginia.

Had the weather been more propitious, the operations of the reconnoitring party would undoubtedly have been more extended. But, as it is, enough has been ascertained to justify even the sacrifice of the heroic spirits, who, having passed unscathed through a hundred leaden storms, were destined here to fall martyrs to the great rebellion. Two hundred and fifty in killed, wounded, and missing, will cover our total loss, of which ten per cent will correctly indicate our killed and mortally wounded.

As the principal fighting was done by General Warren, I will first give a detailed account of the operations of the Second corps. The Second corps, under the command of Brigadier-General Cauldwell, General Warren being temporarily indisposed, left camp at seven o'clock on Saturday morning, taking the road leading to Morton's Ford. The men were supplied with three days' rations, as were all the troops engaged in the reconnoissance.

The corps reached the cavalry reserve within half a mile of the Rapidan, at ten o'clock A.M., when a consultation between Generals Cauldwell, Webb, and Hayes, commanding respectively the First, Second, and Third divisions, was held, and a crossing of the river decided upon. Brigadier-General Hayes, commanding the Third division, was directed to lead the advance, which he did in person, fording the river waist-deep, on foot, at the head of General J. T. Owen's Third brigade. The rebel sharp-shooters, in rifle-pits, on the other side, kept up a galling fire, while a battery, stationed on the hills to the right, and a mile beyond the ford, hotly shelled the advancing column.

Captain Arnold, in command of battery A, First Rhode Island artillery, and which has so often been mentioned in connection with the Second corps, was at this time placed in position on a bluff several hundred yards from the river on the north side, and did excellent service in responding to the enemy's guns, which were mainly directed against the fording party. The fire of the enemy was unusually wild, and but few casualties occurred in General Owen's brigade.

On reaching the south bank of the river, a charge was made on the rebel rifle-pits, and twenty-eight men and an officer captured. A few of the prisoners regarded their situation when taken with indifference, and the majority seemed inclined to rejoice rather than weep at the fate which had befallen them. The prisoners taken were members of Virginia, Georgia, and Mississippi regiments. The brigade was posted in line of battle to the left and half a mile beyond the ford, under the shelter of several crests of hills, the fire of several rebel guns being still directed upon them from the heights above the ford.

The Thirty-ninth and One Hundred and Twenty-sixth New-York were then deployed as skirmishers nearly at right angles with the river, with

orders to force back the enemy as far as possible. Sharp skirmishing then ensued, the enemy's line gradually retiring before our skirmishers. The right wing of the skirmish-line was commanded by Colonel Bull, of the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth, and the left by Lieutenant-Colonel Baird, of the same regiment, and here it is but just to state that the latter officer won the highest commendation from General Hayes and other general officers for an exhibition of gallantry seldom witnessed on the battle-field.

Colonel Bull, it will be remembered, was dismissed for misbehavior in presence of the enemy at the surrender of Harper's Ferry. Assured of his innocence of the charge of cowardice, he was afterward reinstated by the President, and by the Governor of his State promoted from Major to Lieutenant-Colonel—the position which he now holds in his old regiment. Those of his regiment instrumental in his dismissal, are now ready to testify to his merit as a gallant soldier. At twelve m., Colonel Carroll, commanding the First brigade of General Hayes's division, crossed to the support of the Third, and at five p.m., Colonel Powers, Second brigade, followed.

The position occupied by Colonel Powers's brigade being an exposed one, his command suffered more than any other. It was nearly dusk when the brigade mentioned got into position, and at this time the heaviest fighting occurred. The Thirty-ninth and One Hundred and Twenty-sixth New-York, having occupied the picket-line all day, were relieved by the Fourteenth Connecticut, which suffered more severely than any other regiment engaged during the day.

Some little disorder at one time occurred on the right of the skirmish-line, but it was almost instantly checked by the officers in command. The fight continued fiercely until half an hour after dusk, when the cannonading and musketry ceased, and all was quiet except occasional shots from the sharpshooters. At half-past eight p.m. General Webb's Second division was ordered to ford the river to support the Third.

At midnight, General Warren, who had come down to the front in the afternoon, received orders to recross his troops, which he did in good order and without being molested by the enemy. One division of the Third corps—the Second—marched on Saturday afternoon to the support of General Warren; but their services were not needed.

General Alexander Hayes, commanding the Third division of the Second corps, whose reckless daring on many a battle-field has excited the astonishment and admiration of his troops, met with a narrow escape while on the other side of the river.

A rebel bullet pierced his trowsers, burying itself in his saddle, without, however, inflicting a wound. Above the flag of his division is a white silk streamer, presented to him by members of his command, bearing the words: "My God, my country, and General Hayes." The inscription is indorsed by "the boys," among whom he is a great favorite. Captain J. C. Lynch, Act-

ing Inspector-General of the division, had the top of his hat blown away by a shell during the engagement.

General Kilpatrick, accompanied by battery C, Third artillery, Lieutenant Kelly, left camp at seven o'clock a.m. on Saturday morning, and, after several feints, crossed at Culpeper Mine Ford, where six rebel pickets belonging to Hampton's Legion were found posted. On crossing, detachments were sent out to scour the country in every direction. Colonel Alger, commanding the Fifth Michigan, was sent on the macadamized pike to Robertson's Tavern; while General Kilpatrick, with the main body, proceeded down the Fredericksburgh plank-road to the vicinity of Chancellorsville, meeting no infantry force, and but small parties of cavalry, who fell back before his advance.

In accordance with instructions, he returned to the vicinity of Culpeper Ford on Saturday night, to await further orders, and was there directed to return to camp, which he did the next day. On recrossing, Major White, with one battalion, was sent up the river, for the purpose of capturing any pickets which might be stationed at the upper fords. He recrossed the river at Jacob's Mills, where four or five videttes were taken prisoners.

General Kilpatrick's reconnoissance conclusively proves that no force of the enemy occupies the country east of Mine Run. The small parties of cavalry all belonged to Hampton's Legion, which is stationed at Fredericksburgh. More than half the videttes have no horses, are seldom relieved, and are sometimes obliged to walk twenty-three miles to their post of duty. The rebels are represented as being engaged in replanking the road from Chancellorsville to Orange Court-House, and are laying out several new roads through the wilderness.

Twelve or fifteen prisoners were captured by General Kilpatrick, and he returned to his camp yesterday evening, without having lost a man during his reconnoissance. At cavalry headquarters last night, no special details of General Merrill's operations had been received, except that he had been to Madison Court-House, and that he was, at the time his courier was despatched on Saturday night, at Barnett's Ford. He had encountered no considerable force of the enemy, and had met with no losses.

The First corps, General Newton, left its camp on the night of Friday, fifth instant, and proceeded to the vicinity of Raccoon Ford. The corps, which was afterward followed by two divisions of the Third, encamped two miles from the river; but no important demonstrations against the enemy were made.

Warren's movements on the left seem to have drawn the main body of the enemy to Morton's Ford; while at Raccoon Ford but comparatively a small body was observable on the opposite bank of the river. Our total loss is covered by two hundred, but a small proportion being among the killed. Nearly one hundred rebel prisoners were sent to headquarters this morning.

GENERAL OWEN'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, }
SECOND CORPS, February 8, 1864.

I have the honor to report that on Saturday, the sixth instant, at seven o'clock, I marched my command in the direction of Morton's Ford, in accordance with orders received about three hours previous to that time. I arrived at the headquarters of the cavalry reserve within half a mile of the ford, at ten o'clock A.M., and halted. At thirty-five minutes past ten, I received orders to cross the river, which I succeeded in doing, and pushed the enemy back about half a mile; and then, under orders not to press the enemy too hard, but to skirmish with him, if he appeared so disposed, I halted my advance, and made my disposition to hold the favorable ground which I had taken.

In a short time, the enemy began to concentrate troops in my immediate front, and to advance a stronger line of skirmishers. I communicated this fact to corps headquarters, through the signal officer, and asked for reinforcements. At ten minutes past three P.M., Colonels Carroll and Powers reported to me, by order of General Hayes, and I massed their brigades (First and Second, of the Third division) under cover from the enemy's fire, and in a position whence they could be readily deployed to the right or left, as circumstances might require. The enemy kept up a vigorous fire of small-arms during the day, and, at intervals, a heavy artillery fire from a battery in position on his left. Fresh troops were arriving continuously, and in great haste. At twenty minutes past five P.M., the enemy opened with a heavy fire from his batteries, and shortly afterward advanced and attacked vigorously our right and right centre; but it was futile, as, under the personal supervision of the General commanding the division, the enemy was met and repulsed at all points.

At fifty minutes past seven P.M., I was ordered to hold myself ready to recross the river, which I did at half-past eleven. All the troops behaved well. I am satisfied with the Third brigade. It will do its duty, and never disgrace the Second corps.

The passage of the river, under the enemy's fire, I consider as worthy of special notice, and I specially mention the good conduct and gallant bearing of my Adjutant-General, Captain Robert S. Seabury, who was the first to cross the river at the head of the three hundred picked skirmishers, and to drive the enemy back from the rifle-pits, capturing twenty-seven men and two officers.

My loss was two officers wounded, and three men killed and thirty-three wounded, which is remarkably light under the circumstances; and I believe that the enemy suffered much more severely.

The Thirty-ninth New-York volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes; the One Hundred and Eleventh New-York Volunteers, Colonel Luck; the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth New-York volunteers, Colonel Crandell; and the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth New-York volunteers,

Colonel Bull, were handled by their commanders with skill and judgment, and behaved splendidly. I am indebted to Captain Joseph Hyde and Lieutenant P. C. Rogers, of my staff, for their prompt and intelligent conveyance of my orders to different portions of the line.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA T. OWEN,
Brigadier-General Volunteers.

Lieutenant JOHN S. SULLIVAN,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 105.

THE NEGROES IN MISSOURI.

AN ORDER BY GENERAL ROSECRANS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, }
ST. LOUIS, Tuesday, March 1, 1864.

I. MISSOURI, for the coming year, needs all the slave and other labor she has within her own border. Humanity, as well as justice, forbids sending away to other States our helpless slaves. Moreover, bad men have been engaged in stealing and carrying negroes out of the State, and selling even those who were free. The exportation of negroes from Missouri is therefore prohibited. Nevertheless, the interests of the service demand that all able-bodied slaves, fit for military duty in this department, be received to fill up the quotas of the various districts required by the draft. Every one is therefore interested in having them promptly enlisted.

II. All officers acting under orders of the Provost-Marshal General, and all commanders of troops in this department, will see that this order is obeyed within their respective districts or commands, and will promptly arrest all who attempt to violate it, and send them to their district headquarters for trial and punishment for violation of military orders.

III. Officers enlisting slaves will be careful to take none unfit for service; but when they take a slave recruit, the master must receive the descriptive list specified in paragraph fifth, General Orders, No. 135, of November fourth, 1863, from these headquarters, evidencing this claim on the Government; and the result is thenceforth under the charge of the United States, and if found unfit for service on a final examination, is entitled to a discharge and his freedom.

By command of Major-General ROSECRANS.

O. D. GREENE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 106.

TREATMENT OF UNION PRISONERS.

REPORT OF COLONEL STREIGHT.

WILLARD'S HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D. C., }
March 2, 1864.

Hon. F. W. Kellogg, House Committee on Military Affairs:

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request, I have the honor to report the following facts in rela-

tion to the treatment of our officers and men by the rebel authorities.

It is impossible for me to give you an account of all the acts of barbarity, inhumanity, and bad faith I have witnessed during my captivity, but I will endeavor to mention such instances as will give you as correct an idea of the true condition of our men as possible.

On the third day of May last, near Rome, Georgia, my command having become so reduced by hard fighting and marching, during the seven days previous, that it was evident to me that we (about one thousand five hundred officers and men) would fall into the hands of the enemy, and, after holding a council of war with my regimental commanders, it was decided to capitulate, and thus secure the best terms possible for the command as a condition of surrender. In accordance with this decision I met the rebel commander, General Forrest, under a flag of truce, when a stipulation was entered into between him and myself, whereby it was agreed that my command should surrender as prisoners of war, on the following conditions, to wit:

1. Each regiment should be permitted to retain its colors.
2. The officers were to retain their side-arms.
3. Both officers and men were to retain their haversacks, knapsacks, and blankets; and all private property of every description was to be respected and retained by the owner.

The above terms were in a measure respected while we remained with General Forrest; but no sooner were we turned over to the rebel authorities than a system of robbing commenced, which soon relieved us of every thing valuable in our possession. The blankets, haversacks, and knapsacks were taken from my men at Atlanta. They were also robbed of nearly all their money, and most of them lost their overcoats at the above-named place. Here, too, the colors and side-arms were taken from us. My men were turned into an inclosure without shelter of any kind, destitute of blankets and overcoats, as I have before stated, and kept under guard for four days, during which time a most disagreeable cold storm prevailed; after which they were sent forward to Richmond and soon exchanged.

My officers were sent to Richmond after a stay of about ten days in Atlanta. On our arrival at the rebel capital, we were all searched separately, and all moneys found in our possession were taken from us. For a few days thereafter we were allowed to draw small sums of our money for the purpose of purchasing food. But this privilege was soon denied us.

I then asked and obtained permission from the rebel authorities for the officers to send home for money, clothing, and provisions. The clothing and provisions were generally delivered to the parties ordering them, providing the package or box containing them was not broken open and rifled of its contents before it reached its destination, which was frequently the case; but in no case within my knowledge has the money been delivered to the owner. The retention of this

money, after expressly agreeing to deliver it, is an act of perfidy that beggars description.

I have repeatedly called the attention of the rebel authorities to the terms of my surrender, and demanded that its provisions be complied with; but General Winder, commandant of the prisoners, took from me the stipulations signed by General Forrest, which he still retains, and refuses to be governed by its provisions. My officers, together with something near one thousand other United States officers, are confined in a large warehouse building, with an average space of about twenty-five square feet to each man. This includes all room for washing, cooking, eating, sleeping, and exercising. They have no bunks, chairs, or seats of any kind furnished them, consequently they both sit and sleep on the floor. The windows of the building were entirely open until about the middle of December last, when pieces of canvas were furnished for the purpose of closing them to keep the cold out; but, as this would leave us in the dark, we were compelled to leave a portion of them open and endure the cold.

Many of the officers were entirely destitute of blankets until our Government sent a quantity to us in the fore part of the winter. The supply of blankets is now exhausted, and officers who have been captured during the last six weeks have none furnished them.

The rations furnished both officers and men by the rebels consist of about one pound of corn bread, made from unbolted meal, and one fourth of a pound of poor fresh meat per day. The meat has been issued to the prisoners but about half the time since the first of December last. In addition to the rations of bread and meat, as above stated, the prisoners draw about two quarts of rice to one hundred men. There is a sufficient quantity of salt furnished, and a very small quantity of vinegar. I will here remark that in a few instances, say six or eight times at most, a small quantity of sweet potatoes has been issued instead of the rations of meat.

The above is the sum total of the rations issued to our officers and men now prisoners of war.

The condition of our unfortunate enlisted men, now in the hands of the enemy, is much worse than that of the officers. From early in May last, when I arrived in Richmond, to about the first of December, all the enlisted men were taken to what is called Belle Island, and turned into an inclosure, like so many cattle in a slaughter-pen. Very few of them had tents, or shelter of any kind, and the few tents furnished were so poor and leaky as to render them but little better than none.

All the prisoners are taken to Libby when they first arrive in Richmond, for the purpose of counting them and enrolling their names; consequently I had a fair chance to see their condition when they arrived. Fully one half of the prisoners taken since May last were robbed by their captors of their shoes, and nearly all were robbed of their overcoats, blankets, and haver-

sacks. At least one third of them had been compelled to trade their pants and blouses for mere rags that would scarcely hide their nakedness. Very many of them were entirely bareheaded, and not a few, as late as the middle of December, were brought in who had nothing on but a pair of old ragged pants and a shirt, being bareheaded, barefooted, and without a blouse, overcoat, or blanket.

I have seen hundreds of our men taken to the hospitals thus clad, and in a dying condition. I have frequently visited the hospital, and have conversed with large numbers of dying men, brought there from the Island, who assured me that they had been compelled to lie out in the open air, without any medical attendance, though for several days they had been unable to walk. Though destitute of any thing like quarters, and nearly naked during the cold, stormy, and chilly fall season, the first and chief complaint of all I saw and talked with was on account of an insufficiency of food. I will here remark that in no instance have the rebel authorities furnished clothing or blankets to our men. During the winter large numbers of our men were frozen. I heard one of the rebel surgeons in charge say that there were over twenty of our men who would have to suffer amputation from the effects of the frost. This was before the coldest weather had commenced.

Some time in the fore part of December a portion of our men were removed from the Island to some large buildings, where they were more comfortably quartered, but there has been no time since May last but what more or less men have been kept on the Island, in the open air, and without blankets or overcoats. It is a common thing for the rebels to keep our men for several days without food. This was particularly the case with a portion of the Gettysburgh prisoners. Some went as long as six days without food, and were compelled to march during the time. The officers captured at Chickamauga assure me that they and their men were robbed of every thing. Many of them lost their coats, hats, and boots as soon as captured, and then were nearly starved and frozen.

I trust you will pardon me for the tedious length of this communication. If you will bear with me, I will only call your attention to a few of the outrages practised on our officers and men in the prison discipline. Under the building known as Libby Prison is a large cellar, in which they have several cells partitioned off. Several of them are without any light, but some have windows below the pavement. These cells are used for the purpose of confining securely such of the prisoners as the authorities may fear will attempt to escape, as well as such who may chance to offend some one of the many petty officials and prison attachés.

Some of our unfortunate men are continually confined in these filthy holes on one pretext or another. It is the uniform practice to feed any and all persons sent to these cells on bread and water only. Lieutenant Reed, of the Third Ohio

volunteers, was thrown into one of these cells and kept there for forty-eight hours, without any thing to eat or drink during the time. He was not allowed any blankets nor his overcoat. The weather was very damp and cold, and he, at that time, was suffering from a most severe wound in the hip.

On the night of the nineteenth of December I received a communication, purporting to come from one in authority, stating that for one hundred dollars in greenbacks, and two silver watches, myself and friend would be permitted to pass the guard. Some days previous to this, one of my officers succeeded in making his escape in this way, and although I was not without apprehension that it was a trap, nevertheless I resolved to try the experiment. Accordingly, Captain B. C. G. Reed, of the Third Ohio, and myself, went to the designated place at the appointed hour, where we were assured it was all right. We complied with the terms and passed out, but no sooner were we outside the guard lines, than Lieutenant La Touche, the Adjutant of the prison, and seven men, sprang out from a concealed place and commenced firing upon us before halting us.

We were unarmed, and could do nothing but surrender. We were taken back to the prison, put in irons, and thrown into one of these filthy holes called cells, where we were kept for three weeks on bread and water. The weather was very cold during the time, and we nearly perished. There was a large amount of filth in the cell which I could not induce them to remove, nor could I get them to permit me to remove it. I asked for paper, pen, and ink, to write to the rebel authorities. I also asked for a box to sit on, of which there was a large number in the cells. But every thing was denied me. At the time I was taken to the cell, there were six of our men confined in one of these cells for attempting to escape. They had been there for six days without blankets, and two of them were very sick. They were released at the end of seven days of their confinement.

I might continue to enumerate instances of a similar character, but these will answer to give you an idea of what is daily taking place. I cannot describe to you the loathsome filthiness of these cells. They are infested with an innumerable number of rats and mice, and they have no mark of having been cleaned since they were built. It is needless for me to say that no man can survive a long confinement in a place of this kind; and although I am acquainted with several persons who have been confined there, I do not know one who can now be called a well man.

As I have before remarked, it is impossible for me to enumerate in this communication but a few of the many acts of barbarity which have come under my notice, though I have endeavored to give you a sample of such as will enable you to form a correct conclusion relative to the treatment our unfortunate men are receiving at the hands of the inhuman people with whom we are now at war. They seem lost to every principle

of humanity, and it is my candid opinion that their brutality to our prisoners is only measured by their fears.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. D. STREIGHT,
Colonel Fifty-first Indiana Volunteers.

Doc. 107.

ADDRESS OF THE VIRGINIA ASSEMBLY.

Soldiers of Virginia in the Armies of the Confederate States:

It is now nearly three years since you left your homes and firesides at the call of your State to repel the invasion of her soil.

Before taking up arms, every effort to obtain the peaceful enjoyment of your rights under the Constitution had been exhausted, your appeals for justice spurned with contempt, and a war to subjugate our sister States of the South commenced by Abraham Lincoln. By this lawless proceeding, the Federal Administration threw off the mask it had hitherto worn. In such a contest, Virginia could not remain an indifferent spectator. Bound by every tie of blood, sympathy, common interests, and common wrongs, to the States against which this hostile preparation was set on foot, she withdrew at once from an association which no longer respected a written Constitution, and resolved to receive on her own bosom the threatened shock of invasion. She invoked you to rally to defend your homes, your altars, and your honor; and this appeal was not made in vain. Promptly and generously you responded to the call of duty. Most faithfully have you performed it. In your long and arduous service, you have shrunk from no toil, no danger, and no sacrifice. During your absence in the field, your wives and little ones may have suffered want; your homes been ravaged and the fruits of industry destroyed by a ruthless and barbarous enemy. But in spite of every temptation, you have never looked back. Your eye has always been fixed on the foe and your ear waiting for the summons to battle. Amid the toil of the march, the weary watch, the labor, the hunger, the cold, the privations of the camp, you have never complained, but have always rendered a cheerful obedience to the State which honors and cherishes you with a mother's love.

You have been present in most of the important battles of the war, and in all your valor has been conspicuous. It has made you the theme of praise by your heroic companions from other States, and by the whole civilized world. Many of your comrades have fallen in battle, or from disease contracted in service, and been transferred from the roll of life to that of immortality. There are many more whose mutilated forms attest their honorable devotion to their country. In your prolonged absence from home, your sacrifice of personal interests and of all the enjoyments of life has, indeed, been great. The war forced upon us by the malice of a people whom we have not injured, has entailed upon us all

deep sorrow and cruel suffering. Its unavoidable calamities have been greatly augmented by the refusal of the enemy to respect the laws of civilized warfare, and by their fiendish attempt to wrest submission from us by visiting the most unrelenting barbarities upon women and children, the aged and the helpless. Unbridled license has been given to their cupidity; untold millions of property have been wantonly destroyed by their malice, or swelled the coffers of the pampered villains, who, unwhipped of justice, have been openly rewarded and promoted for their crimes. Aged and unoffending men have been dragged from their beds to dreary prisons and solitary labor. Refined and virtuous women have been brutally insulted, and, manacled by rude, unfeeling soldiery, have been led captive from their homes as hostages for negroes. Farms have been desolated, dwellings have been laid in ashes, unprotected women and helpless children have been turned out from their homes without bread or shelter. The tombs of the gallant dead have been robbed and desecrated by fiends, who have ruthlessly invaded the sanctity of the grave and outraged the sensibilities of the living. Under the hypocritical guise of liberating from slavery a population happier and more virtuous than themselves, they have sought to subject us to a yoke more galling than they have essayed to remove. Within a few days past an expedition has been projected, and an abortive effort made to carry into execution, with minute instructions emanating (as we have reason to believe) from the Government at Washington, to sack and fire the city of Richmond, and in the darkness of the night to consign its inhabitants, without a moment's warning, to flames and to death. For this purpose, a special "burning party" was organized, provided with implements of destruction, and orders to carry into execution the fell design. Among its blazing ruins, the released prisoners from Belle Isle and the Libby were to unite with the bands of Dahlgren and Kilpatrick in dealing out death and slaughter upon unoffending and peaceful citizens, and inflicting outrage upon pure and unprotected women more horrible than death.

The heart sickens at the contemplation of the enormities that would have been committed had the nefarious scheme succeeded. No prayer for mercy would have been heard, no scream for help would have been heeded. Fire, rapine, slaughter, and lust would have held undisputed dominion in this fair city. We forbear to enlarge, but make this recital that you may know more clearly the character of our foe, and that he may be held up to the odium and execration of mankind. In shameless disregard of all the rules of civilized warfare, your chief magistrate and his cabinet were, by special directions, to be denied the rights of prisoners of war, and killed in cold blood. Every species of public and private property was to be destroyed, and the entire country within their reach laid waste. Stimulated and encouraged by the precepts and example of their leaders, this band of robbers and murderers entered

private houses, broke open ladies' wardrobes, destroyed of their rich contents what they could not appropriate, carried off jewels and plate, consigned to the flames stores of provisions, burnt mills and other houses, desolated some of the fairest homes of the State, and left whole families without food. Thanks to the gallantry of a citizen soldiery, they were routed and repulsed in the midst of this carnival of crime, which must outrage the sensibilities of the civilized world. Many of them, with awakened consciousness of their deserts, now contemplate their doom within the walls of a prison from which they hoped to release their companions. An avenging God suddenly summoned their atrocious leader from the scenes of his wickedness to the bar of judgment, and on his slain body were found his atrocious instructions, stained with his own blood. The name of Dahlgren will be handed down to history as a fit associate in infamy with Butler and a host of lesser criminals, who have disgraced humanity and shocked the moral sense of the world. But in these very atrocities, you will discern the motive, if any were needed, for continued service and fresh sacrifices. Virginia takes no step backward. Every consideration of honor, interest, duty, and safety demand that we shall go forward in the grand struggle for human rights and human liberty, so bravely begun, and so manfully maintained. After all that we have suffered and endured, subjugation or submission to this cruel foe would reduce us to a degree of degradation and misery which has no parallel in the history of civilization. The sacrifices of blood and treasure that we have expended—the memories of the noble martyrs who have freely given their lives for the achievement of our independence, forbid that we should needlessly throw away what has been already won, in the vain hope of obtaining peace or security. Nothing but wretchedness and untold misery await us if we stop short of the unconditional acknowledgment of our independence. This your valor will surely command. Men of Virginia! you are soldiers of a renowned commonwealth, whose fame you have illustrated and borne aloft on every battle-field. We need not unfold to you the muniments of your right to self-government. We are assured that you fully comprehend the necessity of a successful assertion of that right, and that you will never lay down your arms until you have secured it. Born to an inheritance of freedom, you cannot hesitate to choose between slavery or death. Submission to an enemy who has exhausted every infamy is not endurable even in thought; but were we base enough to desire peace upon any terms less than the unqualified recognition of our independence, self-interest alone would teach us the folly of relying upon the forbearance of a nation who have shown in every step of the war that their faith is perfidy, and that their only policy is rapine, plunder, and oppression. The whole history of our former association with the Northern States admonishes us that in a common government they will never fail

to employ their power to take away our property. Their present malice springs chiefly from baffled cupidity. But for this master passion of their nature, an honorable and speedy peace would be easy. The war has fully developed all the purposes, and you now know the fate that awaits you in the event of subjugation. Your liberties will utterly perish. Your State organization will be blotted out. All your property of every description will be confiscated; for all of us have participated in the revolution. Your lands will be divided out among the banditti from the North and from Europe, who have invaded our State. A free negro population will be established in your midst, who will be your social equals and military governors. Negro guards will, at their pleasure, give you passes and safe conducts, or arrest you, to be tried and punished by negro commandants and magistrates. And to these, yourselves, your wives and children will be menial laborers and slaves, except those of you whom the malice of your enemies shall reserve for the dungeon or the gallows. Such is the doom denounced for the people of the South by the wicked race now warring upon us. But we know it can never be executed. An army of veterans have resolved that their country shall not be enslaved; and while their purpose stands, the enemy's designs will continue to be baffled. Among you there is one spirit—that of eager and resolute determination. The temper of the army has reached the people at home and inspired them with a fresh courage and a more assured confidence. Everywhere we see multiplied evidences of energy and enthusiasm. In all the States we find the resolution to endure every extremity rather than submit, and with this spirit our people are invincible. The armies are filling up their ranks, and the legislation of Congress has added still further to their numbers and efficiency. Those citizens who remain at home to carry on the industrial pursuits essential to the support of the army, will see to it that you shall not want for food while you are exposing your lives to protect their property and homes from rapine. The defence of the country has become its business, and every citizen is required to contribute to it in his proper sphere. The General Assembly of the commonwealth has taken steps to aid those families of her soldiers who may be in want, and it will not fail to do all in its power to provide for and cherish them. They have authorized and directed the purchase or impressment of unlimited supplies for their maintenance; appropriated one million dollars for the relief of such as are within the lines of the enemy, and half a million as a hospital fund for the sick and wounded. An organized agency, the State distributes the voluntary contributions of patriotic citizens. Individually and collectively, in county, city, and State organizations, the people with one accord are determined to feed, clothe, sustain, and cherish the army.

On the other hand, your enemies are appalled by the magnitude of the task before them. The

loud boastings which a few weeks since they so freely uttered, have been silenced by your unanimous reenlistments for the war, and the stern and resolute daring of the South. Dissensions exist among them. Eager to possess the spoils of their corrupt and profligate government, they see each other nearly as much as they do us. The war is no longer popular. The rich are allowed to buy an exemption, and thus cast all the burden and risk upon the poor. The laboring classes have already revolted against the draft. To escape its odium, enormous bounties have been offered to volunteers; but all these expeditions have failed, and again a heavy draft has been ordered. The armies of the enemy are every day diminishing, and it is evident they cannot recruit them to the numbers with which they began the struggle. A large and growing party are for peace. A still larger party have discovered that the war has so far only served to entail upon themselves a despotism which tramples down every public and private right. They feel and acknowledge that they are the slaves of one whose character has made him odious to the world. Torn by party and personal strife, and conscious of the impotence of their scheme of conquest, the ranks of your enemies are already beginning to waver. One more resolute effort and the day is ours.

God will strengthen your arms in the hour of battle, and give blessings to a just cause. Independence and peace will be needed by your enemies, and you, the defenders of the commonwealth, may return to your homes to receive the welcome due the brave, and to enjoy those honors which will grow brighter as our years shall be prolonged.

And when your ears shall be no longer startled by the "clash of resounding arms," and a happy, prosperous, and permanent peace shall succeed, returning from the fields of your fame, you will be greeted with tears of joy by the loved ones at home—the heroes of every circle—to receive the smiles of the fair, and become the theme of gratitude and praise around every hearthstone protected by your valor.

Then every heart shall rejoice in that quiet which your courage has secured. Not the quiet of deserted homes and desolated farms—of sacked cities and rifled churches—of villages in ashes and towns in ruins—but the quiet of smiling farms, when the blue smoke shall curl again above the ancestral trees, to welcome back the long-exiled refugee to his home. The quiet of thriving villages, when the old man on his crutch and the brave and war-worn veteran with his armless sleeve, shall tell of bloody battles and scenes of privation to smiling children around him. The quiet of prosperous cities, whose wharves shall whiten with an opulent commerce, whose shops shall hum with a busy industry, and whose spires point to that haven of rest which is far away. Then from a thousand happy hearts and happy homes shall arise thanksgiving and praise to the God of battles as of grace, while tears of gratitude will embalm the memories and bedew

the graves of the brave men whose blood has been shed as a libation to liberty.

A. D. DICKINSON, Chairman,
A. J. MARSHALL,
ANDREW HUNTER, Senate Committee,
B. H. SHACKLEFORD, Chairman,
R. W. HUNTER,
F. B. DEANE,
A. C. CUMMINGS,
R. H. BAKER, House Committee.

Adopted by Senate, March 5, 1864.

SHELTON C. DAVIS, C. S.

Adopted by House of Delegates, March 9, 1864.

WM. F. GORDON, C. H. D.

Doc. 108.

REBEL RETALIATION.

In the Virginia State Senate on March tenth, Mr. Grice offered the following:

Whereas, The General Assembly of Virginia have learned that the Reverend George M. Bain, Cashier of the Portsmouth Savings Bank Society, and William H. H. Hodges, Cashier of the Merchants and Mechanics' Savings Bank, citizens of Portsmouth, Virginia, the first-named being over sixty years of age, and the other a cripple, have been arrested and sentenced to hard labor at Hatteras, North-Carolina, by order of Major-General Butler, or some other officer of the Federal Government, for alleged fraudulent disposal of the funds of their banks; and that the Reverend John H. Ringfield, Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Portsmouth, had been put to hard labor in the public streets of that city, with a ball and chain to his leg, because he refused to renounce his allegiance to his native State; therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That the Governor of the Commonwealth be, and he is hereby requested to invite the attention of the confederate government to the arrest and sentence of these three worthy citizens of this State, and to respectfully ask that the facts may be investigated; and, if found as stated and believed, that three citizens of the Federal States (if there be such in the hands of the confederate authorities) be held at hard labor, one with ball and chain, on the public streets, as hostages for Messrs. Bain, Hodges, and Wingfield.

The rules having been suspended, the preamble and resolution were unanimously passed and ordered to be communicated to the House.

Doc. 109.

THE FIGHT AT YAZOO CITY.

Cairo, March 16, 1864.

From an officer just arrived from Vicksburgh, who was in the recent fight at Yazoo City, we learn particulars concerning it. The fight was one of the best contested and most desperate of the war.

The Union force consisted of the Eleventh Illinois, Colonel Schofield, Colonel Coates's Eighth Louisiana, (colored,) and two hundred of the First Mississippi cavalry, Colonel Ed. Osband, (colored.) The enemy had eight regiments, under command of Ross and Richardson. The fight commenced at eight a.m., and lasted nearly till dark, when the enemy retired. Three hundred of the Eleventh Illinois were surrounded in a small fort of the bluff outside the town. A storm of shot and shell was poured upon them all day, when a summons was sent to them to surrender. They replied that they didn't know what surrender meant. The remainder of the Union force was in town, where they were met by the enemy, who had gained cover of some of the buildings. The contest raged for three hours, when the enemy retired.

Two gunboats were in the river, but could render but little assistance. The colored soldiers fought bravely, and sometimes with desperation. The Eleventh Illinois lost twenty-five—nine of whom were killed. Among them was a lieutenant whose name we could not learn.

The Eighth Louisiana lost nearly one hundred in killed, wounded, and missing. The First Mississippi cavalry lost two Lieutenants and several men. Our whole loss is set down at one hundred and thirty—that of the enemy at three hundred.

LIEUTENANT INGERSOLL'S ACCOUNT

CAMP ELEVENTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY, VICKSBURG, }
MISSISSIPPI, March 15, 1864. }

DEAR C. : I am not much in the mood for letter-writing to-day, but I will try and write a short one to you. My last was written, I believe, before we reached Yazoo City, on our way down from Greenwood. Colonel Coates received orders while at Sulon to proceed to Yazoo City, take possession of the place, and send to Vicksburg for camp equipage. When within about six miles of the city, (by land, about fourteen by the river,) Colonel Osband's First Mississippi cavalry, A. D., was disembarked, with instructions to proceed by land to the rear of the town and take possession of all the roads leading therefrom, in order to gobble up any persons that might attempt to escape, and also to reconnoitre and ascertain what was going on in the vicinity. Major Cook, with a detachment of the First Mississippi cavalry, went out on the Benton road, leading west from Yazoo City. When out about six miles, he came upon what he supposed to be a small scouting-party, but which proved to be the advance pickets of General Ross's Texas brigade. He dashed upon them, driving them back into their camp, when they opened upon him with artillery. The Major, having only about sixty men, was forced to get out of that rather lively. A detachment of Ross's brigade followed him up, and they had a running fight till they reached the hills surrounding the city, where the Major made a stand, occupying a small redoubt on the Benton road just outside the city. A despatch having been received by the Colonel, giving a statement of affairs, the Eleventh Illinois,

which had just disembarked, was ordered up to the front on the double-quick, and we arrived there none too soon. The enemy fell back as soon as they saw reinforcements coming up. We skirmished with them till dark, when they fell back to their camp. We remained in the fort all night. The Eighth Louisiana occupied a fort, or rather redoubt, (there are seven of them around the city,) to the right of us about three quarters of a mile. The next day company A was ordered to report at headquarters for provost-guard. This was the twenty-ninth of February. From that time up to the fifth of March, we skirmished with the enemy every day, and our cavalry pickets were drawn in nearly every night.

A flag of truce was received by Colonel Coates from General Ross, on the fourth of March, asking if the fortunes of war should place some of his men in our possession as prisoners, what should be their treatment, etc. To which a reply was given, that such treatment depended upon the treatment our men (either white or black) received at his hands.

About seven o'clock on the morning of the fifth of March, the enemy drove in our cavalry picket, and attacked the infantry picket, which had been strengthened during the night, in considerable force, but were unable to force them to retire, and were compelled to bring up their artillery to dislodge them. Our forces then retired into the fort, ready to welcome whoever or whatever might be sent. They had not long to wait. The enemy formed their lines, which consisted of General Ross's Texas brigade, and General Richardson's Tennessee brigade, (the latter had arrived during the night,) on the ridge north-east of the redoubt held by the Eleventh Illinois, commanded by Major McKee, and a detachment of the First Mississippi cavalry, under command of Major Cook, who occupied the trenches outside of the redoubt. All this time the enemy were peppering away at the fort with a battery of six rifled pieces, and doing some damage, planting the shell inside the fort with great accuracy. After the enemy had formed, they charged down the hill and across the ravine with a yell, our boys sending a shower of bullets among them, till they got under shelter of the bluffs around the fort. They took their position on three sides of the fort, under shelter of the bluff, and within one hundred to one hundred and fifty yards.

About twelve o'clock General Ross sent a flag of truce with the demand for a surrender. Major McKee, not liking the style of the thing, returned it without an answer. When Major McKee started to meet the first flag of truce, Major Cook, supposing the flag to have been raised first on our side, called to Major McKee and said: "Major, for God's sake, what are you going to do? You are not going to surrender?" The Major's reply was: "Ask my men if I ever surrender."

At the same time that General Ross took position around the fort, two regiments of General Richardson's command, the Fifteenth and Seven-

teenth Tennessee, deployed to the right into a large corn-field, and on the low ground to the north of the city. Colonel Coates ordered company A out to meet them and check them as much as possible, while he sent to the Eighth Louisiana for reinforcements. We went out on the run. The men deployed in the outskirts of the town, getting behind the fences and buildings for protection. But we found two regiments most too heavy for our company, and fell back from one street to the other, the boys giving them the best they had. Prisoners taken say that they suffered severely coming through the town. We were driven back till on a line with headquarters, when we made a stand, having the advantage of a strong position, and having been reinforced by a detachment from the Eighth Louisiana, A. D., about one hundred and fifty strong, determined to hold it to the last. Company A being stationed to the best advantage, I went to headquarters to see what was going on there. Colonel Coates was in the street giving orders as cool as though nothing unusual was going on. The bullets were flying around him as thick as hail. The enemy had taken possession of the houses on both sides of the street above headquarters, and were firing from the windows and doors. The pillars in front of the building used for headquarters (formerly a bank) were speckled with the marks of bullets. It seems almost a miracle that the Colonel was not struck a dozen times. He escaped with only a couple of holes through his coat, and a slight scratch on the face. He was standing on the steps in front of headquarters, or in the street, all the time during the fight. About three o'clock the Colonel told Adjutant Dean and myself to take what men we could get together, go around to the left of the town and attack them on the flank, to make a diversion if possible from that part of the city. We took a few of company A that were the nearest, (the whole company being out skirmishing where they had been all day,) and a small squad from the Eighth Louisiana, with an officer from the same regiment. We went around to the left, attacking them on the flank and rear, yelling at the same time like so many Indians. Captain Kenyon (of the Colonel's staff, and Captain of company K, Eleventh Illinois,) took about twenty men that had been cut off from the fort while out skirmishing in the morning, and driven back into town, and attacked them on the right about the same time. The enemy thinking no doubt that we had been reinforced, started for the hills, every man for himself. We followed them as close as we thought advisable, considering our small force. Lieutenant Brewster moved up Main street with a twelve-pound rifled gun, which had been sent to us from one of the gunboats, with men to work it, (the captain of the gun had deserted it at the commencement of the fight, leaving it in the hands of the enemy; our men charged up the street and retook it.) From that time to the close of the fight, Adjutant Dean and Lieutenant Brewster handled the gun, sending to the gun-

boat for a new squad of men to work it, doing good execution. We had no idea of driving the enemy out of the town when we made the demonstration. We were expecting reinforcements from Liverpool, which had been sent for, and we wanted to keep them busy until they arrived.

As soon as the enemy retreated out of the town, those attacking the fort gradually fell back, till out of cover of the bluffs, when they broke and ran, our boys having opened a heavy fire upon them. Thus ended our fight at Yazoo City.

A second flag of truce was sent on the sixth instant, from Brigadier-General Richardson to Colonel Coates, stating that he had sent an ambulance surgeon and ambulance corps to bury his dead, and take care of the wounded, and proposing to Colonel Coates that each of them send a commissioner between the picket-lines to effect an exchange of prisoners, etc. The first point was answered that his dead had been decently buried, his wounded properly and tenderly cared for, consequently no necessity for his surgeon, etc., and declined receiving them. To the second proposition, would answer, that a cartel had been agreed upon, in which certain parties and places were named for such exchange, and as neither Brigadier-General Richardson, Confederate States army, nor Colonel Coates, United States volunteers, were named as such parties, nor Yazoo City the point for such exchange, would respectfully decline your proposition.

The gist of the joke in this last was, that at that time we had none of his men as prisoners!

I don't hanker after any more street-fights. Our entire loss is about one hundred and twenty-five. The Eleventh lost ten killed, including one commissioned officer, and thirty-five wounded and missing. Company A lost five wounded and one missing. He was probably wounded and taken prisoner. Three of them were from Stephenson County. Sergeant C. H. Lutz in the wrist, Samuel Stoner in the leg, and L. Iman in the shoulder. They have been sent to St. Louis, together with "Joe" Pratt. They were all doing well when they left here. [Iman since reported dead.—Ed. *Journal*.]

The morning after the fight orders came from Vicksburg to embark immediately for that place. We left Yazoo City on the morning of the seventh, arriving there on the ninth.

I have endeavored to give you a short sketch of the fight. You know my fondness for letter-writing, so it is entirely unnecessary for any apologies. Had it not been for the coolness and bravery of Major McKee, who had command in the fort, also Major Cook, First Mississippi cavalry A. D., who had command of a detachment from this regiment, and the determination of Colonel Coates to hold the place as long as he had a man to fight with, this letter would probably have been written in Libby prison and to a different metre. We learned by a gunboat officer who arrived here yesterday morning from Yazoo City, that the enemy reported having lost over four hundred killed, wounded, and missing.

They must have suffered severely in getting a position around the fort.

While the rebs had possession of part of the town, (and it was the largest part too,) they plundered promiscuously. Lieutenant Brewster lost all his papers, and all his clothes but what he had on. He was lucky more than once that day in saving those and in being able to carry them off himself. It seemed as though he and Adjutant Dean were bullet-proof. Captain Kenyon and Lieutenant Perriont, both on the Colonel's staff, exposed themselves almost recklessly, and escaped without a scratch. You have got to see a street-fight to comprehend it. I can't describe it. Company A did itself credit, as it always tries to do. ORTON INGERSOLL.

REBEL ACCOUNT.

DEMOPOLIS, ALA., March 11, 1864.

To Adjutant-General Cooper :

General Lee telegraphs that Ross and Richardson attacked Yazoo City on the fifth instant, capturing many stores and destroying much cotton about being shipped.

The enemy retired to the city and held it until reinforced. They were driven out of the city, which was recaptured, while stores were being destroyed. We have quite a number of prisoners. Our loss was about fifty killed and wounded. The enemy still occupy Yazoo City and Liverpool, intrenching at the latter place.

Sherman issued a general order at Canton, in which he speaks of many regiments in his army entitled to furlough.

L. POLK,
Lieutenant-General.

Doc. 110.

REBEL FAST-DAY.

PROCLAMATION BY JEFF DAVIS.

THE Senate and House of Representatives of the confederate States of America have signified their desire that a day may be recommended to the people, to be set apart and observed as a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer, in the language following, to wit :

"Reverently recognizing the Providence of God in the affairs of man, and gratefully remembering the guidance, support, and deliverance granted to our patriot fathers in the memorable war which resulted in the independence of the American colonies, and now reposing in Him our supreme confidence and hope in the present struggle for civil and religious freedom, and for the right to live under a government of our own choice, and deeply impressed with the conviction that without him nothing is strong, nothing wise, and nothing enduring ; in order that the people of this Confederacy may have the opportunity at the same time of offering their adoration to the great Sovereign of the universe, of penitently confessing their sins, and strengthening their vows and purposes of amendment in humble reliance upon his gracious and almighty power :

"The Congress of the confederate States of America do resolve, that it be recommended to the people of these States that Friday, the eighth

day of April next, be set apart and observed as a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer, that Almighty God would so preside over our public counsels and authorities, that he would so inspire our armies and their leaders with wisdom, courage, and perseverance, and so manifest himself in the greatness of his goodness and majesty of his power, that we may be safely and successfully led through the chastenings to which we are being subjected, to the attainment of an honorable peace ; so that while we enjoy the blessings of a free and happy government, we may ascribe to him the honor and the glory of our independence and prosperity."

A recommendation so congenial to the feelings of the people will receive their hearty concurrence ; and it is a grateful duty to the Executive to unite with their representatives in inviting them to meet in the courts of the Most High. Recent events awaken fresh gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of nations. Our enemies have suffered repeated defeats, and a nefarious scheme to burn and plunder our capital, and to destroy our civil government by putting to death the chosen servants of the people, has been baffled and set at naught. Our armies have been strengthened, our finances promise rapid progress to a satisfactory condition, and our whole country is animated with a hopeful spirit and a fixed determination to achieve independence.

In these circumstances it becomes us, with thankful hearts, to bow ourselves before the throne of the Most High, and, while gratefully acknowledging so many mercies, confess that our sins as a people have justly exposed us to his chastisement. Let us recognize the sufferings which we have been called upon to endure, as administered by a fatherly hand for our improvement, and with resolute courage and patient endurance let us wait on him for our deliverance.

In furtherance of these objects, now therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the confederate States of America, do issue this, my proclamation, calling upon the people of the said States, in conformity with the desire expressed by their representatives, to set apart Friday, the eighth day of April, as a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer ; and I do hereby invite them on that day to repair to their several places of public worship, and beseech Almighty God "to preside over our public counsels, and so inspire our armies and leaders with wisdom, courage, and perseverance, and so to manifest himself in the greatness of his goodness and in the majesty of his power, that we may secure the blessings of an honorable peace and of free government, and that we, as a people, may ascribe all to the honor and glory of his name."

Given under my hand and the seal of the confederate States of America, at the city of Richmond, on this twelfth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

By the President :

J. P. BENJAMIN,
Secretary of State.

Doc. 111.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S ORDER.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 100.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, March 15, 1864.

THE following is an order by the President of the United States:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, March 14, 1864.

In order to supply the force required to be drafted for the navy, and to provide an adequate reserve force for all contingencies, in addition to the five hundred thousand men called for February first, 1864, the call is hereby made and a draft ordered for two hundred thousand men for the military service, army, navy, and marine corps of the United States.

The proportional quotas for the different wards, towns, townships, precincts, or election districts, or counties, will be made known through the Provost-Marshal General's Bureau, and account will be taken of the credits and deficiencies of former quotas.

The fifteenth day of April, 1864, is designated as the time up to which the numbers required from each ward of a city, town, etc., may be raised by voluntary enlistment; and drafts will be made in each ward of a city, town, etc., which shall not have filled the quota assigned to it within the time designated for the number required to fill said quotas.

The drafts will be commenced as soon after the fifteenth of April as practicable.

The Government bounties, as now paid, continue until April first, 1864, at which time the additional bounties cease. On and after that date one hundred dollars bounty only will be paid, as provided by the Act approved July twenty-second, 1861. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Official: E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Doc. 112.

TREATMENT OF REBEL CONSCRIPTS.

THE following is a copy of the report of the Joint Committee of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Virginia, appointed to investigate the charges of abuse and inhumanity to conscripts at Camp Lee, near Richmond, Va.:

RICHMOND, March, 1864.

The Joint Committee, appointed "to inquire and report whether any, and if any, what abuses or inhumanity may have been practised or tolerated at Camp Lee in the treatment of conscripts," have performed the duty assigned them, and beg leave respectfully to submit the following report:

Before entering upon the investigation required by the resolution of the General Assembly, your Committee deemed it becoming to apprise the Secretary of War of their purpose, and to request of him authority to visit Camp Lee, in order to obtain information and to enable them more thoroughly to prosecute their inquiries.

To this application the Secretary promptly and courteously replied, giving the authority asked for, and expressing the pleasure he felt at the interest manifested in the conscripts by the General Assembly in the resolutions of inquiry which they had adopted and under which your Committee were acting. The letter of Mr. Seddon, together with his written authority to visit Camp Lee accompanying it, your Committee regard of sufficient importance and as due alike to the subject and the Secretary of War, to refer to and make a part of their report, and they accordingly append them, marked A and B. They think it proper to remark also in this connection, that they found the proposed investigation of the subjects committed to them had been in part anticipated by the action of the Secretary of War, before the passage of the joint resolution by the General Assembly, who, upon learning that rumors had obtained currency of suffering among the men at Camp Lee for want of wood, ordered an officer to go out and investigate the matter and make immediate report. Your Committee have been furnished with a copy of that order, and the reports thereon of Colonel Shields, the commandant of the post, and of the several officers in charge of the troops at Camp Lee, which are of interest and value as illustrating and explaining the subject and as constituting a part of the evidence upon which your Committee relied in arriving at their own conclusions. These documents are appended, marked 1 and in consecutive order.

It will be perceived that the complaints which reached the Secretary of War assumed the general form of "suffering for want of wood," the inquiries directed by him were confined to that specific charge; and so far as the investigation under the order of the Secretary upon this head are concerned, the reports of the commandant at Camp Lee, and of his subordinate officers, seems to your Committee satisfactory, and fully acquit these officers of any neglect of duty in attending, as far as practicable, to the wants and comforts of the men in supplying them with fuel. Their statements, made in the reports to the Secretary of War, were confirmed to us in the examination we made at the interview we had with these officers. It appears that the men were furnished with all the wood allowed by the army regulations. The supply was stated to be ample in ordinary weather, but during an extremely rigorous spell of cold, such as occurred about the middle of February, it was admitted that the quantity of wood was not adequate. That some discomfort was experienced by some of the conscripts for want of sufficient fire is quite probable, but we could ascertain no individual case of the kind, and find nothing in the circumstances and evidence to fix culpability upon the officers in charge of the troops at Camp Lee, much less to sustain the allegation made through the press of inhumanity and cruelty to the conscripts, or of any extraordinary degree of suffering resulting in loss of limb or death, or even of illness from cold. It may be proper here to state, how-

ever, as a fact developed in the course of our investigation that many of the newly arrived conscripts do suffer for the want of clothes and blankets. This is not the fault of the commander or his officers. It results from the circumstance that conscripts recently enrolled are sometimes hurried to camp without an opportunity being afforded them to visit home and provide themselves with clothes and blankets, and make other preparations for camp-life, but often from their own neglect to do so after ample notice. If there be blame anywhere, it is attributable to the carelessness or indifference of the enrolling officer in the country to the wants and comforts of the conscripts, or to defects in the provisions or execution of the law.

The fault lies here, and not, as your Committee are assured, in the administration of the laborious and responsible department, under the management of the commander, Colonel Shields, whose high character, urbane manners, delicate feelings of humanity, and eminent qualifications for his post forbid the conclusion that he would exercise his authority otherwise than in the most considerate and humane manner toward the conscripts under his charge, or would practise or tolerate any other than a proper care and attention to their wants and necessities. As far, therefore, as your Committee could pursue their investigation—and it was as searching as the nature of the case and their sources of information admitted—they could discover no instance of a death, cruelty, inhumanity, or even of extreme suffering or hardship. Hardships there undoubtedly are and have been; but only such, and not more severe than are incident to camp fare and a soldier's life. We are informed by the surgeon, Dr. Palmer, of a case where a man fell in a fit; but he was known to be subject to fits, and they were not produced by exposure to the cold, as the surgeon believes. It happened during the severe weather, in February, and probably gave origin to the report of inhumanity at the camp, which was so widely propagated and excited the sensibility of the General Assembly and the people.

Your Committee did not consider themselves limited in their inquiries to the rumor of suffering among the conscripts for the want of wood. Their duty embraced a wider scope. It was to examine whether any abuses or inhumanity was practised or tolerated at Camp Lee in the treatment of conscripts in any way or in any form. The General Assembly of Virginia had a special interest in the investigation, as the camp is near her capital, and the place of rendezvous for her conscript soldiers. Over them she was bound to exercise a parental care. Your Committee, therefore, proceeded to Camp Lee, and take pleasure in stating were received with politeness and courtesy by Colonel Shields, the commandant, and all the officers at the post. Every facility and opportunity were afforded them for examination and inquiry into the condition of the camp, and of the wants, necessities, accommodations, and comforts of the men. Colonel Shields him-

self, and all of his officers, frankly and with alacrity responded to every inquiry addressed to them touching the matter to which we directed our inquiries.

We were allowed unrestricted access to every place we desired to visit, and an officer accompanied us, to show us through the hospital, the barracks and quarters of the men, which we inspected as closely as time and our inexperienced habits in relation to such matters would enable us. We found the hospital clean, well provided with comfortable beds and bed-clothing, and, we do not doubt, the patients are attentively nursed and attended with skilful medical treatment. The large building appropriated as the principal quarters of the men, we would remark, is, by reason of the open floors being made of green plank, and the small fire-places, difficult to be warmed sufficiently to be comfortable in extremely cold weather. But otherwise the quarters are dry and well cleaned, and as well adapted to the sleeping uses of the healthy soldier as could be expected. Camp Lee is situated upon an elevated plain, remarkably dry, and represented to be unusually healthy. Although it was generally understood at camp that the Committee had made the visit to ascertain if there existed or had been practised any abuses, yet no complaints were made, nor in answer to inquiries could we learn that any existed upon which complaint could be founded. No facts, at least, were brought to our knowledge.

Your Committee take pleasure in reporting this as the result of their inquiries. They believe that the investigation will have a good effect, and was, under the circumstances and gravity of the charges, alike due to our conscripts and the officers of the post. It will show to our people that the General Assembly are not insensible to the wants and sufferings of our noble soldiers, in whatever field or camp they are called to render service to their country; nor faithless to her solemn obligations to extend a parental care over them, and to shield and protect them whenever oppression and distress may come upon them. It will accomplish more. It will relieve the minds of distant families and friends as to the supposed maltreatment of husbands, sons, and brothers in Camp Lee, and mitigate something of that repulsiveness and dread with which that military post is viewed by conscripts who are sent there, pursuant to military regulations.

G. W. LEWIS,

Chairman of Senate Com.

B. H. MAGRUDER,

Chairman of House Com.

Doc. 113.

PROCLAMATION OF AMNESTY DEFINED.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to define the cases in which insurgent enemies are em-

titled to the benefits of the Proclamation of the President of the United States, which was made on the eighth day of December, 1863, and the manner in which they shall proceed to avail themselves of those benefits:

And whereas, the objects of that proclamation were to suppress the insurrection and to restore the authority of the United States:

And whereas, the amnesty therein provided by the President was offered with reference to these objects alone:

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare that the said proclamation does not apply to the cases of persons who, at the time when they seek to obtain the benefits thereof by taking the oath thereby prescribed, are in military, naval, or civil confinement, or custody, or under bonds, or on parole of the civil, military, or naval authorities or agents of the United States as prisoners of war, or persons detained for offences of any kind, either before or after conviction, and that, on the contrary, it does apply only to persons who, being yet at large and free from any arrest, confinement, or duress, shall voluntarily come forward and take the said oath with the purpose of restoring peace and establishing the national authority. Prisoners excluded from the amnesty offered in the said proclamation, may apply to the President for clemency, like all other offenders, and their applications will receive due consideration.

I do further declare and proclaim, that the oath prescribed in the aforesaid proclamation of the eighth of December, 1863, may be taken and subscribed before any commissioned officer, civil, military, or naval, in the service of the United States, or any civil or military officer of a State or Territory, not in insurrection, who, by the law thereof, may be qualified for administering oaths. All officers who receive such oaths are hereby authorized to give certificates thereon to the persons respectively by whom they are made. And such officers are hereby required to transmit the original records of such oaths at as early a day as may be convenient to the Department of State, where they will be deposited and remain in the archives of the Government. The Secretary of State will keep a register thereof, and will, on application, in proper cases, issue certificates of such records, in the customary form of such certificates.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done in the City of Washington, the twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

Doc. 114.

ATTACK ON COLLIERVILLE, TENN.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

MEMPHIS, November 5, 1863.

WE have learned late and interesting particulars concerning the recent attack on Collierville. It seems that the confederates have not felt just right since their former unsuccessful attempt on the place, but have been seeking a favorable opportunity to remove the disgrace which that affair brought upon them. Chalmers, learning that there was but a small force there, determined to take the place by surprise. He moved up to the Coldwater on the night of the second. On the morning of the third, he sent Colonel Geary, Acting Brigadier-General, with his brigade, numbering one thousand five hundred men, forward to attack the place. At that time there was but a single regiment, the Seventh Illinois cavalry, at Collierville, but they had heard of the premeditated attack, and had sent to Colonel Hatch for reinforcements.

Colonel Hatch arrived very opportunely with the Second Iowa cavalry. In fact, they came up just as the fight commenced. The rebels had already captured two picket posts with twenty-five prisoners. Our forces were protected by a stockade, defended by two pieces of artillery. The rebels charged across an open space, of perhaps a thousand yards, up to our defences. The firing was very hot, and they were speedily driven back with a loss of twelve killed, nearly one hundred wounded, and twenty-five prisoners. Among the latter was Colonel Geary, their commander. His horse stumbled and fell, is said to be the reason of his capture. Just as the confederates fell back, the Sixth Illinois cavalry came up from Germantown in time to participate in the pursuit. Subsequently, word was sent to the Third Michigan, Seventh Kansas, and Sixth Tennessee, to intercept the retreat of the rebels if possible. The troops sent out in pursuit of the enemy have not yet returned, so that it is impossible to know the success of their attempt. We think, however, that the rebels have too many facilities for retreat to be caught so easily. If Geary's command can succeed in crossing the Coldwater, and form a junction with Chalmers's, they will probably escape.

This attack on Collierville did not succeed even as well as did their former attempt. They find it very hard to catch our forces asleep, though they have many facilities for obtaining information. Our cavalry, under the command of the gallant Colonel Hatch, proves too formidable for the confederates.

It is understood that a large part of Sherman's army is across the Tennessee. There has been no fighting except skirmishing by the advance force. His advance, by way of Tusculumbia, proves to have been only a feint, and he fell back to Iuka, and crossed over to the Tennessee at the nearest point.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

CAMP SECOND IOWA CAVALRY,
MEMPHIS, November 4, 1863. }

EDITORS GAZETTE: Times have been quite lively of late, with some fighting interspersed, in which the Second cavalry, as usual, had a share.

The rebels, notwithstanding their recent defeat by Colonel Hatch's forces, when they undertook to break this line of railroad, seem not to have been satisfied without at least another trial. The Second is stationed here, the Sixth Illinois at Germantown, and others farther eastward. The rebels being on the move northward, on Sunday, the first, the Second was ordered out at nine P.M., with three days' rations. They left camp on the morning of the second, at two o'clock A.M., and proceeded to Germantown. That night a serious affair between two officers terminated in blood. Several officers were present at supper—among whom were Lieutenant-Colonel Loomis, commanding the Sixth Illinois cavalry, and Major Herrod, of the same regiment. In the conversation, Colonel Loomis made a remark reflecting on Major Herrod, when he called on Colonel Loomis to "take it back." The Colonel refusing, Major Herrod instantly drew his revolver and fired five shots into the Colonel, killing him on the spot. Major Herrod is now in irons in the Irving block in this city. Colonel Loomis's body went north to-day.

On Tuesday, the third, the regiment had moved to Collierville, seven miles beyond Germantown, on the railroad. About noon the rebels made an attack on the place with a force of about one thousand five hundred strong. A portion of the Seventh Illinois cavalry occupied a small earthwork, with one small gun. The Second Iowa cavalry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Hepburn, was dismounted on the north side of the railroad, and formed in line along the railroad, there being a slight cut at that place. The two mountain howitzers, under the command of Lieutenant P. S. Reed, of company K, took a position just north of the track. The rebels expected, no doubt, to find only the Seventh Illinois there, as they are stationed at that point, and two companies of whom they had captured on picket on the way up. They saw the guns bidding them defiance, and not fully aware of the Iowa boys with their five-shooting rifles being in such close proximity, they swooped down on a furious charge to capture the pieces. The rebel right was under command of General Richardson, the left of General George. Lieutenant Reed stood by his guns manfully, and handled them admirably. When the rebels had got within easy range, the boys poured out their rapid fire from along the railroad track; the rebels pressed forward, but Iowa was too much for them; but three succeeded in reaching our line—one of them was General George. Just as he reached the line, his horse was killed, and in a moment he was in the grasp of a "Yank," a prisoner; one of the others was wounded, and the other killed. After fighting for some time,

the rebels were repulsed, and commenced a hasty retreat.

The following are the casualties to the Second Iowa at that place: Frank Byland, company L; Charles F. Brown, company I, killed on the field; and Nathan Patterson, company M, wounded, since dead. Their bodies came into camp this evening.

Wounded: Corporal Thomas Dulin, company L, face and right arm; private James H. Reed, company L, left leg broken; Sergeant James Crawford, company L, right lung, severely; Corporal Joseph Steele, company C, in calf of leg, serious; Private Edward Perry, company C, in left breast, serious; Corporal William Wallace, company B, in left breast, serious; private Stelton Heinly, company G, in head, serious; private E. B. Chamberlain, company H, through breast, serious.

The wounded are now all in camp, except Crawford Z. Chamberlain, who is too dangerously wounded to be moved. The rebels left eighteen dead on the field. Their loss must have been near one hundred.

After being repulsed, the enemy fled, hotly pursued by our regiment, and reached the Coldwater at night, where they had reinforcements and artillery posted on the opposite side. Colonel Hepburn formed line and attacked, and had quite a brisk engagement—firing only by the flashes from the enemy's guns. It being night, and the rebels with reinforcements, our troops fell back, and rested for the night. At this place Captain Horton, of company A, was wounded in the spine. He was brought to the city to-day.

The rebels were armed with Austrian muskets. I saw two bullets extracted from the wounded, and they are large and effective.

I omitted to state that Orderly-Sergeant Daniel Estell, of Company L, was missing at the engagement at Collierville, and not yet heard from.

Colonel Hatch left Collierville, early this morning, with other forces of his command, and will pursue the enemy vigorously. The Colonel has added another laurel to his chaplet, and the Second Iowa added one more to its glorious list.

Doc. 115.

RAID OF STUART'S CAVALRY

ON THE ORANGE AND ALEXANDRIA RAILROAD.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16, 1863.

LIEUTENANT PECK, of the Second regiment District volunteers, gives the particulars of a bold raid made by Stuart's cavalry, last night, upon the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, about one mile and a half beyond Fairfax Station.

The rebels, about eight hundred strong, and accompanied by the notorious Mosby, at six o'clock attacked the guard upon the railroad at that point, which consisted of company I, of the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth New-York regiment.

The company made a brave resistance, and were only captured by the cavalry entirely surrounding them.

The rebels had previously cut the telegraph wires, but word was conveyed as quickly as possible to Colonel Drew, in command of a battalion of four companies of the Second District of Columbia volunteers, at Fairfax Station, and he started with his command to reinforce the attacked. The progress of the train was stopped at Pope Run, where the rebels had burned the bridge and torn up the track for about two miles.

When Colonel Drew arrived at Pope Run, it was extremely dark, and the rain poured down furiously. He fired several volleys at the rebels, which they returned. None of our men were wounded.

It was evidently the object of the raiders to capture a railroad train from Alexandria, loaded with large quantities of provisions and forage for the army, which was due at the time. The train happened to be an hour and a half late, and consequently escaped capture. It is quite likely that the rebels committed further outrages upon the railroad beyond Pope Run, of which we have not been informed. This raid revives very forcibly the former exploits of Stuart's cavalry in this line of business.

WASHINGTON, December eighteenth.—The *Star* has the following account of the raid:

We learn, through despatches received at headquarters of this department, from General Corcoran, that last night company I, of the One Hundred and Fifty-fifth New-York regiment, at Sangster's Station, in the midst of the terrible storm then raging, were attacked by a body of Stuart's rebel cavalry, about one thousand strong, under command of the rebel General Bower, which left Fredericksburgh on Wednesday night last, on this raid.

Contrary to their expectations, the company on railroad guard duty there made a gallant, and, as it turned out, successful, resistance, having beaten them off four times before being flanked, and having all their tents burned by a portion of the enemy, who got in the rear. The company was then forced to retire with a loss of but two men wounded and one taken prisoner.

The rebels then attempted to burn the bridge over Pope's Run, but took a stampede before succeeding in doing it any damage to speak of, as it was repaired in two hours this morning, and the trains are now running. On running off, the rebels sent back to Fredericksburgh three ambulance loads of their wounded, and left one prisoner in our hands. They left in the direction of Centreville.

As soon as daylight appeared, General Corcoran, in command of Fairfax, sent cavalry in pursuit of the foe, and has since reported that its advance had come up with the rebel rear. The wounded rebel taken prisoner has since died. His name was Van Meter, of Captain Cortwell's company, Eleventh Virginia cavalry. He reports his captain and four horses of his company as amongst the rebel killed.

Doc. 116.

DESTRUCTION OF BLOCKADE-RUNNERS.

REPORT OF ACTING REAR-ADMIRAL S. P. LEE.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
OFF LOCKWOOD'S FOLLY INLET, JAN. 11, 1864. }

SIR: At daylight this morning a steamer was seen beached and burning one mile west of this inlet. Mr. O'Conner from this ship boarded her, with the loss of one man, shot under the fire from the enemy's sharp-shooters occupying rifle-pits on the sand-hills, which were high and near, and got her log-book, from which it appears that she is the *Ranger*; that she left Newcastle November eleventh, 1863, for Bermuda, where, after touching at Teneriffe, she arrived, on the eighth of December; that she sailed from Bermuda January sixth, 1864, made our coast January tenth, about five miles north-east of Murrill's inlet, and landed her passengers. The next morning at daylight, intercepted by this ship, the *Daylight*, Governor Buckingham, and *Aries*, in her approach to Western bar, she was beached and fired by her crew as above mentioned. The attempts of the Governor Buckingham, aided by the *Daylight* and *Aries*, to extinguish the fire and haul the *ranger* off, were frustrated by the enemy's sharp-shooters, whose fire completely commanded her decks. This ship, drawing about twenty-four (24) feet, was taken in four and one half (4½) fathoms of water in front of the wreck, and the other vessels stationed to cross-fire on the riflemen on the sand-hills opened a deliberate fire, with a view to dislodge the enemy, and allow an attempt to haul off the *Ranger* at high-water at night. Meanwhile the *Ranger* was burning freely forward, and the commanding officers of the Governor Buckingham and *Daylight*, who had a good view of her situation, thinking that it was not practicable to get her off, she was also fired into, which, as her hatches were closed, had the effect of letting the air in, when the fire burnt freely aft, and doubtless burnt the *Ranger* out completely. Meanwhile black smoke was rising in the direction of Shallot inlet, and the *Aries*, withdrawn last night from her station there, was ordered to chase; she soon returned, and Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Devens reported a fine-looking, double propeller blockade-runner, resembling the *Ceres*, beached and on fire between Tubb's and Little River inlets, and that the enemy's sharp-shooters prevented the boats from boarding her. This was probably the same steamer that was chased the previous evening by the *Quaker City*, *Tuscarora*, and *Keystone State*, and escaping from them, made the western shore, where, communicating and learning of the presence of the blockaders in force, and perhaps being short of coal, she was beached by her crew and fired rather than be captured. The department will perceive that this is the twenty-second (22d) steamer lost by the rebels and the blockade-runners attempting to violate the blockade of Wilmington within the last six months, an average of nearly one steamer every eight (8) days.

These losses must greatly lessen the means of the rebel authorities to export cotton, obtain supplies, and sustain their credit, and thus dispirit and weaken them very much.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,
yours,
S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF ACTING VOLUNTEER LIEUTENANT
EDWARD F. DEVENS.

UNITED STATES STEAMER *ARIES*,
OFF LITTLE RIVER, January 12, 1864. }

SIR: I would most respectfully report that the steamer stranded between Tubb's Inlet and Little River is the blockade-runner *Vesta*. Boarded her this A.M., made a hawser fast to her, but on examining her found her whole starboard side opened and several of the plates split; took two anchors from her, which was all we could save. The *Vesta* was exactly like the *Ceres*. I left her a complete wreck, with five feet of water in her; her boats lay on the beach, badly stove.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
EDWARD F. DEVENS,
Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, Commanding.
Acting Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.

Doc. 117.

EXPEDITION TO BEAR INLET, N. C.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL S. P. LEE

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP *MINNESOTA*,
OFF WILMINGTON, NORTH-CAROLINA, Jan. 14, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to report the result of a joint army and navy expedition from Beaufort, North-Carolina, for the purpose of capturing the salt landed by the *Bigelow* (the abandoned prize of the army transport *Fulton*) at Bear Inlet, and the cargo of naval stores reported to have been collected there for shipment in her, previous to her destruction by the *Mount Vernon*, of this squadron, as reported by me.

I arrived at Beaufort on December twenty-fourth, and found preparations for the expedition being made under Commodore *Dove's* directions. I directed that the *Daylight* and *Howquah* should offer their services to Colonel Jourdan, One Hundred and Fifty-eighth New-York State volunteers, (commanding the military force,) to transport troops. This offer was thankfully accepted. The vessels accordingly left Beaufort on the morning of the twenty-fourth, having an armed launch from the *Iron Age*, and some lighters, and carrying the troops, portions of the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth New-York State volunteers and the Ninth Vermont volunteers, arriving off Bear Inlet about four P.M. The troops were sent into the inlet in boats, eight (8) in number; only two landed that night, the tide being too low. Early on the following morning they proceeded up the inlet, found no naval stores, (as I learned when at Bear Inlet the next day in the *Fah-kee*), but destroyed without loss or serious opposition three salt-works, one hundred and fifty (150) sacks of

salt, and a large number of empty barrels for spirits of turpentine. The boats returned to the vessels about one P.M., and they immediately returned to Beaufort, arriving at half-past five P.M. The commanding officers of both vessels and Colonel Jourdan commend the good conduct of the officers and men of the navy concerned in this expedition. This inlet was found to have eight (8) feet of water on the bar at high-tide.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
yours,
S. P. LEE,

Acting Rear-Admiral, Commanding N. A. B. Squadron.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy.

REPORT OF COLONEL JOURDAN, (ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHTH NEW-YORK.)

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT, BEAUFORT,
MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., Dec. 27. }

Commander Dove, United States Navy:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that our expedition to Bear Inlet has been a complete success, in destroying extensive salt-works, and a large quantity of salt, without having one man injured, or the loss of one cent's worth of property. The home-guards, numbering about two hundred men, made a great effort to assemble and attack us, as also did the cavalry, but the demonstrations of our cavalry up White Oak River, in the direction of Young's Cross-Roads, so completely diverted their attention in that direction, as to make it impossible to collect them in time to prevent us from destroying the property, and moving away at our leisure, uninterrupted. The conduct of the officers and men, so kindly placed at my disposal by you, deserves high praise, and reflects much credit on your branch of the public service.

Discipline, order, energy, and enthusiasm were their leading characteristics; and through you, as their commander at this port, permit me to extend to them my sincere thanks; and by your hearty coöperation, kindness, and courtesy, you have placed me under many obligations, and have my best thanks. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. JOURDAN,
Colonel Commanding.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., Dec. 29, 1863.

On Wednesday night, the twenty-third instant, we received orders to get volunteers from the different companies, to go on a scout. Accordingly, every thing was ready—about one hundred and eighty of this regiment, one hundred and fifty of the Ninth Vermont, and three pieces of artillery from the Second Massachusetts heavy artillery—when we embarked on the gunboat *Daylight*, at ten minutes after eleven A.M., of the twenty-fourth, we up stream and proceeded to about ten miles beyond Swansborough, to a place called Bougue's Sound, where we came to anchor, and took to the small boats and launches; went up the sound a long distance, and destroyed several large salt-pans; also forty thousand bags of salt. We then about ship and took another course to the left, and proceeded about five

miles up this Bear Creek, where we came to a house; found two men in it, with a double-barrelled shot-gun loaded to the muzzle; also several very large salt-pans, which we set on fire. The salt we carried in carts to the creek and throw it overboard. We then returned to the gunboats and returned to Fort Macon, and were landed the next morning by eight o'clock. This is the first scout our commander (Colonel Jourdan) has done on his own hook; but I can assure you, since he has met with such success, it will not be the last one. Both Colonel Jourdan and his command are very well pleased with the success of the expedition. There are a great many rumors of another expedition very soon. Let it come; we are always ready.

SLINGSHOT.

Doc. 118.

THE RETREAT OF LONGSTREET.

BEAN STATION, TENN., RUTLEDGE ROAD, }
December 12, 1863.

ASCERTAINING that the enemy had raised the siege,* and were on the retreat early on Saturday morning, December fifth, General Shackleford, commanding the cavalry corps, was ordered in pursuit. He commenced skirmishing with the enemy's rear-guard eight miles from Knoxville, on the Rutledge and Morristown road. He drove them steadily to Bean Station, forty-two miles from Knoxville, where he found the enemy's cavalry in line of battle.

On Thursday morning, Colonel Bond's brigade, of Woodford's division, was in the advance. He charged, and drove the enemy from the place. The retreating army had been foraging right and left along their line of retreat. He captured about one hundred and fifty prisoners during the pursuit as far as to Bean Station. Many of the rebels, both infantry and cavalry, purposely fell out and gave themselves up. There were more of infantry than of cavalry who fell into our hands.

At Bean Station, General Shackleford received orders to halt his command and hold the place. He did so, and sent reconnoissances on the different roads. He ascertained that a large party of rebel cavalry had taken the Morristown road. Colonel Garrard's brigade, of Foster's division, was ordered to make a reconnoissance in that road. He came up with a rebel brigade of cavalry, under Jones, at Morristown, the same command who defeated him at Rogersville. He found the enemy occupying fortifications built by our men before the evacuation of that place.

He immediately engaged them, the fight lasting two hours, and drove them out of the town. The enemy lost between forty and fifty men. Eight were found dead on the field, and thirteen were left seriously or mortally wounded. Colonel Nicol, of Virginia, was killed. Captain John Holt, of Kentucky, son of Joe Holt, was shot through both thighs.

A reconnoissance, the same day, on the Rogersville road came up with the enemy at Moresburgh, nine miles above Bean Station. There was heavy skirmishing for two or three hours. Several were wounded on our side. The loss of the enemy was not known.

A reconnoissance yesterday, December eleventh, found no enemy at Morristown, but he was still occupying the ground at Moresburgh.

I must defer any mention of the position and movements of our infantry in this communication, for prudential reasons. The enemy, in superior force, have just been reported within a few miles of this place, (Bean Station,) and our cavalry fighting and slowly falling back. General Shackleford has his headquarters here.

Being closely shut up, and constantly occupied with the operations of the enemy immediately around the city, I have not been able, until now, to furnish any trustworthy account of operations outside. These, fortunately for us, were of a character to occupy a considerable share of the enemy's attention, and oblige him to keep a large force of his cavalry busy beyond the immediate lines of the siege.

The first important movement of the enemy, after they laid siege to Knoxville, was to send a large body of cavalry to Kingston, "to operate in that quarter." This was on the twenty-fourth of November. On the twenty-sixth, as near as I am able to ascertain, the cavalry under General Wheeler found Colonel Byrd's brigade strongly intrenched near Kingston, and after a fruitless effort to dislodge or capture him, and losing a considerable number of men, he withdrew. Wheeler hereupon turned over his command to another officer, and returned toward Chattanooga, ostensibly to take an infantry command. He narrowly escaped capture at Cleveland, where three railroad trains fell into our hands. The rebel cavalry returned to Knoxville, arriving on Saturday previous to the famous Sunday assault at Fort Sanders.

On the seventeenth of November, Colonel Foster reports that communication was cut off between the army at Knoxville and that portion under General Wilcox, stationed at and near Bull's Gap. On the eighteenth, his division, with General Wilcox's whole command, crossed the Holston River, and camped at Bean Station. The Second cavalry brigade, Colonel Graham, was sent down to Blain's Cross-Roads, to attempt to open communication with Knoxville. He found a heavy force of the enemy's cavalry between that point and Knoxville, and, after some skirmishing, followed General Wilcox's column to Tazewell.

From Bean Station, the First cavalry brigade, Colonel Garrard, was despatched to Rogersville, to watch the enemy's forces advancing from Virginia, and protect the rear of General Wilcox's column and train while crossing Clinch Mountain. They camped on the north bank of Clinch River. This brigade had some heavy skirmishing with the division of the enemy's cavalry under Jones, and with the infantry under Ran-

* See the Siege of Knoxville, Doc. 10, ante.

som, as it passed down to join Longstreet. As soon as the Clinch River became fordable after the rain, Colonel Graham's brigade crossed and encountered the enemy.

On the sixth of December, the whole division was consolidated, and as soon as it became known that the enemy was retreating, they attempted to cross Clinch Mountain above the Gaps, and harass the enemy's flank; but these Gaps were heavily guarded by the enemy, protected by artillery, with a heavy blockade of fallen timber. Some sharp skirmishing developed the fact that it would be a useless destruction of life to force a passage over Clinch Mountain, and the division moved down to Blain's Gap Roads, and joined General Shackleford in the rear of the enemy.

Colonel Graham, commanding the Second brigade, Second division of cavalry, reports that he marched from camp near the brigade over Powell River, on the main Cumberland Gap road, on the twenty-seventh of November, moving *via* Tazewell to Walker's Ford. On the twenty-eighth, crossed the Clinch, and bivouacked at Brooks's, four miles distant. On the twenty-ninth, he moved to Maynardsville, and on the thirtieth thence toward Knoxville, sending a detachment of the Fifth Indiana cavalry in advance. Having proceeded fifteen miles, he came up with a rebel patrolling party, and soon afterward learned that a considerable force was at Blain's Cross-Roads. He moved back to Maynardsville, and on the morning of December first his pickets were attacked at the Gap, four miles below Maynardsville, on the Knoxville road.

Reinforcements were sent, consisting of detachments from each regiment and two of the Fourteenth Illinois howitzers. More or less firing continued during the day, both parties holding their ground. A scouting-party sent toward Blain's Cross-Roads was driven back. Finding that a considerable cavalry force was approaching, with a view of surrounding him, Colonel Graham, at midnight, fell back to Walker's Ford, leaving company M, Fifth Indiana cavalry, to guard the Maynardsville road. On the morning of the second, his pickets were attacked, but, notwithstanding his command had been marching all night, arrangements were made to meet and repel the attack.

The Fourteenth Illinois cavalry were sent to the river and down the road, and a section of Colbin's battery was sent to Walker's Ford. At half-past seven A.M., the enemy forced in his pickets. The Sixty-fifth Indiana took position on the left of the line; a portion of the Second and Third batteries of the Fifth Indiana cavalry in the centre, and one company of the Sixty-fifth and one of the Fifth Indiana cavalry on the right. The guns of the Fifth Indiana cavalry were placed in position upon rising ground in rear of the centre, where they did good service in keeping the enemy in check. Three companies of the Fifth Indiana cavalry, under command of Major Woolley, and one section of Colvin's battery, under Captain Colvin, were placed in reserve. The firing became brisk, and the enemy attempt-

ed to turn his flank; but a timely movement to the rear prevented him from doing so.

The Union forces were brought into close order under cover of a fence and log-barn near Yeardon's house. Here the enemy made a charge in column, which was splendidly met by our forces, and which proved decidedly disastrous to the enemy. A second onset was made, with increased fury, when our men fell back, manfully contesting every foot of ground to a point one mile from the river. Here we were reinforced by the One Hundred and Sixteenth and One Hundred and Eighteenth Indiana infantry, under Colonel Jackson. Our forces crossed the Clinch in good order, and there ended the contest. The enemy, according to reports of citizens and prisoners, consisted of five brigades of cavalry and mounted infantry, under command of Major-General Martino. The enemy intended to surround and capture Colonel Graham's command, but was foiled in his purpose.

The enemy's loss was admitted to be twenty-five killed, about fifty wounded, and twenty-eight prisoners. Major-General Martin was wounded in the wrist; Colonel Deboel, commanding brigade, was seriously, if not mortally, wounded; his adjutant-general was killed; and Captain —, who led the charge, was also killed. Colonel Graham speaks in the highest terms of the unflinching courage and steadiness of his officers and men. Our loss is stated as follows:

Sixty-fifth Indiana mounted infantry, two killed and six wounded; Fifth Indiana cavalry, five men killed, two officers and ten men wounded, and ten missing; Fourth Illinois cavalry, seven men wounded, eleven missing. Total, seven killed, twenty-three wounded, twenty-one missing.

The report of Colonel Capron, of the Fourteenth Illinois cavalry, confirms the facts of the foregoing report, showing that the officers and men of his command twice repulsed the enemy, who charged with greatly superior force. The engagement began at ten A.M., and lasted until three P.M. They captured eighteen prisoners on the second and third of December.

BRAN STATION, December 18, 1863.

LATEST.—A reconnaissance to Morristown yesterday found the enemy in considerable (cavalry) force between that place and Russellville. There was some sharp skirmishing. We lost four killed and several wounded.

Doc. 119.

GENERAL WIRT ADAMS'S EXPEDITION.

NATCHEZ, MISS., December 11, 1863.

MR. EDITOR: It has been so long since you have had any warlike news from this military division, that you and the country have probably regarded this, the garden of Dixie, as neutral ground, and but for the restless spirits that are now in command of our forces, we would in all probability have sunk into the quiet and obscurity of good old Union times. Our military com-

manders appear to have also taken this view. General Crocker and his brigade were withdrawn, leaving only two regiments under Colonel Johnson, and the Second and Sixth Mississippi, of African descent, as a garrison. But hardly had the forces been disposed off by the Colonel, so as to meet any probable contingency, or the last echoes of the steamer bearing off General Crocker fairly died away, when the first mutterings of a coming storm aroused us from our fancied security.

A couple of scouts, captured by Colonel Farrar, Thirtieth Missouri, told of a secret expedition then on the move from Clinton, in a southerly direction. Three days after, General Wirt Adams, with a cavalry command of two thousand five hundred men and ten pieces of artillery, passed through Washington, seven miles out, moving to the south of Natchez, as was reported. Colonel Farrar was sent out with a mounted force of fifty men, to feel the enemy, and obtain some reliable information of their movements. That same night, General Gersham arrived on steamers from Vicksburgh, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery, and moved out on the Palestine Road. The cavalry, six hundred strong, joined Colonel Farrar at Washington, who, assuming command, by order of General Gersham, pushed on in pursuit of the enemy, known to have been near Ellis's Cliffs, on the Woodville Road, twelve miles south of Natchez, the evening previous. The Colonel, by debouching to the left, and taking cross-roads through plantations, and aided by the darkness of the night, succeeded in bringing his command directly in the rear of the enemy, drove in their pickets, and forming his men in line of battle, held his position during the night. At daybreak, the enemy opened vigorously with artillery, and finding that the infantry could not possibly arrive in time to support him, the Colonel determined to fall back. The column was put in motion, the rear-guard skirmishing briskly with the enemy over three miles of the road, yielding foot by foot to the overwhelming foe, until at eight a.m., when General Gersham, with his infantry supports, came up. A line was formed, and their advance checked. Seeing that they would now have to fight on nearly equal terms, the chivalry drew back, and probably thinking that they were well out of their own trap, retreated with all speed on the Kingston Road. All being well mounted, pursuit would have been useless, and by nightfall they were far from Natchez.

As usual, great excitement and alarm existed in the threatened city. The ladies, those inveterate secesh, thronged the streets, asking the few officers they met "if they were not scared?"

It was worth a visit to their camps to see the behavior of our colored troops. The Second Mississippi artillery had just been armed, and the desire to get a shot at *ole massa* stuck out very plainly. They are getting to look very soldierly, and a funny little episode which occurred a few days previously, on the Louisiana side, evinced their mettle, and the spirit and

dash which characterize their commanding officers.

Colonel Farrar, commanding at Vidalia, learned one afternoon, through a lady, that a military ball was to be given that night at a Mr. Johnson's plantation, on Black River, thirty-three miles distant. Unfortunately, the Colonel's mounted force was on the Natchez side, having been scouting, and it was then too late to cross them to the Louisiana side. Determined not to let such an opportunity slip, he hastily mounted ten men of the Thirtieth Missouri and twenty-five of the Second Mississippi artillery, A. D., then on duty at that post, and with them, though not an invited guest, started for the scene of festivity. The route pursued led directly through the swamp, which being partially covered with water, rendered a rapid movement almost impossible. Nothing daunted, the little band pushed on, and by four o'clock a.m., had approached within half a mile of the house. Here dismounting, they moved cautiously along the unguarded road to within a few rods of the scene of mirth and merriment. The brilliant lights which gleamed from the windows, and the sweet cadence of the music, told that all went merry within. To rush through the gateway and surround the mansion was the work of a moment. Colonel Farrar and Captain Orgue dashing into the house, pistol in hand, demanded the surrender of every confederate officer and soldier there. They did this, will you believe it, O reader! followed by a squad of the rebels' own countrymen and brothers from the Second Mississippi heavy artillery of African descent! Of course the confederacy surrendered. Now, the Colonel, who is reputed to be as gallant as he is brave, not wishing to mar entirely so festive an occasion, kindly requested the guests to continue the dance. The music once more struck up; and not yet being too old for such enjoyment, the Colonel himself led upon the floor a fair and blushing daughter of the South, and with her was soon lost in the dizzy mazes of the waltz. Daybreak warned the little party of the danger of delay. The prisoners were hastily mounted on their own good steeds, adieus were given to their sorrowing friends, and each, with a sable guard by his side, commenced their northern journey. At eleven a.m., the little party had safely returned to Vidalia, accomplishing a march of sixty-six miles in fifteen hours. This is a good joke on the confederacy, and pays them for a similar trick played on some of our boys a year or so since, back of Memphis. Not the most agreeable part of the joke, so far as the secesh were concerned, was marching them through the city of Natchez between a dozen negro guards. Said one of them: "Can't we have a white guard, Colonel?" "No," said he, "the negroes took you, and it is right that they should guard you."

Doc. 120.

OPERATIONS IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

CHARLESTOWN, VA., Jan. 8, 1864.

At an early hour on the morning of the sixth instant, Colonel Boyd, commanding the cavalry brigade at Charlestown, started with his entire command and a section of artillery, for the purpose of reconnoitring the enemy's force and position. For some days past considerable excitement had prevailed relative to the intentions of Imboden and Early, and an attack upon Martinsburgh was considered imminent, until the timely arrival of General Averill restored confidence in our ability to resist and repel the enemy, in case such attack were made. In the mean time, however, Imboden had remained stationary in the vicinity of Winchester, and it was considered advisable to feel his actual strength and force him to fall back to his old quarters. He seemed to have anticipated this plan of ours, for when our cavalry reached Winchester, he made a retrograde movement in the direction of Strasburgh. Accordingly, our force marched as far as Newtown, the First New-York cavalry, under command of Major Quinn, being in the advance.

Some of the men having accidentally heard that the notorious Captain Blackford and a few of his men were in a certain house in town, determined on capturing the party. Sergeant Edwin F. Savacol, company K, was the first to discover the locality, although it was almost dark at the time. Blackford succeeded in escaping from the house by the rear, and took to the fields, closely followed by Savacol, who ordered him to surrender. He halted and held up his hands in token of surrendering. The Sergeant was satisfied and lowered his pistol, when the scoundrel immediately fired upon him and wounded him in the thigh, but the next instant a bullet from the pistol of the Sergeant passed through the traitor's heart. Both fell almost at the same time—the rebel a corpse, and the gallant Union soldier writhing under his wound. In this condition they were discovered after the pistol-shots had attracted our men to the spot.

Thus fell the notorious Blackford, the prince of horse-thieves, and a bushwhacker of the "first water." To give merit its due, it is but just to say of Sergeant Savacol that this is not the first occasion when his coolness and determination have elicited for him the respect of his officers and the approbation of his comrades in arms; and as they gathered around to bear him from the field, each ardent spirit wished that "Ed's luck had been his."

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SKIRMISH NEAR MAYFIELD, KENTUCKY.

CAIRO, ILLINOIS, January 20, 1864.

A DETACHMENT of the Fifty-eighth Illinois regiment, under the guidance of a citizen named Hood, met with the rebel guerrillas on Wednes-

day last, in the vicinity of Mayfield, Kentucky, and had a skirmish which resulted in the capture of nine of the Nationals, the death of their guide, and the severe injury of the Sergeant commanding the detachment. From a party fully acquainted with the facts the following particulars of the affair were obtained:

It appears that the citizens of Mayfield and surrounding country are nearly all of them strongly secesh, the Union men in the county numbering but about four hundred, and they have been in the habit of secreting bushwhackers and guerrillas, and doing many things which loyal parties call lending aid and comfort to the enemy. This the companies A and B, of the Fifty-eighth, located in the vicinity, determined to put a stop to. Hence scouting-parties were daily sent out to the distance of eighteen or twenty miles from Mayfield, with orders to arrest and bring in all suspicious characters, that they might have a trial before the proper commission. Some fifty or sixty rebel guerrillas, robbers, thieves, and murderers, have already been sent to Columbus as the result of these reconnoissances. It was in the course of one of these expeditions that the skirmish of Wednesday last occurred.

Sergeant J. Rowe, of Bureau County, with some fifteen men, including the scout Hood, a resident of Mayfield, but a Union man, mounted for the occasion upon mules, started out on Wednesday to catch some guerrillas, reported to the number of ten or twelve, as being prowling about the neighborhood, threatening to burn the houses of loyal citizens, stealing horses and cattle, and making mischief generally. They had proceeded some seventeen miles from Mayfield, when they were suddenly brought to a halt by a volley fired upon them from the under-brush at the roadside. The Sergeant ordered a halt, told the men to dismount from their animals and return the fire. This was performed. Hood, however, being used to horseback fighting, preferred to remain mounted, and was shot and instantly killed, falling from his horse, pierced by a bullet, at the roadside. Sergeant Rowe, being much exposed, received a ball through the hip, crushing the thigh-bone and inflicting what is supposed to be a mortal wound. After he had got down from his horse, however, and while enduring almost mortal agony, he saw a young private of the Fifty-eighth, named Tiffin, standing near him as though hesitating whether to shoot or not. The Sergeant cried out: "Fire upon the scoundrels! Why don't you fire?" The boy answered, coolly as a youth upon squirrel-shooting intent, dodging his head about, searching for something: "I'm not going to shoot until I see something to shoot at! There! I see something!" And he aimed his musket, fired, and a guerrilla dropped to the ground, shot through the heart.

But, notwithstanding the gallant conduct of our boys, they were overpowered by numbers, and fourteen captured, including Sergeant Rowe and Hood killed. The prisoners were as follows: privates Larkins and Conroy, of company A, and

Shepherd, Scott, Scoville, Van Duzer, and Davidson, of company B, Fifty-eighth Illinois.

Two of the Fifty-eighth escaped in gallant style. The officer commanding the guerrillas rode up to our men as they were standing where they had surrendered, ordered them to stack their arms, and concluding with the satisfactory threat that he was going to hang at least two of them on the spot. Young Tiffin, the lad mentioned as firing "after he saw something to fire at," thinking this was a hint for him, said he "couldn't see it," dropped his rifle to range, fired, killed the officer, and then made some tall walking into the timber, and escaped, although fired upon by the rebels several times. This example was followed by Skinner, of company B, another lad of only fifteen; he also bringing down his man, (it being proverbial with the Fifty-eighth that they leave but little for the rebel surgeons to do, when they get a chance to shoot,) and making good his escape to tall timbers. With the retreat of the two above, three others of the Fifty-eighth joined in; the entire five succeeding, as by a miracle, in reaching the Union lines that night in safety.

It may be remarked of Tiffin that, before shooting the rebel officer, and after being threatened by him with hanging, his ready wit did not desert him, and he retorted that: "The rebels had better not be too lavish in the use of ropes, as the Union men would soon have need of all they had in their country in hanging up guerrillas." In a lad of sixteen this was not expected. Tiffin has made himself quite a hero by killing two rebels, and making such a speech on the occasion of his *début* on the stage of war. He is now in his regiment, ready to do further service for his country.

After learning of the disaster which had befallen his men, Captain Lynch, at Mayfield, sent out Lieutenant Murphy and forty of the Fifty-eighth, mounted on horses and mules, loaned by the Union men of the vicinity, with orders to bring back the prisoners at all hazards, even if they had to burn and destroy every thing combustible in the country. The residents generally treated the detachment with the greatest courtesy, as it passed through to the town of Murray, some twenty-two miles from Mayfield, and not far from Louisville. Once, however, some rebel sympathizers misdirected Lieutenant Murphy, and delayed him several hours. He was accompanied by companies A and B, from which the killed, wounded, and captured of the Fifty-eighth had been taken; and it may be supposed they did not let grass grow under their feet as they sped along after the guerrillas. The weather was rainy, sleety, and cold, and the men suffered much; but they bore it unflinchingly, intent only upon rescuing their comrades, or taking bloody revenge upon the rebels.

While upon this march, Lieutenant Murphy was the recipient of orders to report with companies A and B at Cairo, as quickly as possible. Upon his arrival at Murray, a consultation was held, and it was hurriedly debated whether it was his duty to obey orders or keep on until he

found his missing men. It was finally decided to make one last and desperate effort, and in the event of its failure, to march to Mayfield, *en route* for Paducah, and go thence by boat to Cairo. Orders were then issued and sent by messengers to all the residents of the place, that the detachment had marched twenty-two miles through the enemy's country, in search of their brothers in arms. They were bound to have them. If the citizens of the town could produce them within a limited time, well and good. If not, the detachment gave due notice that they should devote the village to fire and destruction. This had the desired effect. The citizens made diligent search, and the prisoners named above, with the wounded Sergeant, Rowe, and the body of Hood, were all produced in double-quick time; and the well-satisfied detachment and its commanding officer marched back to Mayfield, were soon in Paducah, and to-day are safely in Cairo. The Mayfield loyalists are loud in their praise of the Fifty-eighth. They say they have done more to clear out guerrillas and treason-mongers than all the troops ever stationed in the vicinity. It will please all the friends of this command to know that Colonel W. F. Lynch, of the Fifty-eighth, has been made Brigade Commander of the Second brigade, Sixth division, Sixteenth army corps; and has taken the field for active service with his brave men.

T. H. W.

Doc. 122.

SHERMAN'S MISSISSIPPI EXPEDITION.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL SHERMAN.

VICKSBURG, February 27, *old* }
CAIRO, March 10, 1864. }

Lieutenant-General Grant, care of Major-General Halleck:

GENERAL: I got in this morning from Canton, where I left my army in splendid heart and condition. We reached Jackson February sixth, crossed the Pearl, and passed through Brandon to Morton, where the enemy made dispositions for battle, but fled in the night. We posted on over all obstacles, and reached Meridian February fourteenth. General Polk, having a railroad to assist him in his retreat, escaped across the Tombigbee on the seventeenth. We staid at Meridian a week, and made the most complete destruction of the railroads ever beheld—south below Quitman, east to Cuba Station, twenty miles north to Lauderdale Springs, and west all the way back to Jackson. I could hear nothing of the cavalry force of General William Smith, ordered to be there by February tenth. I inclose by mail this, with a copy of his instructions. I then began to give back slowly, making a circuit by the north to Canton, where I left the army yesterday, in splendid condition. I will leave it there five days, in hopes the cavalry from Memphis will turn up there. I will have them come in.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL BUTTERFIELD.

Major-General Butterfield, under date of Cairo, March eleventh, addressed the following to Lieutenant-General Grant or General Halleck:

General Sherman arrived yesterday at Memphis. His command is all safe. Our total loss in killed, wounded, and missing is one hundred and seventy only.

The general result of his expedition, including Smith's and the Yazoo River movements, are about as follows: One hundred and fifty miles of railroad, sixty-seven bridges, seven thousand feet of trestle, twenty locomotives, twenty-eight cars, ten thousand bales of cotton, several steam-mills, and over two million bushels of corn were destroyed. The railroad destruction is complete and thorough. The capture of prisoners exceeds all loss. Upward of eight thousand contrabands and refugees came in with various columns.

JOURNAL OF THE MARCH.

VICKSBURG, March 6, 1864.

DEAR EDITOR: On the third ultimo, Sherman's expedition left Vicksburg for Meridian, cutting right through the capital and across the centre of "proud Mississippi." The army was made up of two divisions—General Veatch's and General A. J. Smith's—Sixteenth army corps, and two divisions—General Leggett's and General Crocker's—Seventeenth army corps; together with Colonel Winslow's brigade of cavalry, and one brigade (General Chambers's) infantry; making in all forty-one regiments of infantry, three of cavalry, and seven batteries of light artillery, with one battalion of cavalry under Captain Foster, commanding the Fourth Ohio cavalry, of General McPherson's body-guard, two pioneer corps, and making a force of less than twenty thousand fighting men. I am thus particular in giving numbers, since our force has been everywhere overstated, and if any credit is due for what was accomplished, or blame ascribed for shortcomings, let praise or blame be awarded understandingly. A brief diary of events, marches, etc., will convey some idea of our trip.

February third, marched seventeen miles, crossing the Big Black at the old railroad bridge, and camped near Edwards's Dépôt. Weather fine and troops in good condition. General Hurlbut is crossing Big Black at Messenger, on the old Jackson road, six miles above our crossing.

February fourth, marched fourteen miles and camped beyond Champion Hills. Some skirmishing with the enemy.

February fifth, marched to-day fifteen miles, and camped two miles west of Jackson: Had sharp skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry, losing some seven men killed, thirty wounded, and thirteen prisoners. The enemy's loss was much heavier than ours.

February sixth, marched into Jackson. The Iowa brigade cross Pearl River, and take the advance. March of five miles.

February seventh, messengers from Big Black came through last night with despatches for General Sherman and found the enemy already in

our rear, to attack the supply-trains. Hope they will have a good time cutting our communications. Marched to-day thirteen miles to Brandon; Captain Foster commanding the cavalry advance, and Major Foster (Eleventh Iowa) the infantry advance. Our infantry advance made this distance in four and one half hours' marching time. Slight skirmishing.

February eighth, leaving Brandon "purified as by fire" of much rebel nutriment, we marched sixteen miles, and camp in a grove of pitch-pine. Thirteenth Iowa engaged in destroying the railroad.

February ninth, marched ten miles, to Morton Station, and engaged in tearing up railroad track; some miles of track torn up, rails heated and twisted, bridges, culverts, and stations burned, etc.; Sixteenth army corps, under General Hurlbut, pass to the front to-day; slight skirmishing to-day.

February tenth, marched fifteen miles to-day, and camped three miles east of Hillsboro', county-seat of Scott County, which place was purified also as above written. The "payment in kind" of tithes of the farmers' and planters' crops to the rebel government, which has been collected in large quantities at these towns, feeds now the vandal hosts, and the residue is consigned to the flames, which sometimes spread to buildings not ordered to be burned. The jail, too, where Sambo once waited for his kind and indulgent master, vanished in smoke and ashes. We hear of slight skirmishing again to-day in front.

Three men of the Iowa Thirteenth and two of the Iowa Sixteenth were captured while out foraging. One other was captured, robbed of hat, coat, and boots, shot twice after being taken, and left for dead, but got back to camp in the night. He thinks his comrades were murdered after being taken.

February eleventh, lay in camp until six p.m., then out all night, making seven miles through the swamps. Thirteenth Iowa sent forward to support cavalry in a raid on Lake Station. Dépôt and road destroyed, also two locomotives and thirty cars.

February twelfth, marched eighteen miles to Decatur, county-seat of Newton County. Purified. Slight skirmish. We lost twelve men killed; the rebels lost six men killed, and twelve wounded and taken prisoners.

February thirteenth, marched thirteen miles, and packed our extra teams. The Iowa brigade remain four days with the transportation, guarding it, and skirmishing with the enemy; then marched on the eighteenth to Meridian. Here the destruction of rebel property was very great, including railroad and railroad buildings, State arsenal, with guns, machinery, etc., all of which are utterly destroyed. General Crocker's division went south, twenty-seven miles, utterly and completely wiping out the railroad, and also the rebel camps at Enterprise, Quitman, etc. The cavalry did a similar work east to the State line, and the Sixteenth army corps north to Lauderdale

Springs. This grand crossing of the main railroads of the south-west, at Meridian, is crossed out for the war, and the "tax in kind" will hardly be wagoned out of Mississippi to any great extent.

February twentieth, commenced our return march, making sixteen miles.

February twenty-first, marched fourteen miles to Decatur.

February twenty-second, marched eighteen miles.

February twenty-third, marched twelve miles to Hillsboro. Found the graves of Walker (company I) and Griggs, privates of the Thirtieth Iowa, both murdered after being captured, as narrated above.

February twenty-fourth, the "Iowa brigade" marched twenty-three miles in eight hours and a half, to Pearl River, to guard pioneers in building bridges over the river on the Canton road.

February twenty-fifth, finished the bridge and crossed to-day.

February twenty-sixth, marched thirteen miles to Canton, county-seat of Madison County, remaining four days, the town guarded by the Iowa brigade.

March first to fourth, marched sixty-four miles to Vicksburgh. Some skirmishing. Lieutenant Kilpatrick, with nine men, was captured while out foraging.

As the result of our expedition, we cut off the rebel supplies from this State, demonstrated the ability of our veterans to go where they please, brought in some two hundred and fifty prisoners of war, about as many refugees, nearly six thousand negroes, (several hundred of whom go into our army,) several hundred teams, with cattle, mules, horses, etc., in large numbers. We buried sixty rebels killed, and lost ten killed in action. Our losses were small, and mostly from stragglers and small foraging parties captured—in all not exceeding two hundred and fifty.

B. MINER.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

ON BOARD THE STEAMER CONSTITUTION, }
March 5, 1864.

The expedition under the command of General Sherman set out from Vicksburgh on February third, in two columns, one under the command of General Hurlbut, proceeding by the old Jackson road, and crossing the Big Black by a pontoon-bridge at Messenger's Ferry; the other under command of General McPherson, crossing the river at the railroad bridge. In order to facilitate the progress of the army, all unnecessary baggage was left behind, the soldiers taking twenty days' rations. The weather was beautiful, and the roads in excellent condition, and every thing bid fair for a speedy and successful march. What made it much more auspicious than such expeditions usually are, was the fact that the enemy knew little or nothing in regard to our numbers and intentions; in fact, the expedition was a complete surprise to them, and throughout the march they seemed completely nonplussed and at a loss what to do. The coun-

try from Vicksburgh to the Big Black is completely stripped of every thing that can afford sustenance to man or beast, and such is the case only in a less marked degree as far as Jackson.

After crossing the Big Black, both columns had skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry at intervals until we arrived at Jackson. The cavalry belonged to S. D. Lee and Ferguson's commands. These skirmishes, though in some cases severe, caused our forces but little delay, as they speedily drove the enemy back. In this day's skirmishes, the enemy acknowledge a loss of ten killed and thirty or forty wounded. Among the former was Major Bidden. This loss was at least twice as great as our own. The confederates had four pieces of artillery, and there is no doubt that it was their intention to make a stand at the fortifications of Jackson. These fortifications consist of earthworks and rifle-pits, and would have afforded considerable protection against an assailing party. A force of cavalry was sent out by another route, which ran parallel to the main road, and succeeded in flanking them, when they retreated in great haste. Our cavalry captured one of their guns, a rifled tampioner, with caisson, horses, etc., and several prisoners. The flight of the enemy through the town and across Pearl River, was a perfect skeddaddle. So great was their haste, that they had no time to destroy the fine pontoon-bridge which they had erected across Pearl River, except to cut the ropes; and it was used the next day by our troops in crossing. After our army had crossed, and was on the way to Brandon; the bridge was destroyed by the confederates to cut off our retreat. We had no desire to retreat till our mission was accomplished. Jackson is a sorry-looking place; all the public buildings having been destroyed, except the State House and City Hall. Besides the public buildings, nearly all the stores and many private dwellings have been burned. Most of it was done during the occupation of the city by our forces one year ago.

Our march from Jackson to Brandon was mostly free from skirmishing, the enemy having become thoroughly demoralized and chiefly occupied in making good their escape. We found plenty of meat and corn on the route, which the soldiers were not slow to avail themselves of to lengthen out the supplies which were brought with us. It was the expectation, when the expedition started out, that they would draw most of their supplies and all the forage for horses and mules from the country. There was very little difficulty in finding enough for our purpose, even in the most barren part of the country which we passed through. There was nothing left, however, after our passage, and in many instances the people must suffer for the want of food. The statements that the confederates would suffer from starvation are without foundation. There is plenty of corn and meat in the country, but very little else; yet this will serve to sustain life, and people can fight, living on this alone, if they can get nothing else. They appear to

suffer more from want of proper clothing than any thing else.

The country from Jackson to Brandon is very good, and there are many fine plantations. We passed through the latter place on the eighth ultimo. It is a pleasant village, and the county-seat of Rankin County. This county has a voting population of more than one thousand two hundred, and gave one hundred and sixteen majority against secession when the State went out of the Union. Honorable J. J. Thornton, a resident of this town, was the only member of the State Legislature that voted against secession when the final vote was taken. His drug-store was plundered by our troops. Quite a large quantity of meal was found at this place, which was seized for the use of the army. A large number of private dwellings were burned here as well as at other places on the route, but they were in nearly every case deserted houses and their owners in the rebel army. The burning was mostly done by stragglers, and there were strict orders issued against it by the Commanding Generals. The railroad had been put in good repair by the rebels from Meridian to Jackson, and from the latter place through Canton north to Grenada. It was by this road that the confederates at Meridian and Mobile got most of their supplies. The trains ran until the day before we arrived. We destroyed the road at different places all the way through to Meridian.

The march from Brandon through Moreton to Hillsboro was devoid of interest, except an occasional skirmish with the enemy's cavalry, in which they invariably got the worst of it. This is in part owing to the fact that our cavalry always dismount in skirmishing with the enemy in the woods, which gives them the advantage of getting under cover and moving about with greater facility. The country through which we passed is sandy and barren, and the timber wholly pine. The inhabitants were scattered and belong to the poorer class, yet we found no difficulty in finding meat and corn for forage. Hillsboro is a scattered town of twenty houses, and the county-seat of Scott County. Beyond Hillsboro, toward Decatur, we found the bridges across the creeks destroyed, and trees felled across the road. These impediments caused some delay, but a pioneer corps was organized and the contrabands set at work, who soon put things to rights.

The largest streams we passed were the Big and Little Chunky. At the Big Chunky we had quite a skirmish with the enemy, in which several of their number were killed and wounded; our loss was trifling. A force was sent to Chunky Station, twelve miles south of our route, to destroy the railroad. They had quite a severe skirmish with the enemy, but succeeded in accomplishing their object. This force, moving in that direction, led the rebel General Polk to think that our army had started for Mobile, and caused him to send a portion of his force at Meridian in that direction, and led to the subsequent evacuation of that post.

We omitted to state that our train was attacked by about forty rebel cavalry while passing through Decatur, on the evening of the twelfth ultimo. Several of the mules were killed or disabled, but none of the wagons were captured, and the rebs were speedily driven back.

On the twelfth and thirteenth we passed several swamps where a small force might have detained us a long time, and perhaps effectually kept us back, but it was evidently no part of the rebel programme to fight; they were all too busy in making good their escape. In fact, what few confederates we saw, appeared to be completely demoralized. On the evening of the thirteenth our advance encamped within ten miles of Meridian. As Polk was known to have quite a large force, our boys were in hopes of having a fight. On this evening our cavalry had a skirmish with the confederate cavalry, which resulted in the death of half a dozen of the latter without any loss to us. On the morning of the fourteenth our forces were up and moving bright and early. After proceeding within four miles of Meridian, we found a bridge burned across a small creek which caused a delay of two or three hours.

After passing the creek a short distance, we found a sort of breast-work and cotton bales piled up for artillery, as though the confederates designed to make a stand. It was an admirable place for the purpose; but their hearts evidently failed them, and we found their works deserted. About two miles from the town we passed the winter-quarters of the confederate troops. They appeared to be quite comfortable, and admirably located. Soon after passing the camps, our cavalry, under Colonel Winslow, encountered the rear-guard of the enemy; but the gallant Colonel made short work of them, and drove them through the town toward Demopolis, at a double-quick. Immediately following the cavalry came the Third division of the Sixteenth army corps, with flags flying and bands playing national airs. It must have been a novel sight to what few inhabitants were left. They had not witnessed any thing of the kind before since the fall of Sumter. There were no manifestations of joy exhibited by the inhabitants of Meridian, nor indeed were there at any place on the route. The people looked upon it very much as they would on a flood or conflagration—as something which could not be helped, and could only be made the best of.

The march from Vicksburgh to Meridian was accomplished in eleven days. The distance is not far from one hundred and fifty miles. We were now in the very heart of the enemy's country, with no possibility of communication with any point, and supplies enough to last us but a very few days. Where was the boasted Southern Confederacy, that they did not attack and annihilate our little army? Nothing in the whole war has shown the rebel weakness, the inside rottenness of the Confederacy as plainly as this expedition. Polk has been censured by the Southerners for not attacking Sherman; but if he had, he would most assuredly have been beaten.

Polk had in the aggregate from fourteen to fifteen thousand men. Nine thousand infantry, under the command of Generals Loring and French, and five thousand cavalry, under the command of S. D. Lee, Wirt Adams, and Ferguson. In an advantageous position this force, if concentrated, might perhaps have made a stand and caused us considerable delay, but the result could not but have been disastrous to the rebels. The braggadocio spirit, and even the disposition to fight, has nearly gone out of the confederates. Very many of them are convinced that it is of no use to fight longer, and that they can get just as good terms now as ever. They think the war is kept up merely for the leaders, and that is a poor cause to fight for.

Meridian is a new town, built in the pine woods, and derives its only importance from its railroad connections. The Mobile and Ohio Railroad intersects the Southern. These roads not only afforded the confederates means of communication, but supplies from Mobile and other points were obtained over these roads. Their importance to the confederates is almost incalculable. One great object of the expedition was the destruction of these roads, and it is needless to say that it was successfully accomplished. The rails were first torn up, and then the ties were dug up and piled together. Afterward the rails were placed across the ties and fire set to them. The rails becoming heated, bent down at each end, thus becoming totally unfit for use. This process was carried on for at least a dozen miles in each direction from Meridian, besides at other places along the route. The scarcity of iron in the Confederacy makes the loss doubly severe to the rebels. It will be a long time before the roads are repaired again, if it is ever done by the confederates. A force was sent south as far as Enterprise, where they had a slight skirmish with the enemy. Also one as far north as Marion, where they had another skirmish. Our cavalry was saved a great deal of skirmishing by the use of artillery. A few shells sent among the rebels judiciously would invariably send them skedaddling pell-mell. The booming of our cannon was always the signal for them to start. It seems that the confederates thought they were perfectly secure in Meridian, as the officers were building for themselves fine residences. General Polk, the fighting Bishop, had one partly finished. Our boys finished it for him, as well as those belonging to the other officers. There was quite an extensive arsenal in the place where old guns and pistols were altered, so as to be good as new. Also bayonets were altered to what they think a superior pattern, but our boys did not like their appearance as well as our own. They were broader and more flat than ours. The arsenal was destroyed, together with the railroad buildings, and several buildings containing commissary stores. The confederates had removed most of their stores. Had General W. S. Smith's cavalry expedition arrived as was intended, no doubt much of their stores would have been destroyed. During our

stay at Meridian, some foraging parties were attacked by the enemy's cavalry, and a few of our boys were wounded, but none killed. To destroy what was of use to the enemy in and around Meridian, required five days. It is needless to say that the destruction was thoroughly accomplished, and that it will be a long time before the rebels will wish to see the Union army in that vicinity again.

Having accomplished the object of the expedition, and our provisions running low, the expedition started back on the twentieth ultimo. The route chosen was through Canton, to the northward of the one going out. This was done, partly that supplies might be obtained, and partly for the reason that there was confederate property to be destroyed. On the return march, the contrabands began to pour in upon us by hundreds. Old men and young men, women and children, of all ages, some on foot, some on horseback, and some in wagons drawn by oxen. It was a motley sight. Officers were appointed over them, who sought to keep them together, but this was next to impossible. Men might be seen who started with a large family and lost them every one. They were undoubtedly somewhere with the train, and cared for as well as possible.

One thing the darkeys showed themselves fully susceptible of: the art of foraging. Not a chicken or a pig showed its luckless head, but, in the words of the darkeys themselves, it was a *goner*. Nothing so nettled the secessionists as to have things taken from them by the negroes. If our soldiers took what they wanted to eat, they seldom uttered a word, but took it as a matter of course; but let a contraband capture any thing, and they complained bitterly.

Our march to Canton was devoid of interest. The country is sandy and the soil poor, until we approach Pearl River. This we crossed on a pontoon-bridge. Afterward the country becomes better, and we passed many fine plantations. We found considerable cotton at different places on the route, all of which was burned. One of our men who had straggled from his command, was found tied to a tree and shot. He was not dead when found, and was taken along with us, but the poor fellow could hardly recover. During the march we lost several men by straggling, but for the distance marched the number of stragglers was remarkably small. As a general thing our soldiers stood the march remarkably well. Enough horses and mules were captured so that those who were sick and tired out could ride. Canton is a fine village and contains many splendid residences. It is really the prettiest place in the State. It is situated about one hundred miles from Meridian, and seventy from Vicksburgh. Fifteen locomotives were captured near this place. Their loss will be great to the rebels, as they are very much troubled to obtain rolling stock. Their cars and engines are nearly worn out, and their means for replacing them are very limited. The railroad was destroyed at this place for a long distance. A large quantity of meal was obtained at this place, which came very opportunely for

our soldiers, for their hard tack had nearly given out. From Canton, the larger part of the train and the contrabands were sent to Vicksburgh in advance of the main army. The second night out from Canton it rained, and continued to do so the greater part of the next day. This was the first rain of any account that we had experienced on the expedition. This was enough to show us how impossible it would have been for the expedition to have succeeded had the weather been rainy instead of dry and pleasant. It was so muddy that the train was all day going the distance of eight miles, and worked very hard at that. It was enough to make one's heart bleed to see the poor contrabands, shivering with the cold, children crying, and women moaning piteously, all endeavoring to the best of their ability to keep up with the train. Their troubles were of short duration, for the weather soon cleared up, and they were able to keep up with the train quite comfortably. The rest of our march to Vicksburgh was accomplished without any event worthy of notice. We arrived on the second instant, having been absent from that place almost a month.

The confederates will consider this expedition as the boldest move of the war. For an army no larger than that which accompanied Sherman to advance into the very heart of the Confederacy without any communication for nearly a month, and that, too, where the rebels had a perfect railroad communication, was truly a bold move. It shows more plainly than any thing else that has transpired the real weakness of the Confederacy. Had they the troops to spare from any point, or could they have been raised in any manner, he would not have been allowed to return without serious opposition. It is an eye-opener to the people of Mississippi, and can hardly but convince them that it is useless to protract the war longer. Nearly all with whom we conversed, confessed as much. Regarded in this light, the expedition has done a great deal of good.

Nearly one hundred miles of railroad were destroyed, and that in such a manner that it will have to be entirely rebuilt with new iron—a very easy job, when we consider the scarcity of that article at the South, and the increasing scarcity of labor. These railroads were of untold value to the South, as a means of communication with different parts of the Confederacy, and for the transmission of supplies. Besides the railroads and railroad-buildings, other buildings and stores, horses and mules captured to the number of two or three thousand, and contrabands to the number of five thousand, will swell the amount of loss to the confederates to nearly twenty millions of dollars. The country through which we passed was obliged to be stripped of nearly every thing eatable to support our army. As the people must seek sustenance elsewhere, it is really taking supplies away from the confederates. There was considerable destruction of private property, which may hardly be considered justifiable; yet the houses destroyed were almost invariably deserted, and their owners, in all pro-

bability, in the confederate army. Quite a quantity of cotton was also destroyed.

This was done with little or no additional expense to our Government, as the army drew most of its supplies from the country.

The loss on our side is trifling. Probably one hundred will cover the killed, wounded, and prisoners. The loss of the enemy was much greater in killed and wounded, and we captured more than two hundred prisoners and deserters, among them several officers. Our soldiers endured the long march remarkably well, and there were very few cases of sickness.

The five thousand contrabands is taking just so much from the productive interest of the country, and consequently from the confederates. Nearly all the able-bodied ones will enter the army. In fact, we were informed that one thousand have already done so. The remainder will be sent to the contraband camp and employed to work on the plantations as occasion may require.

The weather, with one or two slight exceptions, was delightful throughout the trip. Had this not been the case, the expedition would have been greatly delayed, as the roads in some parts of the route would have been nearly or quite impassable. The nights were cool and frosty, and sometimes the ice froze quite thick.

The expedition may be considered a success, as all was accomplished that was designed or in our power to accomplish. But for the unaccountable non-arrival of General W. S. Smith's cavalry expedition from Memphis, perhaps more of the confederate commissary stores and more prisoners might have been captured. Some may be disappointed, because Sherman did not follow up the enemy to Mobile, but a little consideration by one acquainted with the facts in the case and the difficulties to be overcome will convince him that such a thing was altogether impracticable. Mobile can be attacked with more hope of success in another direction.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

VICKSBURG, MISS., March 4.

The great raid of the war is about ended, and the army which has marched over four hundred miles in thirty days, and which has left so many terrible marks of its prowess in its track, will soon be snug in quarters on the banks of the Mississippi. The consequences of the expedition are beyond calculation, and the damage done to the confederate cause cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. Injury has been inflicted which Jeff Davis and all his dominions have not the power to repair. A breach has been made within the limits of their dominions which will never be closed during the life of this rebellion.

Portions of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth army corps, commanded respectively by Major-Generals Hurlbut and McPherson, with Major-General Sherman in command of the expedition, left their camps on the third ultimo, and crossed Black River in two columns, the Sixteenth forming the left wing of the army, at Messenger's

Ferry, and the Seventeenth, which formed the right, at the railroad-bridge, eight miles below.

No tents were taken with us, and all, from the General Commanding to the rank and file, bivouacked by a thousand camp-fires in the open air, on the first night, five miles east of Black River, having marched a distance of twenty miles.

One brigade of cavalry, under command of Colonel Winslow, and a battalion, commanded by Captain John Foster, accompanied the expedition, and on the morning of the fourth, Foster's advance-guard was met by Adams's rebel cavalry, at Champion Hills, who charged upon our small force, running over them, and taking seven prisoners. Their loss was one man killed and one wounded and left on the field. Captain Foster pushed forward and made a dash upon the enemy, and routed him with considerable loss. Their forces, consisting of about seven thousand men, commanded by Generals Wirt Adams, Ross, and Ferguson, and the whole under command of General S. D. Lee, then fell back to a commanding position on the west side of Baker's Creek, where our cavalry force encountered them in the afternoon, and were unable to dislodge them until an infantry force of the Seventeenth corps came up to join in the assault. The enemy had several pieces of artillery which he used upon us at this point with considerable effect. Our loss here was fifteen killed and a proportionate number wounded. The Tenth Missouri cavalry suffered most, but company I, Twelfth Wisconsin infantry, lost three men by a shell from the enemy, and Colonel Rogers, of the Fifteenth Illinois, was slightly wounded by a rifle-shot. At sundown the enemy had been driven across Baker's Creek, and we held the bridge during the night with two twenty-pounder Parrotts, supported by two regiments of infantry. During the night General McPherson communicated by one of his aids, Lieutenant Vernay, with General Hurlbut, who lay six miles north of us, and learned that the enemy was stubbornly disputing his advance.

At sunrise, on the morning of the fifth, the enemy commenced a heavy artillery-fire upon us from the crest of a long ridge which ran parallel with Baker's Creek and three fourths of a mile distant from it. An open level plain lay between us, and the enemy's column could be distinctly seen from our camp in line of battle. The third and fourth divisions of the Seventeenth corps, Brigadier-Generals Leggett and Crocker commanding, were thrown across the creek, and formed in line of battle, facing the enemy, while our Parrotts replied rapidly to the call made upon them by the enemy's guns. Twenty minutes were consumed in forming the line of battle, when the word "forward" was sounded along the lines, and the troops moved forward steadily, coolly, irresistibly. It was a spectacle which, for dazzling splendor, has been seldom equalled, never excelled. Our troops were formed in two columns, about half a mile in length, and with an interval of two hundred yards between, the whole preceded by a strong line of

skirmishers; and as all moved forward with the precision of clock-work, with banners and battle-flags unfurled, and ten thousand bayonets blazing in the light of a bright morning sun, while a solid column of sullen, grim "graybacks" stood waiting their approach, each of us felt proud to claim a place in the army of the United States. Our troops were anxious, and all preparations had been made for a determined and desperate onset; but they were doomed to disappointment. When our front column came within long rifle-range, the ranks of the enemy broke, and they fled in confusion. Our men went forward at a double-quick with a terrible yell, and overtook the retreating foe in a dense skirt of timber in rear of their position, and cut them to pieces badly, killing and wounding a great number of men and horses, all of which fell into our hands. Our loss here was about twenty-five killed and wounded.

The enemy retreated as fast as possible, and passed through Clinton as our advance entered the town. The road from Messenger's came in here, and the Sixteenth corps came in after the Seventeenth had passed through the place. Lee again planted his artillery in such a manner as to command the road two miles east of Clinton, but was soon routed, with slight damage to us. At this point, Lieutenant-Colonel William T. Clark's horse was shot from under him, and he received a slight scratch on the hand from a rifle-ball. We passed forward as rapidly as possible, and at ten o'clock P.M., the Seventeenth army corps bivouacked among the ruins of the fallen city of Jackson. Our cavalry had pressed the enemy closely to this point, and as he entered the town was compelled to abandon a fine Whitworth gun, which fell into our hands. From here the enemy went north, to Canton, and crossed Pearl River, and marched again to our front, with his forces augmented by the addition of General Loring's division of infantry, seven thousand strong.

The sixth was consumed in constructing a pontoon-bridge across Pearl River, and in destroying a large amount of public stores and arms, and the track of the Mississippi Central Road, which had been repaired a short time before by the confederate forces. Five of General Jackson's couriers were captured during the day, and from despatches found on their persons, we learned that their loss so far had been two hundred and fifty men killed and wounded.

On the twelfth, we crossed Pearl River, and marched twelve miles to Brandon. A small force of rebel cavalry skirmished with our advance-guard all day, and we took several prisoners, and captured a number of horses and mules. A large lot of corn-meal and other subsistence stores were found and destroyed. We also obtained late files of Southern papers, one of which contained a correspondence from one Miss Latham, who was expelled from our lines some time since for taking on "horse-airs" in church. It made the startling announcement to the Southern public, that the "Yanks" had added an-

other animal to their menagerie in the person of "Beast McPherson." The General felt badly, but could not weep.

On the eighth, we encountered the enemy, fourteen thousand strong, at a point he had selected to check our progress, but a charge made by our cavalry, and a few rounds from our infantry, soon scattered them, and they again marched eastward in disorder. They formed their line of battle in front of a house occupied by a family, and a woman was unfortunately killed by one of our skirmishers. Lieutenant-Colonel Strong, under instructions from the General commanding, procured a coffin, and had the body decently interred.

A large number of prisoners and deserters were brought in at this place, who all agreed in saying that their army was in a most wretched state of demoralization, and that they were determined not to fight—that every preparation had been made here for fighting a desperate battle, and the officers made every effort to bring their forces into it, but utterly failed. The men said they had been defeated and cut to pieces by superior numbers repeatedly, under bad leadership; that they had retreated, and been harassed until they had no heart to fight and would not. One regiment was disarmed and sent back in arrest, and when volunteers were called for to attempt to hold their ground, they could not find an hundred to the regiment who were willing to make the trial.

The Seventeenth corps halted at Morton Station on the ninth, and the Sixteenth corps passed to the front. Great numbers of dead mules and horses lay along the road; wagons, ammunition, blankets, clothing, and guns, were scattered by the wayside, and all went to show the disastrous effects of that disorderly retreat.

We passed through Hillsboro, a town of about twenty houses, on the tenth, and on the eleventh passed on toward Decatur. During the day, Foster's cavalry was sent to Lake Station, on the Southern railroad, where they destroyed three steam-mills, two locomotives, thirty-five cars, dépôt, and machine-shop.

We encamped at Decatur, a dilapidated old town, on the night of the twelfth, and destroyed a large tannery. While the supply-train of the Sixteenth corps was passing through the place, Jackson's cavalry made a dash at it, and killed twenty-four mules, when a regiment of infantry came up and sent them howling to the woods, with a loss of several horses, and one man killed and one wounded. During the march of the thirteenth, they made a similar attempt upon the train of the Seventeenth corps, but were driven off before any damage was done.

On the fourteenth, we received word from the rebels that they would make a determined stand at "Summit Hill," a few miles in advance, and we began to look for a fight; but when we reached that point, we found a board nailed to a tree, upon which was written, in frightfully unmistakable characters: "18 miles to Hell!" But it proved to be a migratory locality, as we

never discovered it, unless the fellow meant Meridian, which we reached on the morning of the fifteenth, having marched one hundred and sixty miles in eleven days, with a desperate foe hovering upon our front, flank, and rear, during nearly every hour of the march.

Before we reached Meridian, General Force was sent to Chunky Station to destroy dépôt warehouses and a large amount of trestle-work, which he accomplished. He was attacked by Lee's cavalry, but soon put them to flight with severe loss. General Force captured and destroyed his train of seven wagons, all he had with him. Our loss was three men wounded, in the Forty-fifth Illinois infantry.

Meridian was a town made up of supply and railroad dépôts, storehouses, hospitals, officers' quarters, etc., all of which were burned. A large amount of shelled corn, salt, sugar, meal, bacon, and beef was found, which we either consumed or destroyed.

Detachments of the army went toward Mobile, Selma, and Columbus, Mississippi, and destroyed the track, trestle-work, bridges, and dépôts in all directions from Meridian. At Enterprise, a large amount of public stores, and several large supply dépôts and hospital buildings were destroyed. At Meridian, we found a large arms manufactory in successful operation, and it, with a large number of guns, was consumed by fire.

The army marched, on the twentieth, for Canton, coming on a route north of the one going out; arrived at Canton on the twenty-sixth, where it remained several days. Colonel Winslow had a severe skirmish with Adams's forces on the twenty-seventh, and on the twenty-ninth the same rebel force attacked and captured a forage-train of sixteen wagons, sent out by the Sixteenth corps. At Canton, twenty-one locomotives were captured and destroyed, together with a large number of cars and other public property. When we reached this point, we heard a great many rumors from General Smith's cavalry force, in most of which they claimed to have defeated Smith and driven him back.

General Sherman left his command at Canton, and came on with an escort to this place. The troops moved from there yesterday, and will be here in a day or two.

Some of the fruits of the expedition are the destruction of three hundred miles of railroad, cutting off all means of transportation this side of the Tombigbee, burning thirty mills, three thousand bales of confederate cotton, destroying twenty-five locomotives, one hundred cars, the capture of about five hundred prisoners, and between ten thousand and fifteen thousand negroes, who are on their way to this place. Besides this, about three hundred wagons and several thousand horses and mules were taken. The enemy, except a small cavalry force, was driven from the State, and all means of his occupying the country in force cut off.

Our troops subsisted on the country, and found large supplies of corn, etc., for stock, and subsistence for the men. Every thing was taken

but what was actually necessary for the subsistence of families residing on the line of march. A great deal of property was destroyed and many houses burned in all the towns we passed through—some of them unnecessarily perhaps, but it is accounted for by the fact that we did not enter a town, except Canton, from which we were not fired upon.

From Jackson to Meridian there is nothing but a succession of pine barrens and almost interminable swamps, across which the pioneer corps, under the direction of Captain Hickenlooper, constructed many miles of corduroy road before the trains could pass over.

I have not time nor space to relate incidents of the trip, but a report made to General Polk by a citizen scout whom he had sent out to ascertain our numbers, intentions, destination, etc., should not be lost. He had probably seen our wagon train, which required five hours to pass a given point, and became frightened at it, as his official report will show. It was that "there were precisely one hundred and fifty thousand Yanks, and that they were coming like damnation!—that each one had a label on the front of his hat, on which was the inscription, in large letters, 'Mobile or hell!'" About this time our cavalry entered the town, and the General mounted his horse and skedaddled. This was related to me by citizens, and is not a romance.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

SIXTEENTH IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, CANTON, }
MISSISSIPPI, February 29, 1864.

MR. EDITOR: General Sherman having taken the job of "cleaning out" Mississippi, we have "gone and done it," making a clear track from Vicksburgh to Demopolis, and are this far on our return, stopping a few days here to finish up a few little jobs, such as destroying twenty-three locomotives, a number of freight and passenger-cars, gather in a few thousand head of horses and mules, destroy a few miles of railroad, etc.

But to the expedition: we shall not attempt to give you all the particulars, nor half the important results of this expedition; but simply attempt to interest you by a narration of such incidents as may have transpired within our own observation, leaving the particulars and more important parts to those whose business it is to note these, and whose opportunities for knowing what has been accomplished are better than ours, a non-combatant in the rear of a regiment. On the evening of the second, we received marching orders, and at eight o'clock next morning were on the road. The expedition consisted of the Sixteenth army corps, and the Third and Fourth, and the Iowa brigade of the First division of the Seventeenth army corps, the whole estimated at about thirty thousand strong. The train consisted of about one thousand wagons, beside a large number of corps ambulances; you can perhaps imagine the majestic appearance of such an immense body of men and animals and wagons in motion; but to realize the scene requires a personal observation, obtained only by standing a

whole day in one place and seeing it pass. Our first day's march was not marked by any incidents of importance, save the excitement and commotion of getting fairly under way. We arrived at Black River about sunset, and encamped on the west side. The country from Vicksburgh to Black River is very rough, and the whole, as far as can be seen from the road, is one continued scene of desolation—deserted plantations, blackened chimneys, and fenceless fields, tell of the gloomy past. On the morning of the fourth we were again on the march at eight o'clock, passed safely over Black River on a pontoon-bridge, (small "flat-boats" laid side by side, fastened with ropes on each side of the river, and planked over.) A short distance on the east side of the river we passed through the battle-field of last summer; large trees cut entirely off, others split and shattered and scarred, tell of the terrible missiles which laid many a brave soldier wounded and lifeless upon the bloody field. We travelled slowly all day, and the same scene of desolation presented the day before was again witnessed to-day; in the evening we passed the place near Champion Hills where the rebels burned our wagon train last summer; a portion of the wreck still remains. At Champion Hills our front had a severe skirmish with the rebel cavalry; a number of both armies were killed and taken prisoners, but how many I have not learned, and do not expect to until I see it in Northern papers. We passed the battle-field of Champion Hills in the night, so we did not get to see that historical ground. About eleven o'clock at night we went into camp three miles west of Clinton, the "boys" in fine spirits, singing and laughing during the tedious night march as gayly as though they were approaching home, anticipating sweet repose on "downy pillows" instead of "grassy couches." The next morning we were awakened by heavy firing in front, and on looking round found marked evidences of there having been considerable fighting yesterday at the place where we were encamped; the rebels had made rail stockades, (rails built up in the form of a very acute fence-corner,) several horses lay dead and wounded, and some pieces of "grayback" uniforms lay around loose. The firing continued sharper and fiercer while we took breakfast and prepared to advance, but by the time we got started the reports were fewer and farther off. It was amusing to hear the talk among the boys as they listened to the booming of cannon and cracks of musketry; remarks like the following could be heard: "Them fellows in front are getting their veteran bounty." "Yes, in hard money, too; don't you hear them plank it down on the table?" After breakfast we moved forward, and within about a mile and a half from our place of encampment came to the place where our front had been engaged. The first thing I observed was a cap, half of which was torn off. I presumed some boy had torn it up and thrown it away; but a few steps brought me to the place where its former wearer lay, the front and top of his head blown entirely off, and

by his side lay his comrade, his head entirely gone—both killed, I afterward learned, by the explosion of a shell from a rebel field-piece. They were laid side by side preparatory to burial, and near them a leg which had been amputated on the field, a little further on the spot where the catastrophe occurred, was plainly shown; it was by the side of a large gate which opened into a field by the roadside; the boards were bespattered with brains and blood, and pools of blood and pieces of skull lay on the ground. It was indeed a sad, sickening sight. A little further on, several dead rebels lay in the woods; dead and wounded horses lay by the roadside. We do not know how many were killed and wounded here; all we could see were those near the road—five rebels and two Union soldiers. One of the rebels, when shot, had five fine hams of meat tied on his horse before him; being shot through the abdomen, our boys, after an examination, concluded they would not try the quality of the meat, not relishing the rebel blood with which it was covered.

Our portion of the army passed on as if nothing had occurred, arriving at Clinton about noon. Clinton is at present a very dilapidated-looking place, being visited once before and partially destroyed by our army. There is a Female Seminary there, a very fine building, but we judge poorly patronized these times. The country around is hilly, the soil red clay mixed with sand. Our brigade did not halt in Clinton, but passed on perhaps one half-mile, and halted opposite a grave-yard, where we nooned. While lying here the fighting in front became more severe. A number of wounded were brought back to Clinton, and several dead buried in the grave-yard where we lay. One poor boy of the Seventeenth Illinois was struck with a piece of shell on the neck, killing him instantly, though the skin was not broken. He stood but a short distance from us looking at the skirmishers in front. He was but a lad, a new recruit, and this his first and last campaign. Several balls and shells passed over us, one striking a soldier on the thigh, standing on the railroad track, a short distance on our left. About three o'clock P.M., we again started, the skirmishing in front still continuing, but the firing gradually getting farther off and less frequent, the rebels falling back. This continued until ten o'clock at night, when we went into camp (or rather bivouacked, as we had no tents) one mile west of Jackson.

The country we passed through that day was much better than heretofore, fine oak timber and well watered. After passing Clinton, the plantations were much larger and better (or rather had been) but they are now houseless and fenceless. We saw none of the killed and wounded of that day except those brought back to the grave-yard, as the fighting was off the road; there was, however, quite a number on both sides. I understood from the Medical Director of our corps that we had forty-five wounded at Clinton. We came across the body of a rebel soldier near the grave-yard, which they had commenced burying, but we

pushed them so closely that they left, having only put a few shovelfuls of dirt on him.

The train was delayed from some cause during the day, and did not get up that night; consequently the officers had no blankets, it being quite cold. It was really amusing to see them shiver around their camp-fires the livelong night, some trying to go to sleep, others to keep awake, and all in not a very amiable mood toward any one, but especially quartermasters, wagon-masters, and teamsters.

On the sixth, we remained in camp until noon, waiting for other troops to pass. Near Jackson, we halted before a most beautiful mansion, surrounded in a delightful manner with landscape garden, evergreens and forest trees; quite a variety of flowers were in full bloom. The rebels made a stand near this the day before; our cavalry made a charge upon them, capturing a very fine field-piece, all complete, with ten rounds of shell and eight horses. Several were killed in the charge. At two o'clock we entered Jackson, the capital of Mississippi, which in its day was a very pretty place, but before we left, it was almost a mass of smoking ruins. The Iowa brigade being sent in advance to guard the pioneer corps while constructing a pontoon across Pearl River, we entered the town with bands playing and colors floating in the breeze. It was truly a vivid picture of war to see the streets filled with armed men, squares of large brick buildings on fire, furniture of every description, from rocking-craddles to pianos, clothing, books, in fact almost every article of domestic utility and ornament, piled upon the sidewalks. Women and children running hither and thither, pictures of the most abject despair. There was no protection given the town, and but little mercy shown, as this was the third time our army had been compelled to come here, and we judge General Sherman rightly concluded that he would obviate all necessity of having to come again. We marched to the lower part of the town, and halted near the river, where the pioneers were at work. The rebels having repaired this road—N. O. I. and Grenada road—were busily engaged constructing means for getting their rolling stock over the river, and we came upon them so suddenly, that they left all their flat-boats and lumber for our use, which we of course appropriated, and in a few hours were ready to cross. After halting and stacking arms, I do not think it was ten minutes before the boys had torn down several frame houses for fuel. Weather-boards make fine fuel, and I think a regiment or two of soldiers can appropriate the boards off a two-story house about as quick as up North they would gather a basket of chips. We had an opportunity of conversing with several citizens here, mostly ladies, and although they are driven to the greatest straits for the simple necessities of life—flour two dollars per pound, sugar four dollars per pound, calico ten to twelve dollars per yard—they are rebels still. Walking along the street, a lady accosted us with: "What brought you all back here again?" "Well," we replied, "it has been about a year since we

were here last, and we thought we would come and see how your Confederacy flourished." "We didn't want you to come," she replied; "but if you are here, what do you burn all our houses for." "Why," we answered, "this is the third time we have had to come here, and the fact of the matter is, it wears out so much shoe-leather walking over these sandy roads, that we concluded to finish the job this time." "Well, sir, you will have to kill the women too; for, after you have killed all our men, us women will fight you." "If that be the case," we answered, "I presume we might as well commence now as any time, but as I don't like to commence on as good a looking lady as you, I will go back to the regiment and send the ugliest man we have to undertake the job." We started off accompanied by a flash from her eyes almost as vivid as the angry flames bursting from the windows of the burning houses near by.

We stopped in a house near where we were encamped, and found a lady with four small children, from Selma, Alabama. She had got this far on her way to Vicksburgh, but could go no farther, as they would not take her from Jackson to Vicksburgh for less than five hundred dollars, a sum which she could by no means obtain; so here she was with her little children and nothing to eat, not even corn-meal. One of the boys came and ground some coffee on her coffee-mill and gave her a millful for the accommodation. She seemed very thankful, and said it was the first she had got since the war commenced; that in Selma coffee was ten dollars per pound. She told a sad tale of the state of affairs in Alabama. Some of her friends and nearest neighbors had been hunted down by dogs, and one of them was literally torn to pieces; provisions were at starvation prices, and the whole country under a military despotism.

The State House is a very fine building. It, I believe, was the only good building that was not burned. The boys "captured" turkeys, geese, pigs, chickens, calves, etc., in sufficient quantities to give them at least one good meal; also, tobacco enough to do them through a month's campaign. Some of the citizens were very anxious that we should occupy and protect the city, for the question, "Where will we get any thing to live upon after you all leave?" was a very important one, vividly suggested to every reasoning mind: but as they made their bed, so must they lie.

In the evening we crossed Pearl River and encamped in a low, wet bottom, about a mile east of Jackson; the light from which, illuminated the heavens during the night.

The country around Jackson is quite good, and previous to rebellion was cultivated. There is still some farming going on, although work seemed to be suspended in honor of our arrival, (or perhaps more from fear of having their teams confiscated.) We noticed that considerable fence had been made recently, and some ground already ploughed for spring-planting. Many of

the farmers stood at the gate with buckets and tubs of water to give the boys a drink as they passed along—very kind in them—but a dodge, which did not, as they intended, save the contents of their hen and smoke-houses from being "appropriated" to the use of the "inevitable soldier," who seems to have an irrepressible longing for fat poultry and nicely-smoked hams. We found some rebel "hard tack" on the road, and we judge they too would require something oily to help it down; it is hard tack to all intents and purposes, made of unbolted flour and corn-meal.

On the morning of the seventh, we commenced march at eight o'clock. The road having at one time been graded for a plank-road, was very fine, and we advanced rapidly, our brigade being in front. We arrived at Brandon, the county-seat of Rankin County, about noon, without seeing or hearing any thing of the enemy. Our regiment was stationed in town as provost-guards, which gave us an opportunity of looking around. We were quartered in a grove surrounding a large brick building, used as a church below and a seminary above.

Before I had dismounted, I was somewhat amused and a little sorry for a venerable-looking Southern gentleman, who came riding with great dignity into our camp, on a very fine horse. He had scarcely got into the yard when three cavalymen rode up to him and demanded his horse; he refused at first, but finally succumbed, dismounted, and one of the soldiers got off an old, poor, jaded-looking animal, handed the venerable gentleman the reins, mounted the old fellow's blooded steed, and all three rode off in a hurry. Seeing the old gentleman looking rather distressed, I rode up and asked: "What's the matter, neighbor?" "Why, sir," he answered, "I am the Mayor of the town; I came here in search of General McPherson, to make some arrangement by which we could be protected, and they have taken my horse from me!" "Bad enough!" we replied; "these Yankees are terrible fellows, and you had better watch very closely, or they will steal your town before morning."

As he turned and rode away on his poor, old, worn-out cavalry-horse, looking like the personification of grief, seated on a very badly-carved monument of the equine race, we thought it about the best instance of stealing a horse and selling a mare (mayor) on record, and was worthy of being kept among the archives of the Southern Confederacy.

Brandon is a very pretty little town of some eight hundred inhabitants, and has some very pretty residences and a fine court-house, and before we came there it had some fine brick blocks, railroad depôts, etc., which are now *non est*. Every thing, however, looks neglected. Remark-ing this to a citizen, he said they had been unable to get nails for two years past, and could repair nothing. There seems to have been considerable wealth and quite as much aristocracy here in former days, both of which are rapidly declining.

Private residences were protected by provost-guards, but all public buildings were burned. The inhabitants seemed to expect nothing but that we would burn the town; they, however, soon became acquainted with us, and invited the officers to their houses to remain during our stay; gave them the best feather-beds in their houses, and treated them with genuine Southern hospitality; we judge, however, it was for self-protection rather than for any love they felt for "Lincoln's vandals." However, it was all the same to those who enjoyed the luxury of sleeping with their pants off, between clean sheets. As for ourselves, we got cheated out of our "soft snap," by one of our boys—a new recruit—shooting himself through the hand, so as to require the amputation of a finger, late in the evening, and it was too late, after we had him cured, for to "come in" on any of the applications for "officers to spend the night with them." We, however, took breakfast with a very nice family, had a very pleasant hour's chat, so much so, that we really forgot we were among enemies. The breakfast was not any thing extra, except extra bad butter and corn-bread, and a fair article of extra wheat coffee; but they treated us so kindly, and talked so sensibly about the war, and wished so heartily for peace, that we were almost persuaded they were not "secesh;" but if we were to believe all the citizens tell us, we would conclude no person ever desired a separation of the Union, and that they really thought Yankee soldiers were much greater gentlemen, more intelligent, and better men than their own "brave boys," and that there was no use in their trying to cope with so formidable a foe; all of which is, of course, true, but they don't believe a word of it.

A great many negroes joined us here, and many more were desirous of coming, but had no means of taking their families. We were much amused as we entered town, by a lady rushing out of a gate, and accosting an officer riding by, with: "Captain, is there no means by which I can get my boy back? He is going off with your army?" The officer replied: "Well, madam, I know of no law nowadays, civil or military, by which you can get him." At this she curled up her lip and contracted her nose, as if there were some very unpleasant odor in the atmosphere, and in a tone of the most utter contempt, she remarked, "Yes, yes, Abe Lincoln, Abe Lincoln!" turned upon her heels, and swung her hoopless skirt back through the gate in the highest dudgeon imaginable.

The boys having "reinforced" their stock of tobacco, the quartermasters having filled their wagons with corn-meal, bacon, etc., and added very materially to their stock of horses and mules, the medical department having got a small assortment of drugs, all at the expense of the Southern Confederacy, and the military authorities having destroyed all public property, and last, but not least, having driven the rebels from here, on the morning of the eighth, we again moved forward. As we were passing out of town, our

guards being removed and others not yet stationed, the negroes and soldiers broke into the stores, and it was interesting to see the manner in which they appropriated the various articles of merchandise. True, there was but little to appropriate, but what there was soon appropriated. In one store there was a lot of cotton cloth, and it was interesting to see the darkeys haul it into their arms, as a sailor takes in a line, until they had an armful, tear it off, and another take hold and haul it in, until he too had an armful, and so on, until the stock was exhausted.

We proceeded, without interruption, through a tolerably fair country; large plantations, with the dead trees yet standing, houses comfortably framed, without much pretensions to beauty or grandeur, burned several fine lots of cotton, and tore up more railroad than the Confederacy will repair this season.

At ten o'clock p.m., we bivouacked in a beautiful pine grove; the pines were perfectly straight, and perhaps one hundred feet to the first limbs. Here we learned that the rebels had formed a line of battle near our place of encampment some time during the day, and attempted to engage our front, but were quickly repulsed. During the engagement, a woman living near by—while gratifying her innate curiosity by watching the fight—was accidentally shot in her own doorway; her husband was in the rebel army, and she left four children, the eldest only fourteen years of age.

On the morning of the ninth, we started at eight o'clock, proceeded until one o'clock, when we arrived at Morton station, where we encamped to allow General Hurlbut's corps to pass.

Morton is a very small place, and consists of a few indifferent dwellings, railroad buildings, and one or two stores; while lying here, we burned the railroad building and a drug store, and destroyed the track for quite a distance.

But here come orders to march to-morrow morning; so I will stop for the present, and mail this at Vicksburgh, where we expect to arrive in four days, and finish my story when we get settled once more in camp. F. McC.

NEW-YORK TRIBUNE ACCOUNTS.

VICKSBURG, MISS., Feb. 28, 1864.

Considerable commotion exists in this obnoxious town to-day, occasioned by the sudden and unexpected appearance of the veteran hero, Major-General W. T. Sherman. The daring Yankee expedition into the interior of this rebel domain, Mississippi, has returned in triumph, accomplishing its important objects with but little loss of life. The *entrée* of General Sherman at an early hour this forenoon, covered with dust, and accompanied by three or four staff-officers and two mounted orderlies, created a great sensation among the secesh, with whom it had been currently reported that a rebel bullet had laid him low.

On the morning of February third, General Sherman, with a force of twenty-five thousand men, marched from Big Black River. General

Sherman and General Hurlbut's division crossed at Messenger's Ferry, five miles above the line of the Southern Railroad, and General McPherson's division at the railroad-crossing. After the entire army had crossed safely, orders were at once given to push on to Bolton, a small station at the Raymond Junction, on the Southern Railroad, some fifteen miles from the Big Black River. At this point our advance had a lively skirmish with the enemy, resulting in the killing of twelve men, and the wounding of thirty-five. The rebel loss was much larger, a number of their dead being left on the field. General McPherson's infantry forces marched up rapidly, and dispersed Lee's cavalry, estimated at six thousand men, without any serious encounter. With his usual energy, General McPherson continued to press them closely, and so hotly were the retreating rebels pursued, that, four miles east of Bolton, Acting Brigadier-General Winslow, formerly a Colonel of the Fourth Iowa cavalry, succeeded in flanking them with a force of one thousand four hundred cavalry. The capture of the whole force seemed inevitable at this juncture, but the main body escaped, and only a few prisoners were taken.

Without much opposition, the entire army marched rapidly toward Jackson, Lee's rebel cavalry fleeing in the greatest disorder in the direction of Canton, a flourishing little town twenty miles north of Jackson. Here Acting Brigadier-General Winslow's cavalry closed in upon the rebel columns, capturing a large number of prisoners and one piece of artillery, a ten-pounder Parrott gun, together with a caisson stocked with ammunition, which was subsequently used with good effect upon the enemy's lines. The prisoners taken belonged to Mississippi and Georgia cavalry regiments, with a few mounted infantrymen. Jackson was reached on the evening of February fifth, and General McPherson at once ordered the gallant Tenth Missouri cavalry regiment to secure the rebel pontoon-bridge across Pearl River. General French, the rebel officer, had crossed this bridge but a few moments in advance of our cavalry, and a large gang of rebels were busily engaged in destroying it, when the sudden appearance of the brave and determined Missourians caused them to beat a precipitate retreat. A number of their men embraced this favorable opportunity to desert to our lines, telling us doleful stories of the demoralization of the so-called confederates. The bridge was saved, and the next day our troops found this rebel pontoon-bridge convenient for crossing Pearl River. General Sherman ordered the advance to proceed to Brandon, some twelve miles distant, arriving there Sunday noon, meeting with but slight resistance on their march.

At Jackson, some twenty buildings were destroyed by the slaves, in retaliation for the inhuman cruelties perpetrated upon them by their rebel masters. At Brandon, similar scenes were witnessed, and the outraged bondmen and bondwomen revenged the brutality of those they once were compelled to call masters.

From Brandon the expedition moved on to Morton, a small village *dépôt* on the Southern Railroad, where the *dépôt* and outbuildings were speedily consumed by fire. Only a few buildings were burned at Brandon by the troops, the so-called confederate government not occupying many. There was, however, every evidence that Brandon was shortly to be a supply-*dépôt* of considerable importance, large quantities of stores having been removed at the news of our approach.

General Loring, with his demoralized army, crossed Pearl River on the fifth of February, at Madison Crossing, and formed a junction with General French; the two forces amounting to one thousand five hundred men. General Sherman felt quite confident the enemy would make a stand at this strong position, but our scouts soon brought the amusing intelligence that the rebels were in full retreat on the Hillsboro road. The cause of this change of base, we learned from a deserter who entered our lines, was the supposition that General Sherman was endeavoring to flank them *en* the line of the Southern Railroad. Colonel Winslow, commanding a brigade of cavalry, consisting of the Fourth Iowa, Sixth Wisconsin, Tenth Missouri, and Eleventh Illinois, chased the enemy to Meridian, capturing and killing quite a number. Our cavalry occupied the town on February fourteenth, and remained there seven days, destroying the State arsenal, which was filled with damaged fire-arms and immense quantities of ammunition of all kinds, together with a large supply of copper and lead.

The Ragsdale and Burton Hotels were destroyed, after the furniture had been removed, it being the intention of General Sherman to destroy nothing except that which might be used by the rebel government. The State arsenal was stocked with valuable machinery for the manufacture and repair of small-arms, and all sorts of ordnance stores, the destruction of which will prove a serious blow to the enemy. Twelve extensive government sheds, a large building called the Soldier's Home, and a number of hospitals and warehouses, filled with miscellaneous military stores, were set on fire and totally destroyed. Two large grist-mills were likewise burned, after our army had ground a sufficient supply of corn-meal. Twenty thousand bushels of corn fell into our hands, and was speedily converted into corn-cakes for the hungry soldiers. Nearly every building in Meridian was destroyed, save those which were occupied, and the smoking ruins, with their blackened walls and chimneys standing as giant sentinels over the sorrowful scene, sent a thrill of pity to the hearts of those whom stern war and military necessity compelled to apply the torch.

It was part of the military programme for General Smith's cavalry expedition, which left Memphis, Tennessee, to operate in conjunction with General Sherman's forces, and to unite at Meridian; and it was the failure of this portion of the plan that induced General Sherman to remain seven days in Meridian. General Sherman sent out several scouting-parties as far north as Louis-

ville and Kosciusko, hoping to gain some information of General Smith's whereabouts, but was unable to gather any intelligence of his movements.

A number of small expeditions were sent from Meridian in different directions, for the purpose of destroying whatever might benefit the rebellion. Among the places devastated were Enterprise, Marion, Quitman, Hillsboro, Canton, Lake Station, Decatur, Bolton, and Lauderdale Springs. At Enterprise, the dépôt, two flour-mills, fifteen thousand bushels of corn, two thousand bales of fine cotton, branded C.S.A., two military hospitals, and several new buildings connected with a parole camp were laid in ashes.

At Marion, the railroad station, wood-house, and a few small buildings were burned. Quitman was visited, and two flour-mills, a fine saw-mill, railroad dépôt, and other storage buildings, with several thousand feet of lumber, fell a prey to the fire-king. At Hillsboro several stores were set on fire. Seventeen damaged locomotives, six locomotives in fine running order, a number of cars, and a repair-shop, with hand-cars, quantities of sleepers, and tool-house, were destroyed at Canton—all belonging to the Mississippi Central Railroad. No private property was molested or injured at Canton, the inhabitants never having fired upon our troops. Beyond the depletion of a few unguarded hen-roosts, very little depredation was committed. One rampant female secesh discovered a vile Yankee surreptitiously purloining a pair of fat chickens. Terribly incensed at this wanton robbery and gross violation of the rights of personal property, she made a bold onslaught; but I regret to say that all her expostulations failed to convince the demoralized and hungry "mudsill" that he was sinning, for he replied: "Madam! this accursed rebellion must be crushed, if it takes every chicken in Mississippi." The door was slammed to with violence, and the enraged feminine retired, disgusted with "Yankee" habits, to mourn over the loss of her plump pair of chickens.

Our troops raised sad havoc with the Mobile and Ohio, and the Southern Railroad lines, inflicting such damage as a million dollars cannot repair. The Southern road was torn up, rails twisted, and sleepers burnt, from Jackson to twenty miles east of Meridian to Cuba Station. The Mobile and Ohio road was destroyed for fifty-six miles, extending from Quitman to Lauderdale Springs. Five costly bridges were totally destroyed. The one spanning the Chickasawhay River was two hundred and ten feet long, with trestle-work, which required four months' hard labor of hundreds of mechanics to construct it. It was a substantial covered bridge. The bridges over Ochibacah, Alligator, Tallasha, and Chunky Rivers were also burned. On the eleventh, Captain Foster, of the Tenth Missouri cavalry, received instructions to make a raid on Lake Station, seventeen miles from Hillsboro, and to destroy all property available for the rebels. Two livery-stables, several machine-shops, three locomotives, water-tank, turn-table, thirty-five rail-

road cars, engine-house, two saw-mills, and thousands of dollars' worth of lumber were consumed, spirits of turpentine, from the Signal corps, aiding materially in the rapid destruction of the buildings.

Decatur was entered on the twelfth of February, where some thirty buildings were burned. Decatur is the county-seat of Newton County. The Sixteenth army corps, General Hurlbut, entered Meridian on the fourteenth of February, just in time to witness the hurried departure of General Baldwin's rebel brigade on a special train for Mobile. A few shells went hissing after the train, but we could not learn of any damage resulting from them.

About two miles east of Decatur, a party of forty or fifty rebels attacked one of our trains, killing seventeen mules. The guard repulsed them, killing five, and capturing three. None of our men were injured. General Sherman, with two of his staff, was in a perilous condition at this time, and it was feared the entire party would be surrounded by the guerrillas. They escaped, however, and joined their command, some four miles distant, without molestation.

General Crocker, commanding the Fourth division, Seventeenth army corps, deserves great credit for the effectual manner in which he destroyed Enterprise and other places, and for the discipline he maintained among his troops, preventing lawlessness or pillage on private property.

It is impossible to state with any degree of accuracy the exact loss of either army, no reports having been made up to the present time. Staff-officers estimate that our loss in killed and wounded will not exceed fifty men, with about one hundred captured. The captured men were taken to Mobile. The rebel loss in killed and wounded is much greater, their loss by desertion and capture being estimated at over six hundred. Among the prisoners are Lieutenant Tomlinson, of the rebel Brigadier-General Ferguson's staff, and Lieutenant Winn, the rebel conscription officer at Jackson. The deserters who flocked to our lines in squads, report a universal feeling of dissatisfaction in Bishop Polk's army, and the renegade Bishop has publicly proclaimed his inability to restrain his men from insubordination and desertion.

The Mobile and Ohio road, which was so thoroughly destroyed, was considered by engineers to be the finest built road in the United States, costing fifty thousand dollars per mile. It was built principally by English capitalists; and George Peabody, the London banker, owned several thousand shares. The destruction of this road will prevent the rebels from reinforcing Mobile by rail, and effectually cuts off the fertile region of country in Northern Mississippi from which the rebels derived immense subsistence supplies. The weather was most propitious for such a bold movement, and notwithstanding the female secessionists prayed loud and long for rain as soon as they heard of our troops crossing the Big Black, yet the elements failed to wage a war against this justifiable crusade into the vitals of

the enemy's country. Such a strong influence has General Sherman over his brave men that but very little straggling was observable, although the expedition marched over four hundred miles in twenty-four days.

Ten thousand slaves were liberated from cruel bondage, and a full brigade of athletic colored troops will immediately be organized. The slaves form a most mournful curiosity, with their lacerated backs, branded faces, and ragged garments. Such a heterogeneous collection of humanity was perhaps never before gathered together. They embrace both sexes, of every shade of complexion, and vary in age from one month to one hundred years. The simple tales of horror which these injured people narrate are sufficient to chill the blood of the most stoical. Coosa River is the present rebel line of defence, and it is reported that they are strongly intrenched on the east bank of the river. The Seventeenth army corps lost about eight men killed, and thirty-two wounded.

THE SECOND ACCOUNT.

Vicksburg, Miss., March 4, 1864.

The late expedition of General Sherman from this point, having so largely filled the public mind North, and, so far as the journals which have reached here indicate, been so utterly and totally misconceived, it may be judicious, perhaps, to state clearly what was the object of the undertaking, and how large a measure of success attended it.

It appears to suit the purposes of the military authorities here, and the telegraph has doubtless advised you there, that the expedition has met with the most satisfactory and complete attainment of its purposes—has, in fact, accomplished all, and more than all, which it proposed to do upon setting out.

While granting the immense importance of its results, in some respects beyond what could have reasonably been expected of it, I am, nevertheless, compelled to deny that it has achieved that complete success which General Sherman and those associated with him are disposed to claim for it. I am certainly correct in stating that the ultimate destination was Selma, Alabama, where the rebels have a very important, if not their principal ordnance dépôt, manufactory of ammunition and army clothing, beside a large accumulation of commissary stores, etc. They have also, as I learn from a perfectly trustworthy source, four iron-clad gunboats building at this point. It was expected that the cavalry force under Smith, which left Memphis about the same time that Sherman's troops left Vicksburg, would form a junction with the latter at Meridian. This they failed to do, and hence that part of the plan which embraced the taking of Selma was abandoned. For the correctness of my statement in this matter, I venture to predict that you will have corroborative evidence as soon as Smith's cavalry return to Memphis, in their admitted failure to unite with Sherman, as they expected.

While, therefore, denying to the General that completeness in his late achievement which he

claims, I am not by any means disposed to dispute with him, nor belittle the magnificent results which he has actually effected. These results, moreover, I am inclined to believe will become more appreciated when other movements shall have rendered their value, in a military sense, more thoroughly understood. Presuming that your other correspondents have given you already the details of the advance of the army to Meridian, and its return, I shall not undertake to narrate in a consecutive form the incidents of the expedition, but rather seek to supply such as in my opinion will more clearly picture to your readers the results which have been attained.

But little fighting took place during the entire march, the most important being some tolerably heavy skirmishing which occurred in the vicinity of Clinton, this side of Jackson, as the expedition was starting out, the small squads of the enemy, wherever seen, prudently withdrawing upon our artillery being brought into position. Large quantities of cotton were found and destroyed while on our way out, some baled and some not yet ginned. Both cotton and gins were placed beyond the reach of affording temptation to cotton speculators of questionable loyalty. On our return, little, however, was molested. As a general thing, in the region of country passed over, the large planters had abandoned the growth of that former sovereign staple under the prohibitory enactment of the rebel Congress two years ago. Corn, however, was in abundance, and such corn as would make the heart of a man glad. The cribs of this entire section were bursting with fatness, though our army left those in its immediate wake about as effectually depleted as Howell Cobb did the national treasury when he retired from its management, at the close of Mr. Buchanan's administration.

At Decatur a large tan-yard and a very considerable lot of cotton were destroyed, the town itself sharing the same fate. Our boys were guided to a quantity of cotton hidden in an obscure locality, near this place, by some negroes acquainted with the fact, and indeed everywhere the blacks testified unmixed delight at our approach, frequently meeting us with their wives and children "toting" their little all along with them, and apparently fully satisfied of the advent of the "day of jubilo." Repeatedly were our men advised of the hiding-places of hoards of bacon, pork, ham, stock, carriages, etc., the movements of the rebel military and the whereabouts of citizens fighting in the rebel army. It is in vain that the people have sought to inspire them with aversion and terror of our Northern, especially Yankee soldiers. They know better, and in spite of the habit of years, to obey and believe their masters, they will not credit what they say, but preferring to cut loose for ever from the associations of youth and all of home they know, throw themselves upon the uncertain issue of their new condition with a faith that is sublime.

From five thousand to seven thousand of these people accompanied the triumphal return of Sherman's expedition, and I defy any human being

with as much feeling in his bosom as even Legree in Mrs. Stowe's immortal story, to look on such a scene unmoved. Old men with the frosts of ninety years upon their heads, men in the prime of manhood, youth, and children that could barely run, women with their babies at their breasts, girls with the blood of proud Southern masters in their veins, old women, tottering feebly along, leading from a land of incest and bondage, possessing horrors worse than death, children and grandchildren, dear to them as our own sons and daughters are to us. They came, many of them, it is true, with shout and careless laughter, but silent tears coursed down many a cheek—tears of thankfulness for their great deliverance, and there were faces in that crowd which shone with a joy which caused them to look almost inspired. Those may smile who will, but the story of the coming up of the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt can never call up to my mind a more profound emotion than the remembrance of that scene. The carnival at Rome, with the fantastic costumes of the populace, presents nothing more varied and promiscuous than did the attire of this interesting assemblage.

When I looked upon the long lane filing in through roads along which our slaughtered brothers lie buried thicker than sheaves in a harvest-field, and reflected on the horrors to which this race had been subjected by the foes whom we are fighting, I felt faith in a God of justice renewed in my heart, and hope in the success of our cause rekindle to a brighter flame.

At Canton, which our army visited but did not burn, we succeeded in capturing and destroying seventeen locomotives. Another was also destroyed at Meridian, making eighteen in all, inflicting a loss on the confederates which is of incalculable value. It is a fact perhaps known, but will bear repeating here, that Grierson's raid last year through this State damaged the railroad some forty miles north of Okolona to such an extent, that they have never repaired nor undertaken to operate it above that point. I learn from an engineer who has been forced for two years past to run a locomotive over their roads, and who was enabled to get to our lines during the late raid, that ten miles per hour is and has been for months the maximum speed attainable by their trains. The destruction by Grierson of passenger-cars a year ago has never been made good on the roads, and left them almost destitute of cars, even before Sherman came in now to give their Mississippi railroads this *coup de grace*. It is no news to state that the confederates were put to their wits' end to keep up the ordinary wear and tear of their roads for the past year; it will therefore be the more fully apparent how immensely important a work has been accomplished by Sherman. Advancing to within twenty-five miles of Meridian, he sent detachments ten or fifteen miles beyond that point, and thirty or forty north and south to tear up the track, destroy culverts, burn the dépôts, bridges, and ties, and render useless, by bending, the rails of the several roads diverging from that important rail-

road-centre. This was done, and done effectually; so effectually, indeed, as to place it out of the power of the rebels to put those roads in operation again during the continuance of the war. This, therefore, as any one familiar with the topography of Mississippi will readily perceive, cuts off the State from any further military occupation by the confederate army, it being impossible longer to manœuvre or subsist an army there without possession of the river. Cavalry may sweep down or across the State, but with all the strongholds along the Mississippi River, we hold military control of the entire State, effectively and effectually.

When the news was brought in to Sherman, that the rebels had abandoned Meridian without a blow, and that the destruction was *un fait accompli*, he is said by eye-witnesses to have walked silently to and fro for some minutes, and then burst out excitedly: "This is worth fifty millions to the Government." The rebels seemed, up almost to the last moment, to have regarded Mobile as the point aimed at, Farragut's bombardment of Fort Powell serving to keep up the impression. I am warranted in saying that Sherman was sanguine of his ability to have taken that city without difficulty, and had the object of his expedition permitted, would have done so. He states unhesitatingly that he felt sorely tempted to do so as it was, and nothing but the fact of its possibly frustrating other important movements already planned prevented his undertaking it.

Being ignorant of the combinations hinted at, it seems to me to be a pity that he did not undertake it, for, from all the information made public, and some received through private sources, it appears that the Mobilians were in the same frame of mind of Captain Scott's coon. Believing their fate fixed to fall into our hands, they were quite ready to permit themselves to be taken, without any very stubborn resistance. At Meridian, the confederate authorities had built or were constructing quite a considerable number of buildings for government use, including machine-shops, quartermaster's and commissary quarters, a hospital, capable of accommodating two thousand five hundred to three thousand patients, etc. These, with the town, were of course destroyed. We also burnt every dépôt and station along the line of the railroad, as far as our army reached, the beautiful town of Canton, as before stated, being spared.

At Enterprise, which was sixteen miles below Meridian, and one of the most pestiferous nests that the sun shone on in all the limits of Dixie, we found a camp of paroled prisoners, being part of the old Vicksburgh garrison. These men informed us that the confederate authorities had been forcing many of their number into the army again, telling them they had been exchanged. At one point on our march, a rebel post-office was captured, containing, among others, a letter from a paroled lieutenant, who had thus been forced to serve, and who, writing home, expressed the opinion that they would be driven into Mobile,

and again captured by our army. He expressed extreme despondency at the prospects, fearing the worst possible personal consequences on being recaptured after a violated parole, and being indignant in the extreme at the want of government faith, which had placed him in such a painful predicament.

Enterprise, all and singular with its improvements, public and private, its paroled camp and its conscript camp, with its associations, historic, poetic, and secesh, has been—according to camp parlance—wiped out.

The state of feeling and the condition of the people in the section travelled through are indescribable. The bitterness which has marked this struggle on the part of the Southern people, can scarcely be said to be lessened. In many cases it is intensified, accompanied by an utter recklessness as to personal consequences, which is often fearful. Many having made immense sacrifices, and who now feel that all is lost, seem to delight in wreaking their fury upon some unfortunate negro soldier falling into their hands, or an occasional white straggler from our army, who is careless enough to be taken. On our return from this expedition, the corpse of an Indiana soldier, who had separated himself from his company, was found with sixteen bullet-holes through his body. As a general thing, however, the sentiment of the people seemed to be one of despondency at the idea of Southern independence, of weariness with the war, and a willingness to return to the Union rather than to continue a hopeless struggle. The rigidity of the conscription is so complete, however, that this feeling can make little impression, or rather produce little result under the present order of things, or, in fact, until the military rule is effectually broken up throughout the Confederacy. The engineer, to whom allusion has already been made in this epistle, informs me that a lieutenant and six men accompanied each train which passed over the railroad on which he run, and no man without a pass could travel a mile. No man could step off at a station without a guard examined his pass, nor could any one get on the train without the same ceremony. No one could pass from one town to another without his papers being in order, and even then they were scrutinized with the greatest carefulness and frequency. He himself was not permitted to cross the Pearl River, at Jackson, and after the news reached there of our movements, three soldiers were placed on the engine and tender to insure his faithfulness in running the train loaded with confederate soldiers, out of the reach of Yankee bullets.

During the entire march, occupying exactly a month, the army was mainly subsisted upon the country it passed through, and the trains had no difficulty in obtaining a sufficiency of forage, without drawing upon that with which they were provided upon leaving Vicksburgh.

REBEL ACCOUNTS.

GENERAL POLK'S ADDRESS.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22.

HEADQUARTERS, DEMOPOLIS, ALA., Feb. 26, 1864.

The Lieutenant-General Commanding offers his congratulations to the army on the successful termination of the campaign just closed.

The cheerfulness with which the troops have borne the fatigues and inconveniences of the march, and their ready acquiescence in the orders directing their movements, have entitled them to the highest commendation.

To the firmness and good conduct of the men, and the skill and judgment of their officers in checking the enemy's march, the Commanding General is indebted for securing the public stores and depriving the enemy of the use of the railroads and other facilities for foraging and subsistence.

The concentration of our cavalry on his column of cavalry from West-Tennessee formed the turning-point of the campaign.

That concentration broke down the only means of subsisting his infantry. His column was defeated and routed, and his whole force compelled to make a hasty retreat. Never did a grand campaign, inaugurated with such pretensions, terminate more ingloriously. With a force three times that which was opposed to its advance, they have been defeated and forced to leave the field with a loss of men, small arms, and artillery.

Both their columns are retreating before the squadrons of our pursuing cavalry.

The Lieutenant-General commanding offers his grateful thanks to the whole army, and trusts that this opening campaign of the new year may be an earnest of the successes which await us in the future.

By command of Lieutenant-General POLK.
THOMAS M. JACK, A. A. G.

MOBILE REGISTER ACCOUNT.

DEMOPOLIS, March 1, 1864.

The great campaign under General Sherman, announced in the Yankee papers of several weeks past, to consist of seventy thousand men, to move in three columns, successively, from Vicksburgh, West-Tennessee, and Huntsville, Alabama, to sweep through the States of Mississippi and Alabama, break up their railroads, destroy their grain and manufactures, and capture and reduce their capitals, has been brought to grief.

The Commanding General of this department, while deficient in troops, seems not to have been wanting in tact, energy, skill, or judgment. The plans of the astute Sherman seem to have been comprehended and baffled, his movements broken down, and his army forced to retreat. General Sherman left Vicksburgh with forty-five thousand men, ten thousand of whom were sent up the Yazoo. The rest marched in one column through Jackson, into the heart of Mississippi. This was composed of infantry and artillery. This column was first confronted by the cavalry

commanded by General S. D. Lee; then by the small infantry force at the disposal of the Commanding General. After crossing Pearl River, Lee's cavalry was thrown upon its flanks and rear, and with such success as to prevent all foraging.

The stores in dépôts of all the railroads between Pearl River and the Tombigbee were sent east, and the whole of the rolling stock of those roads was placed beyond the enemy's reach. This being accomplished, the Commanding General placed the infantry on the east side of the Tombigbee, to defend the crossings, and concentrate the whole of his cavalry on the enemy's second column, from West-Tennessee, which he now moved.

DESCRIPTION BY A SOUTHERN WOMAN.

MERIDIAN, February 22, 1864.

MY DEAR MOTHER: As one of our neighbors go down to Mobile to-morrow, I will send you a few lines to let you know how we came out in this "terrible raid." My husband left here at ten o'clock A.M., as guide to General Polk. The Yankees came in at four P.M., in full force. They skirmished a little in our yard, which frightened us very much. The small portion of our servants went away with my husband, so no one remained with me but Violetta, Louisa, Lucinda, my mother-in-law, and three children.

After the skirmishing stopped, the mob ran around, going into the houses, breaking open doors, trunks, locks, etc., tearing up and destroying every thing they could. Caught all the chickens in the place in half an hour. I begged for my things and saved nearly every thing; for while I was talking to the part of the mob who had entered my house, I sent mother off to look up some of the Generals, and to try to get a guard, telling them that I was being run over. General Hurlbut gave us the guard. Only five men entered my house, and demanded my keys. I took some time to get them, showing a great willingness; told them I hoped that they would not take my clothes. They said no; they only wanted all arms and gold and silver I had. I told them they could have all of both which they could find, but I had none. They searched the bureau-drawers and trunks before the guard arrived. One man ran up the stairs and took three sacks of flour, and three or four blankets, and was moving off with them just as the guard came, who made him return the blankets, and pretended to go off for the flour; but that was never returned. The guard staid all night, Sunday, and Monday.

General Leggett and staff came and asked me for all the house-room I could give them. I knew that it was only a demand, and granted it; so that I only occupied two rooms, and mother kept her own room. I did my cooking in one of my rooms; as I had already moved into the house all the cooking utensils, coffee-mill—in fact, even to an ax. I by that means saved them all. I met the General and told him that I, three little children, and an old mother-in-law

claimed his protection. He answered: "I will take care of you, madam, as long as I am here." I said: "I hear that all Meridian is to be burned down; will my house be burned, too?" We then passed a few more words, when I took my children back into my room.

I did not see the General any more till the next day, when I met him in the passage. He was very pleasant. One of his officers asked me where my husband was. I told him that he left on Sunday. He asked if I was a Southerner. I replied: "Yes; a genuine Southerner, as I have never been in a Northern State." He said: "You take every thing very coolly." I said: "I try to, but I find it very hard to do, as I am frightened all the time." He said: "You need not be, as you shall not be disturbed."

All of the children were questioned very closely, but got on finely. Mary said just what she pleased. Told them she did not like Yankees. One of the captains told her that if she would only go home with him, she would not be in any more war. She replied: "No; I am a rebel, and I don't want to be with the Yankees."

Our store was burned to the ground, and so was another one of our new houses. My two milch-cows were killed, and every one in the town; and for eight or ten miles around, all cattle and horses. Our horse was not at home. The printing-office and all the public buildings were burnt up, and Mr. Ragsdale's Hotel, Cullen's, Terrill's, and the Burton House.

All the railroad is torn up, both up and down, for miles, and all the ties burned, and the iron bent and destroyed. Oh! such destruction! I do not believe that you or any one would know the place. There is not a fence in Meridian. I have not one rail left. Some of the ladies about town have but one bed left, and but one or two quilts. Mrs. McElroy (her son is colonel in the rebel army) has not one thing left, except what she and her daughter ran out of the house with on their backs—just one dress. The soldiers told me, when I asked them the reason she was done so, that Mrs. McElroy and daughter had insulted an officer and a private the day her house was burned down. Ragsdale, her son-in-law, brought her here, and asked me to take care of them. I went out in the passage and encountered the General, and told him what Ragsdale had asked of me. He said: "If you do, your house will be burned in an hour, for I cannot prevent it." So I had to tell them that I could not take them.

I could not write you of every thing, if I were to consume the whole day; but I can tell you that I got on better than any other lady in Meridian, and I will say that the General and officers who staid at my house acted the gentleman to me; but I could not, would not go through what I have again, for all that is in Meridian.

Mrs. ——— was grossly insulted. Mrs. D. was cursed blue; but you must send her folks down there word that she is still alive. Mr. Taylor, her uncle, has not a second change, nor any of his family. I did not lose a particle of

clothing, and only those things that I have mentioned. My grown girl, Violetta, got ready to go, but as good fortune would have it, I had heard an officer express himself on slavery, so I went to him and got him to scare it out of her. I was lucky, so many negroes went from about here; all of Mr. McElmore's, Semmes's, and Dr. Johnston's—he had but two old ones, all are gone.

I do not think that you have any idea how bad the Yankees are. I thought I knew, but I did not know the half. They took old Mrs. ———'s teeth, all her spoons and knives, and destroyed all provisions and corn which they could not use.

Two army corps were here—with Generals Sherman, Hurlbut, McPherson, and Leggett. Mother has been sick ever since the Yankees left. How glad I am that I did not get sick! No one need want to be with the Yankees, even for a few days. They staid here from Sunday until Saturday morning, and it appeared like a month.

I have no time to write more; will write again soon. Love to all.

Your daughter,

S. E. P. B.

OPERATIONS OF THE CAVALRY UNDER GENERALS SMITH AND GRIERSON.

MEMPHIS, TENN., February 27.

From an officer attached to General Grierson's column of the cavalry expedition, which returned yesterday, the following memoranda of the march of that command was obtained.

February 11th, marched from Germantown, Tennessee, crossed the Cold Water, and camped for the night three miles south of Byhalia, Mississippi, making twenty-five miles.

Twelfth, marched toward Waterford, one battalion making a feint on Wyatt, where Forrest was in position with artillery. We passed through Waterford, and camped three miles south-east of the railroad. We destroyed a considerable portion of the telegraph line. Very little skirmishing.

Thirteenth, marched at daylight; built a bridge at Tippah Creek; crossed at four p.m., and camped for the night ten miles south; considerable skirmishing.

Fourteenth, marched at daylight; crossed the Tallahatchie at New-Albany at noon, and camped four miles south of that place; raining.

Fifteenth, marched four miles and encamped. Skirmishing on the extreme right.

Sixteenth, marched six miles and encamped, waiting for Waring's brigade to come up. Captured several prisoners, one of them General Forrest's chief of scouts.

Seventeenth, marched at eight a.m. Passed through Pontotoc at one p.m., and camped four miles south.

Eighteenth, passed through Red Land, burning a large amount of confederate corn and wheat. In the afternoon passed through Okolona, capturing some prisoners, arms, and a large amount

of confederate government supplies. Camped five miles south.

Nineteenth, marched at eight a.m. toward Aberdeen, capturing forty-five prisoners and a large amount of government supplies, etc. Crossed the Tombigbee River, and encamped five miles south of that river on an abandoned plantation.

Twentieth, destroyed a number of cars and culverts, and a large amount of corn and cotton along the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. At three p.m., had a hard fight with the enemy in front, driving them back.

Twenty-first, marched at eight a.m.; attacked the enemy in their intrenchments at West-Point, driving them out, our loss forty killed and wounded; destroyed the railroad track, culverts, and dépôt. At dark we drew the enemy into an ambuscade, when they retreated in confusion, with considerable loss. We marched due west until one a.m., and encamped.

Twenty-second, the rebels under Forrest attacked our rear and flank at Okolona. They charged upon the Third brigade. The Third Tennessee cavalry broke at the first volley, running five of our small guns off of the road into the ditch, breaking their carriages. The guns were spiked and abandoned.

The Second brigade, with the Fourth regulars, charged the enemy at four p.m., driving them back, and our mules, prisoners, and negroes were placed in the advance, guarded by the First brigade, under Colonel Waring. The Second and Third brigades dismounted, and a general fight ensued, which lasted until dark. Our loss was about one hundred, mostly prisoners.

Twenty-third, the enemy followed up our rear, but no general engagement ensued. We re-crossed the Tallahatchie at noon, and marched until midnight.

Twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth, we marched leisurely; nothing of note occurred, and arrived at Germantown.

Our loss during the expedition will reach about one hundred and fifty killed, wounded, and prisoners.

This column burned about three thousand bales of confederate cotton, over one million bushels of corn; captured over one hundred prisoners, over one thousand mules, and a multitude of negroes.

Owing to so large a portion of our force being required to guard our trains, captured property, and negroes, General Smith was greatly outnumbered by the enemy—Forrest's effective force being over five thousand strong.

Our loss is trifling compared with the results of the expedition.

A NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

MEMPHIS, TENN., March 2.

On the eleventh of February, the First brigade of the cavalry division of the Sixteenth army corps, composed of the Fourth Missouri cavalry, Second New-Jersey cavalry, Seventh Indiana, Nineteenth Pennsylvania cavalry, and

a battery of the Second Illinois cavalry, all under the command of Colonel George E. Waring, Jr., of the Fourth Missouri, left Colliersville, Tennessee, destined to cooperate with General Smith. On the seventeenth we formed a junction at New-Albany, on the Tallahatchie River, with the Second brigade, commanded by General Grierson, and the Third, commanded by Colonel McCrellis. On the nineteenth we reached Egypt, a station on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, in the midst of the finest and most fertile country I ever saw. In no part of the South, outside of the cities, is there found more wealth than here. One man owns eight miles square of this land, and a poor fellow who owns but one thousand acres of this land is considered by his neighbors as almost an object of charity. Of course they are the most inveterate rebels. We here, and at other points in this vicinity, destroyed about three million bushels of corn, two thousand or three thousand bales of cotton, a tannery containing two thousand sides of leather, all belonging to the rebel government, and capturing about two thousand negroes, and three thousand mules and horses, tearing up about thirty miles of the railroad, burning the bridges and culverts, and rendering the rails unserviceable by being heated, thus cutting off their communications with Mobile. All this was done without any interruption, although the rebel General Forrest, with a large cavalry force, was near us. On the twentieth we, for the first time, encountered the enemy in the neighborhood of West-Point, where they had taken a strong position, and after a little sharp fighting they were driven back, we encamping on the battle-field. On the morning of the twenty-first, having accomplished fully the object of the expedition, we commenced our return, the Second Iowa cavalry and a battalion of the Sixth Illinois cavalry guarding the rear. Several times during the day the rebels charged furiously upon the rear, but were as often repulsed by the brave boys of the Second Iowa, assisted by detachments from the Sixth, Seventh and Ninth Illinois, the rebels suffering great loss, we but little. At ten o'clock at night we encamped two miles south-west of Okolona, with almost a certain prospect of a battle the next day. On the morning of the twenty-second we moved out of camp, the First brigade being charged with guarding the train, the Seventh Indiana cavalry being in the rear, and the other regiments of the brigade preceding it, the Third brigade occupying the rear of the expedition for the day. As we passed through the town of Okolona, the rebels were discovered drawn up in line of battle about three fourths of a mile on our right, having passed us in the night, but not in sufficient force to attack us. About ten o'clock, having been largely reinforced, they made a furious attack upon our rear, and the Second Iowa, having become panic-stricken, stampeded the whole of Colonel McCrellis's brigade. Here followed the wildest scene of disorder that I ever witnessed. Men who had

conducted themselves with coolness and bravery the day before in the face of the most furious attacks of the rebels, were now so panic-stricken as to be beyond all control. The Second brigade and the Seventh Indiana rallied and held the rebels in check, falling back from time to time, and taking new positions, both sides suffering considerably. At three o'clock, the third battalion of the Seventh Indiana formed across the road in line of battle, to stop, if possible, the wild flight of the Seventh brigade. This was done in good order, under the command of Major Febba, and succeeded in stopping, in a measure, the wild flight of our men, and restoring comparative order. Lieutenant-Colonel Brown now arrived and assumed command, and we were ordered in force back, and to take a new position. Here we were assailed furiously by the rebels, and, after holding the position firmly for a short time, we were ordered to fall back, which was done in good order. Just at night a position was taken by the First brigade, the battery of the Fourth Missouri occupying the road, supported by the Fourth Missouri, Second New-Jersey, Sixth and Seventh Illinois, and Seventh Indiana. This line was formed in the immediate rear of the train, and if broken the train would be captured and we hopelessly defeated. Twilight was fast settling down, making every thing indistinct. On rushed the rebels with the most determined bravery and coolness. The battery opened with spirit. The Sixth and Seventh Illinois delivered a few volleys and fell back, and were soon followed by the Fourth Missouri and Second New-Jersey. The sharp flash of the enemy's carbines could be seen in the deepening twilight within twenty feet of the guns of the battery; if they should be taken, all would be lost. The command was now given by General Smith: "Seventh Indiana, charge the enemy!" Quick as thought the brave boys of the Seventh drew their sabres, and, with a shout, charged down the slope of the hill, full in the face of the enemy, driving them like sheep, and inflicting the most dreadful slaughter. The enemy for the first time were completely checked and driven back; the day was won, and we were safe. It was not accomplished without loss. Companies I and A, the right and left companies of the regiment, lost largely, company A losing their captain (Parmlee) and their first lieutenant (Donaho) and twenty men, and company I lost ten men. We were ordered to fall back so rapidly that we were forced to leave our dead and wounded on the field. At ten o'clock we halted and fed our tired and worn-out horses, and cooked supper for our fatigued and famished men, and rested till about four o'clock A.M., when we again resumed our march; passed through the town of Pontotoc just at daylight, and moved on rapidly during the day. The rebels followed us, and several times during the day made furious attacks on our rear, but were as often repulsed. Just at night, we crossed the Tallahatchie at New-Albany, destroying the bridge behind us, and we were safe. From here we

marched on rapidly, night and day, without further interruption, and reached Colliersville on the evening of the twenty-seventh, and again went into camp. The expedition accomplished all that was intended, and inflicted great damage to the most fertile and productive portion of the Confederacy. We, however, sustained a good deal of loss. It is estimated that we lost in killed and missing about two hundred and fifty, but I think it larger. There was too much of a disposition to get away, and too little to fight. Whenever we did fight, it was done to protect our rear rather than to whip the rebels. A little more determination on the part of all the brigades would have annihilated the army of Forrest, and made us the complete victors. It was a dreadful alternative to leave our wounded on the field in the hands of the enemy. Our experience with rebel surgeons after the battle of Gettysburgh shows us that they have but little humanity when treating their own wounded—they of course will have less when treating ours. The expedition, on the whole, can be considered a success, but one that has cost us dearly.

ACCOUNT BY A PARTICIPANT.

MEMPHIS, March 12, 1864.

Editor of the Rebellion Record:

While General Sherman was collecting and organizing part of his forces at Vicksburgh, for the expedition through Mississippi to Meridian, orders had issued for that part of the cavalry, which was then scattered through West and Middle Tennessee and North-Mississippi, to concentrate at Colliersville, a point on the Charleston and Memphis Railroad, twenty-four miles from Memphis, and to proceed from that place through Mississippi and along the Mobile and Ohio Railroad to Meridian, there joining the army of General Sherman, and affording that officer the means necessary to carry out his designs. Accordingly, three brigades of cavalry were ordered to meet at Colliersville early in February. The Second brigade, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Hepburn, of Second Iowa cavalry, and the Third brigade, under the command of Colonel McCrellis, of Third Illinois cavalry, composed of regiments comparatively near the point of concentration, arrived at Colliersville before the First brigade, commanded by Colonel G. E. Waring, Jr., of the Fourth Missouri cavalry. This brigade was stationed at Union City, Tennessee, on the north-western boundary of West-Tennessee, when orders reached it to march southward. Without delay, the command was put in motion, through a district of country rendered barren of forage and provisions by two years of campaigning, in which not a bridge was standing over the many deep streams which crossed the line of march, and where the rains, snow, and ice of the preceding month had swollen the river, overflowing the low lands and bottoms, and rendering the roads through them heavy, and in places impassable for the artillery and trains. These rivers were crossed by rope ferry-boats, carrying but ten horses at a time.

In several instances, it was necessary to build the boats, and in others, a path through the ice in the rivers, (which was in layers, separated by six inches to a foot of water,) had to be chopped by axes before the boats could be used. In places, owing to the rise of the water over the swamp-lands, and cane ridges as well, the brigade and train were forced to make long detours to avoid miles of low-lying ground, covered with melting ice and water; or to reach some point where a bottom could be found, to be used to cross the command over a slough or river. Even with this necessary selection of the route, the men were at times dismounted, and the horses harnessed to the artillery carriages or ammunition-wagons, to draw them for miles through the half-frozen mud and water. On the eighth of February, the First brigade, having marched two hundred and fifteen miles since leaving Union City on the twenty-third of January, 1864, arrived at Colliersville.

The force thus assembled was under the command of Brigadier-General W. S. Smith, then the Chief of Cavalry in the Division of the Mississippi. Under the orders of General Smith, was Brigadier-General Grierson. Prior to setting out, the commanders of regiments and brigades met at the headquarters of General Smith, where so much of the plan of march as was deemed proper was explained, advice in the management of it given, and contentment expressed at the duty before them, and satisfaction with the state of the command and affairs up to that time.

On the eleventh of February, the whole force began its march in a south-easterly direction, and on the sixteenth of February, the last of the command had crossed the Tallahatchie River at New-Albany, without interruption. The attention of the enemy, who was in small force on the south bank of the river, had been successfully diverted to Wyatt, a point west, by the presence there of a brigade of infantry, under Colonel McMillen, and by the march in that direction of the advanced troops of the cavalry, and by attempts to throw a bridge across the river at that place. After the river was crossed, the march south-eastwardly was continued, and late in the day of the eighteenth February, the command arrived at Okolona, a village and station on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and the northern point of the succession of very fertile plains, which continue southward for nearly sixty miles, intersected by the railroad, and known as the Prairie. Within a short distance from Okolona, Hepburn's and Waring's brigades encamped, a part of the latter having fallen in with and driven a small patrol of the enemy. During the night, a detachment of the First brigade was sent to Egypt Station, distant about five miles, to destroy the stores of corn and provisions belonging to the Confederacy, the railroad, bridges, and station-house; this was done, and on the morning of the nineteenth, Waring's brigade was moved southward along the line of the railroad; McCrellis's a few miles to the west, and in the same direction; and Hepburn's to the east, toward

and through Aberdeen, at Prairie Station, where a number of cars and pens of corn were destroyed on the night of the day the command was united. At three P.M. on the twentieth of February, the whole force arrived near West-Point Station. Hepburn's brigade, which was in the advance, skirmished with the enemy, and with but little effort drove him over the Octibbeha River. The division encamped in line of battle; the men were in excellent spirits, and the horses had been improving in condition during the past two days, on the unlimited supply of forage which the plains through which they marched contained. Through much of this region the United States troops had never passed; the plantations had been undisturbed, and the slaves hitherto had not been interrupted in their tillage. As the troops moved by cluster after cluster of huts, the young and able-bodied negroes joined the rear of the column on horses and mules, to the number of about one thousand eight hundred. These, with the long train of pack animals and led-horses, were now in rear of the division. On the morning of the twenty-first, the whole force was ordered by General Smith to return to Okolona, McCrellis's brigade leading, followed by the negroes and pack train, after which was Waring's brigade, and in the rear Hepburn's. This movement at once became the object of constant inquiry on the part of the troops; this was followed by an uneasy feeling, increased as came first news of constant skirmishing, and then the sound of small arms and cannon in the rear. The enemy, on finding a retreat had begun, pressed forward with great vigor, but were constantly checked by Hepburn's brigade, in which the Second Iowa cavalry and Ninth Illinois cavalry were manoeuvred with great bravery and skill. About three P.M., a column of the enemy was seen moving parallel with the retreating force, about a mile on the right flank, and near the railroad. A portion of Waring's brigade was at once moved to that flank, and after the exchange of a few shots, the enemy moved forward and to the right of the railroad. General Grierson, with Hepburn's brigade, had now closed up to the column, and the whole encamped three miles south from Okolona. At nine o'clock on the morning of the twenty-second of February, the entire force was placed on the narrow, hilly road leading to Pontotoc, Hepburn's brigade leading, followed by the train, and Waring's and McCrellis's brigades. In passing Okolona, the Seventh Indiana cavalry, of Waring's brigade, was ordered by General Grierson to the support of the Fourth United States cavalry, which was protecting the right flank and confronting the enemy, who soon advanced, and heavy skirmishing began with these two regiments. This was kept up for several miles, when the Fourth United States and Seventh Indiana cavalry were obliged to retreat, in some disorder, upon the Third brigade, which was at once broken, and retreated to the main column in great confusion, losing a battery of six howitzers. The First brigade was immediately formed in line, through which came the

routed troops, without control and in great disorder. The enemy were held in check for a time, and the First brigade ordered to take up another position. This was done, the Second New-Jersey cavalry and a battalion of the Second Illinois cavalry checking the enemy with loss as he advanced. From this, the First brigade was ordered to retire within the lines of the Second brigade, which had taken advantage of some defiles and ridges to hold the enemy, until the negroes and train, that had been in great confusion, could be parked in an open field on the left of the road. About a mile to the rear of this point, Colonel Waring formed his brigade on a hill known as Ivy Farm, and while so doing, the pack animals, negroes, and many stragglers moved to the rear, in a solid body and with irresistible force, over the road and through part of the field, carrying with them the largest portion of the Second New-Jersey cavalry and Second Illinois cavalry, which were moving to their several positions. Shortly after the Second brigade began to retire in the direction of Ivy Hill, the enemy appeared at a turn in the road commanded by a battery of howitzers belonging to the Fourth Missouri cavalry, and firing at once began. The enemy dismounted, and in large force, as skirmishers, pressed forward and on the flank, toward the road, which, like all the surrounding country, excepting the field where the brigade was formed, was heavily wooded. In the wood, on the side toward the road, dismounted skirmishers had been placed; and these, with the firing of the battery, caused the enemy to halt. Soon after, a body of their skirmishers commenced moving from the thickets which bounded the southern edge of Ivy Farm, threatening the right flank of Waring's brigade. Under cover of this, a large force was massed opposite the battery, which force, preceded by a line of skirmishers, moved rapidly forward, and at once seized a gully running in front of and somewhat obliquely to the line formed by the brigade. General Smith, who had arrived on the field a short time before, at once assumed command, and ordered the Fourth Missouri cavalry, which was on the left of and supporting its battery, to dismount, and prevent the enemy's further advance. The order was scarcely executed, when the enemy's skirmishers in the wood skirting the road, began to gain on those thrown forward by the brigade, rendering the position of the battery, as well as of its dismounted support, dangerous. The General at once ordered the Fourth Missouri cavalry to mount and charge the advancing force. Quickly the three squadrons of that regiment were formed in double ranks and under fire, Colonel Waring commanding, and leading the charge in person. With tactical precision, the squadrons moved forward, with drawn sabres, at a trot. As they moved down that slope and came under the closer fire from the wood and fence on the left, and from the gully in front, the wounded drifted after the advancing line. The squadrons, however, now galloping, and preserving their front and alignment with the precision of troops

on review, rushed forward in solid charge. The enemy's skirmishers fell hastily back, although it was impossible to reach him either in front, owing to the gully, or in the road, bounded as it was by a high worra-fence. At this charge, loud hurrahs came from the troops in line, and the skirmishers again advanced. The Fourth Missouri cavalry wheeled and retreated toward the left, to their original position near the battery. The enemy now brought a section of artillery into action, and moved forward as before. Slowly and doggedly the skirmish-line of the brigade was forced back, the enemy gaining tree after tree on the left, and nearing the battery, which was ordered to fall back; as it did so, the enemy moved forward, but were met by two charges from a squadron of the Fourth Missouri cavalry, and an impetuous rush from the Seventh Indiana cavalry, which fell upon them, and, fighting hand to hand with great bravery, stopped their advance until the battery could be removed. In this movement the shaft of one of the gun-carriages broke, three of the four horses attached to it were killed, and the gun was spiked and abandoned; the rest of the battery was safely withdrawn. The sun had now set; the firing had become less heavy, and the brigade was ordered to retire, which it did in good order, passing through the lines of part of the Third brigade, having been in action over two hours, and having checked the enemy, who stopped the pursuit for that night, and encamped on the battlefield.

The whole force marched forward during the night, until it reached a large open space near Pontotoc, where several hours were spent in arranging, as far as possible, the disorganized regiments. Hepburn's brigade was placed in the rear and the march toward New-Albany continued, skirmishing going on with a body of the enemy who continued the pursuit. On arriving at New-Albany, General Grierson ordered Waring's brigade to hold the enemy in check and cover the crossing of the Tallahatchie River. This was successfully done. The Second and Third brigades then moved on the Holly Spring road, and the First brigade, with the entire train and the negroes, marched on the Beck Spring road. On the twenty-fourth February the entire force had crossed the Tippah River. McCrellis's and Hepburn's brigades marched to Germantown, on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, fourteen miles from Memphis, and Waring's brigade crossed the Wolf River near Colliersville, and moved slowly toward Memphis, where it arrived on twenty-seventh February, again crossing the Wolf River at Shelby's Ferry. The loss of the entire command in men killed, wounded, and missing was about three hundred and fifty; in horses, nearly three thousand.

By this retreat General Sherman was deprived of the large force of cavalry, without which his expedition was unable to follow the army of Lieutenant-General Polk, which was retreating from Meridian, or to move eastward into Alabama and destroy the arms, arsenals, and stores at or

near Selma. Up to the morning when General W. S. Smith's command was bivouacked near West-Point Station. It had been both fortunate and successful in the advance. The dreary barrens of North-Mississippi had been passed, the marching had not been severe, the horses were improving on the abundant forage found on the rich plains bordering the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, the men were in excellent spirits, and when the enemy had been met it was in very small force and he had been easily repulsed, with scarce any loss to the United States troops. The determination on the part of the General to retreat was reached and acted upon without resort to the usual and proper means of finding the numbers and disposition of the enemy. No scouting party or reconnaissance was thrown across the Octibbeha River; no attempt to divert his attention at one point while the command was crossed elsewhere; and no movement with a view to cover the main column. The whole force was placed for retreat on the one road on which the advance had been made, and which was now waste and desolate from the supplies legitimately taken a few days before, and the criminal and wanton destruction of every species of property which had been permitted, without punishment and almost without rebuke, from the General Commanding.

The troops could ill understand the reason for a movement so disheartening, and which every hour became less a retreat and more nearly a rout, without any information or apparent cause for it. They imagined the pursuers to be in overwhelming force, to be on both flanks as well as in advance. This feeling grew, and on the second day, when Okolona was passed, and its great open plain, so well suited to the movements of cavalry, was left behind, the hope that here a stand would be made and a battle fought, (which had been the wish of all on the previous day,) passed, and the undisciplined and more timid thought only of flight toward Memphis. From the twenty-second February, excepting the halt for the battle of Ivy Farm, the column was steadily hurried northward over the long reach of barren oak and pine hills which lay between Okolona and the Tennessee boundary. Sleep was not allowed the men, and the horses was without rest or forage. The line of retreat became marked by great numbers of the lame and broken-down horses, and the sides of the road by long files of dismounted troopers, plodding wearily forward, and striving to keep pace with their mounted comrades.

When at length the vicinity of Memphis was reached, the seven thousand men who two weeks before had set out with brave hopes, were now worn down, one third dismounted, many without arms, most with scanty clothing, and, saddest of all, the daring spirit, the morale of the command, was impaired, and gloom and despondency in its place, which was not relieved when it became known that at West-Point the enemy had but three thousand men, and that his whole force, which was commanded by Major-General Forrest,

did not exceed six thousand, many of whom were State militiamen.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

CAIRO, Feb. 29, 1864.

Some particulars of the late expedition of General William S. Smith, lately returned to Memphis, have already been published. General Smith, in person, arrived here last evening. His official report to the military authorities will set forth the following facts:

The expedition moved from Memphis on Thursday, the eleventh instant, some seven thousand strong, Brigadier-General William S. Smith in command, the purpose being to clear the country of straggling rebel forces, and, if possible, create a diversion in favor of General Sherman, with whose rear it was thought the cavalry expedition might in due season communicate. It was stated that the enemy were posted in force beyond the Tallahatchie, and that they would determinedly resist the Federal advance. After two days' heavy marching, the expedition reached the Tallahatchie. A brigade of infantry, temporarily attached to the expedition, under command of Colonel McMillen, was sent forward and threatened Panola, and afterward to Wyatt, for a similar purpose. The move was successful. The infantry attracted the attention and the forces of the enemy to these points, when General Smith swung his cavalry around and to New-Albany, whence he crossed without firing a shot. He then pushed boldly forward to a point near the Pontotoc, in the vicinity of Houston, where he encountered some State confederate troops, under the command of Gholson, numbering near six thousand. They stampeded at his approach, throwing away their arms as they ran. General Smith pursued them hotly and until he reached Houlika Swamp, where he found the enemy concentrated in heavy force, holding a corduroy road, the only one across the swamp. This could not be turned either to the right or to the left, so Smith's whole force was moved rapidly to the eastward, while a heavy demonstration was made on the front, as though he intended to force a passage over the road. The enemy were again deceived, and our forces fell back upon Okolona. This was on Monday, the fifteenth instant. The attack upon Okolona was so little expected that several confederate officers, at home on visit to their families, were captured. Some of them were finely mounted. The Ninth Illinois regiment of cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Burgh commanding, was then sent out to Sheridan, to endeavor to secure a crossing of the Tombigbee. On the next morning, Hepburn's brigade, commanded by General Grierson in person, was sent out to support the Ninth regiment, and at Aberdeen, with directions to threaten Columbus strongly. With the remaining two brigades, General Smith swept down the railroad toward West-Point, tearing up the railroad completely as he advanced, and also burning all the corn he found. There were vast quantities of this, cribbed and ready for transportation. The amount destroyed

could not be much less than two million bushels, and was possibly much greater. Two thousand bales of cotton were also devoted to the flames. During this portion of the march negroes flocked to General Smith by hundreds and thousands, mounted on their masters' horses and mules, with bridles and saddles of the most primitive description. They welcomed General Smith as their deliverer whenever he met them. "God bless ye! Has yer come at last? We've been lookin' for you for a long time, and had almost done gone give it up!" was the cry of many. They bade farewell to their wives and children, and marched in the van.

Hearing that the enemy was concentrated in heavy force at West-Point, the brigade of Aberdeen was called over by a forced march to the line on the railroad, at a station fifteen miles north of West-Point, while the main force moved down upon West-Point. Two miles north of that place, Smith came upon a brigade of the enemy, drawn up in line of battle, to receive him. This was on Wednesday, the seventeenth instant, at about three P.M. Our forces charged it in a gallant style, and after a sharp engagement of some fifteen minutes' duration, drove the enemy back through the town into the Suchatoncha Swamp, on the right. Skirmishing continued on the border of the swamp during the remainder of the evening, until dark. Meanwhile the whole Federal force was being brought forward into position. Through his scouts, General Smith ascertained that the enemy was upon his front in powerful force, that he held every one of the crossings of the swamp on his right, and on the line of the Octibbeha in the front. He was confined on the left by the Tombigbee, which it was impossible to cross. His force was heavily encumbered with the pack-trains, horses, mules captured, to the number of full three thousand, and an equal number of negroes. These he felt obliged to protect, and it took such a heavy guard force, as to reduce the effective fighting force nearly one half, leaving him powerless to drive the enemy, so strong in numbers, before him, and who had taken up a strong position, that he could better defend with musketry and riflemen, than Smith could attack with only light carbines, his horses being useless on the marshy ground occupied. There was little time for speculation. The position was imminent. General Smith did the best he could under the circumstances. He made a strong demonstration upon the rebel centre, and while sharp fighting was going on, drew all his incumbrances and the main portion of his force rapidly back toward Okolona, covering his rear with a well-organized force, which fought the enemy from every line of concealment that offered on their backward march. The enemy pursued in force, and made desperate attempts to overwhelm the rear-guard, but without success. They also failed in attacking the main force in flank, which they several times essayed, but were as often foiled. All their best manoeuvres were thus handsomely checkmated, and General Smith soon had the fighting all in

his own way, until he reached Okolona. At this place, after the pursuing force had been three times repulsed in a most brilliant manner by the Fourth United States regular infantry alone, a whole brigade was sent to support the Fourth, and was thrown into confusion by a stampede of the Second Tennessee cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Cook, who had fifty men killed in all, and was himself mortally wounded. In the precipitate flight from the field of this force, a battery of small howitzers—six guns of Perkins's Illinois battery—were run off of the road into a ditch, where the carriages were so badly smashed up that they were unable to get them off, and they fell into the enemy's hands. All the ammunition of the battery was destroyed, all the harness cut, carriages destroyed, guns spiked, and horses saved.

It was with the greatest difficulty that this uncalculated-for panic could be broken and order restored. Organized forces were thrown to the rear as quickly as possible, and the advance of the enemy handsomely checked. From crest to crest of the hills the fighting was resumed and continued for over ten miles with the utmost determination on both sides. Having reached Ivy Farm, a splendid place, it was immediately taken possession of, and a large force deployed, a battery placed in position, and the whole field cleared for action. The enemy advanced into the open field, and the whole strength of our artillery was opened upon them at short-range with killing effect, supported by a full line of carbines firing upon the dismounted troops. When their line was shaken, a gallant charge was made upon their centre and on the right, by mounted men. This manoeuvre was performed in handsome style, the enemy were swept backward at every point, and so completely scared, that they made no further attack, in force, upon Smith's men, though they followed up at a respectful distance, until he crossed the Tallahatchie.

General Smith succeeded in bringing off all his captured stock, pack-trains, negroes, and other spoils, having performed a march of over sixty miles without rest. Our loss is reported as having been light, the heaviest being in the Fourth Regulars, which lost thirty-five. There were quite a number of our men captured while straggling, catching chickens, and performing acts not legitimately in the line of their duty.

In summing up, General Smith speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of General Grierson. Where danger was most imminent, there was Grierson. The fighting of the whole Second brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hepburn, of the Second Iowa cavalry, was excellent. Theirs, with that of the Fourth regulars, under Captain Bowman, was beyond all praise. The Second brigade is composed of the Second Iowa, the Sixth, Seventh, and Ninth Illinois cavalry. General Smith mentions with gratitude the bravery of the Seventy-second Indiana, (mounted infantry,) Fifth Kentucky cavalry, and Fourth Missouri cavalry, all of which commands behaved themselves nobly on all occasions.

Forrest, in this fight, or series of fights, had four brigades of cavalry and mounted infantry, reinforced by Gholson's State troops, six hundred strong, and, it is said, a portion of Lee's command. His total force, when at West-Point, was over five thousand. This did not include the troops stretched along the Octibbeha, on the left and front, and the troops back of the Suchattoncha Swamp on the right.

Forrest boasted that he had General Smith just where he wanted him, and that the people had no need to fear that he would ever advance any further South. The latter part of his boast for the present only holds good.

General Smith's expedition returned to Memphis after just fourteen days' absence, having made a march out and back of about three hundred and fifty miles, with the results above set forth.

REBEL REPORTS AND NARRATIVES.

GENERAL S. D. LEE'S REPORT.

DEMOPOLIS, February 24.
HEADQUARTERS, STARKVILLE, MISS., February 22. }

Lieutenant-General Polk :

Major-General Forrest reports, at nine A.M., yesterday evening, two miles south of Pontotoc, we have had severe fighting all day with the enemy. The engagement closed about dark. We have killed about forty of the enemy and captured about one hundred prisoners. Our loss is not known, but is not so heavy as that of the enemy. The prisoners captured report that two of their colonels and one lieutenant-colonel was killed this evening. Colonel Forrest was killed this evening. Colonel Barksdale was badly wounded in the breast. Colonel McCollock was wounded in the head. We have captured four or five pieces of artillery. General Gholson came up this evening, and will follow after them, and drive them as far as possible. The fight commenced near Okolona late this evening, and was obstinate, as the enemy were forced to make repeated stands to hold us in check, and to save their pack-mules, etc., from a stampede. The fight closed with a grand cavalry charge of the enemy's whole force. We repulsed them with heavy loss, and completely routed them.

LEONIDAS POLK,
Lieutenant-General.

S. D. LEE.

ATLANTA CONFEDERACY ACCOUNT.

DEMOPOLIS, February 22, 1864.

News from the front grows stale. The enemy having prospected as far south as De Soto, on the Mobile road, seem to be hesitating as to their future movements. It seems the Yankees are by no means sanguine of their future success, and many report that the subordinate officers and men are extremely nervous and apprehensive, and swear that Sherman is crazy and doomed to destruction.

There is no doubt but that Sherman expected material aid and full coöperation from a column that was to come down through North-Mississippi.

pi. So entirely was this support relied upon, that the Federal commander has openly boasted that "General Smith would be in Columbus by the fifteenth." It is confidently believed here, that the Federal force now moving in that direction will fall in with some obstacles little dreamed of in their philosophy, which will very seriously interfere with their arrangements.

General Forrest, who is already confronting them, has been amply reinforced, and strong hopes are entertained that very few will reach General Sherman, and those will hardly improve his already partially demoralized army. This Northern Mississippi raid, it seems, consists of from seven to ten thousand men, cavalry and infantry combined, with six pieces of artillery. This raid is abundantly provided for. Our cavalry have been doing splendid work. I have heard Wirt Adams's old regiment more particularly mentioned. I had begun to fear the "forty wagons" affair was a "reliable contraband" story, but to-day I learned the particulars from a participant in the affair.

Two squadrons from Wirt Adams's old regiment, led by Colonel Wood, (now commanding that gallant corps,) and supported by a small force of dismounted men under Colonel Dumontelle, charged across a small field, along the opposite side of which the enemy's wagon train was passing, heavily guarded by a line of infantry on either side.

The charge was so sudden, so wild, so gallant, that the wretches felt their doom was sealed and fled in wild confusion. On dashed the avenging "rebels," and while the mules and drivers struggled in confusion and dismay, they shot drivers and mules as they swept like whirlwind down the line of struggling, crushed, and disorderly Yankees, and poured a perfect shower of balls into them, and then, coming to a heavy line of infantry drawn up to receive them, they wheeled off and dashed again out of sight and reach. We lost six men and some few horses in the affair; and among them a very gallant fellow, Sergeant Gibson, who was wounded, and afterward killed in cold blood by the cowardly wretches who had fled on the first sight of our men.

It is of course not prudent to mention what is now transpiring hereabouts, but all weak-kneed people had as well take heart, and not cry "Wolf!" too soon.

There is no little probability that the adventurous Yankees will pay dearly for their grand raid. All apprehensions of an attack on Mobile or Selma are now dissipated. It turns out that there is no considerable force at Pascagoula, or in that vicinity, and if General Polk had only been reinforced at the critical point, at Meridian, for instance, the whole Yankee force would have been incontinently "gobbled up."

RICHMOND DESPATCH ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, VA., March 9, 1864.

The recent victory of General Forrest in Northern Mississippi, by which the grand plan of the Yankees in the West was so effectually defeated, was one of the most remarkable achievements of

this war. We have conversed with gentlemen recently from that section, whose accounts all concur in the main facts of that almost marvelous exploit. The enemy's reports fully confirm these accounts, but they do not state the exact force by which these results were accomplished. Owing to the exhaustion of his horses, the want of arms and munitions and other causes, Forrest could array a force of only two thousand four hundred men to confront Smith and Grierson's column of seven thousand of the best equipped cavalry the Yankees have ever put in the field. Forrest's men, too, were mostly new and untried, especially in the cavalry service. He had recently recruited them in West-Tennessee. It seemed the extreme of rashness and recklessness to attempt with such a force to arrest the march of a column of seven thousand splendidly mounted and equipped men, led by experienced officers, whose march thus far had been uninterrupted, who were buoyant and confident, and were charged with such an important mission. The junction of this cavalry force with Sherman at Meridian was the key of the whole scheme of the Yankee plan for the occupation and subjugation of the South-West. If successful, Sherman would have been in a condition to advance upon Memphis and Selma, or Mobile; and these important points, as well as the rich countries adjacent, would have been at the mercy of the enemy. They could have been driven back only at the enormous risk of weakening Johnston's army, so as to open Northern Georgia and Rome and Atlanta to Grant's army. General Polk, with his scant infantry force, quickly perceived the momentous issue which depended upon the result of the cavalry movement from Memphis, and after securing his small army on the east side of the Tombigbee, and removing all his supplies and munitions, and returning to Mobile the troops he had borrowed from General Maury, sent imperative orders to Lee and Forrest to unite their forces, and at every cost to crush and drive back Smith and Grierson's cavalry.

Lee did not receive these orders in time to reach Forrest with his force, which was already greatly exhausted by the continual skirmishing with Sherman's column. Forrest was therefore left alone with his two thousand four hundred men to perform this immense undertaking. Confronting the enemy on the broad prairies near West-Point, on the Tibbee River, he prepared for action. The enemy formed in a long and most imposing line, outflanking Forrest, and threatening the instant demolition of his small and imperfectly organized force. The charge was given, and the Yankees advanced with great boldness and an air of certain victory. Great was their surprise when, as they approached Forrest's line, they observed his men slip from their horses, and converting themselves into infantry, each man taking the most favorable position, availing themselves of every advantage the ground afforded, and awaiting with the utmost coolness the impetuous charge of the Yankee chivalry. On came the splendidly mounted dra-

goons, under those far-famed Yankee chiefs, Smith and Grierson, with such fierce displays of valor and determination as argued badly for Forrest's infantry scouts, scattered through the bushes and over the prairie in rather an irregular and unmilitary style. But these valorous horsemen did not advance far before the balls of two thousand riflemen began to rattle through their ranks with fearful effect. Scores of men and horses fell at the first fire, and their onward movement was checked, and before they could recover and re-form, the volley was repeated—again and again—until dismay and terror began to prevail in their ranks, and they soon broke into confusion and fled.

Forrest then mounted his men and began his pursuit, which he kept up with great vigor for nearly twenty miles, the enemy leaving behind many of his wounded and exhausted men, all his dead, his horses, prisoners, five pieces of artillery, burning his packs and turning loose his mules. Having discovered the small force of Forrest, several attempts were made by Smith and Grierson to rally their men and resume the offensive. Their efforts were successful on the hills just beyond Okolona, when the last grand charge was made by them. It was met in the same way as their previous attempts, but even with more vigor and determination by Forrest's men, who had in a few hours become veterans. Several crushing volleys from their rifles quickly arrested the impetuous valor of the Yankees, and sent them to the rear in the wildest confusion and dismay. By this time Forrest had exhausted his ammunition and the strength of his horses. He could not follow up the enemy.

Fortunately, however, General Gholson arrived with some fresh State troops, new levies hastily gathered, and took the place of Forrest's men, following up the Yankees for a great distance, harassing them, capturing and killing and wounding many, and picking up arms, wagons, horses, and a great variety of other valuable property thrown away by the enemy in his wild flight. The enemy never halted for a moment in his retreat, and when last heard from, the remnant of his splendid force was hastening fast to Memphis in far different plight from that in which they had so recently emerged from their fortifications. As soon as the news of this disaster reached Sherman, he began his retrograde movement toward the Mississippi, Lee following him up and hanging on his flanks, and harassing him continually. When last heard from, he was dragging his wearied, broken-down column back to Vicksburg, in a demoralized state, the most mortified, disappointed, and disgusted chief who ever led ten thousand men up the hill and then marched them down again.

To increase this feeling of mortification and disgust, Sherman's conscience was burdened with a load of infamy which, even upon a Yankee General, could not have pressed lightly, in the recollection of the dastardly outrages upon private property, in the destruction of mills, of the houses of poor, inoffensive people living near his

line of march, and in the shameful excess of his wretched mercenaries. We could hardly wish our bitterest enemy a larger portion of misery than must have fallen upon this ambitious aspirant on his return to the fortifications to Vicksburg. An educated soldier, who had long associated with gentlemen, who had received the highest favors and unbounded kindness and hospitality from the Southern people, during his residence in Louisiana, Sherman has, by the license extended to his brutal hirelings, in their march through Mississippi, and by his own acts of outrage and cruelty, shown a degree of infamy that entitles him to take rank with Butler, McNeil, Hunter, and other Federal chiefs whose only achievements in this war have been those of the ruffian, the pirate, the plunderer and highwayman.

Doc. 123.

CAPTURE OF GENERAL SCAMMON.

RICHMOND "EXAMINER" ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, February 18, 1864.

WE have the particulars of the gallant exploit recently performed by Lieutenant Verdigan and ten men belonging to the Sixteenth Virginia cavalry, commanded by Colonel J. Ferguson, of Wayne County, in the capture of a Yankee steamer.

For two months past, the Colonel and most of his men have been wintering within the enemy's lines in the county above named. They have had several successful skirmishes with the enemy, and had, on a former occasion, sent out sixteen prisoners, who all arrived safely in Richmond. They also killed Denny Coleman, late surveyor of Buchanan County, in a fight at Round Bottom, near Ohio River, one of the vilest Union men and base-hearted traitors that have ever been arrayed against us.

The exploit above alluded to happened near Winfield, about twelve days since. Major Nonning was on a scout with a portion of the command, and entered Winfield about midnight, when he ascertained that the steamer Levi, bound for Charleston, lay on the opposite side of the river. Lieutenant Verdigan, with a solitary companion, was despatched across the river to reconnoitre, which was successfully accomplished, and the telegraphic communication with Charleston severed in front of a house, and in full view of a woman residing therein. In about two hours Lieutenant Verdigan was reinforced by nine men, who had crossed the river under many difficulties, on account of the scarcity of water-craft. It was soon discovered that the enemy were on the alert, and were about to cut loose from the shore. Not a moment was to be lost. The Lieutenant gave the order, "Forward!" and immediately the gallant eleven double-quickened it to the boat, dashed aboard, up into the ladies' cabin, and found a sentinel at the door. Our men were soon in possession of the arms of General Scammon, two lieutenants, (his aids,) two other commissioned

officers, twenty-five privates, besides the boat, crew, and freight. As fast as the arms were received, they were thrown overboard, for fear an attempt would be made to recapture them, as soon as their small number was ascertained. The boat was immediately taken to the opposite side of the river, where Major Nonning and the balance of the command came aboard, when all parties steamed down the river about five miles. The prisoners were paroled that could not be safely brought off. General Scammon and his two aids were sent on to Richmond.

Doc. 124.

EXPEDITION UP YAZOO RIVER.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
CAIRO, February 17, 1864.

SIR: Inclosed I send you a report of Lieutenant Commander Owen, in relation to an expedition I sent up Yazoo River to cooperate with General Sherman, (who is marching on Meridian,) and to confuse the enemy with regard to movements on foot. It appears the troops did not consider themselves strong enough to land, and force the position. The vessels will work their way along cautiously until the water is high enough to send an iron-clad or two.

This move has had the effect of driving the guerrillas away from the Mississippi, as they are fearful it is intended to cut them off. I don't expect much from the expedition beyond diverting their attention.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT E. K. OWEN.

UNITED STATES STEAMER MARMORA, FOUR MILES BELOW }
YAZOO CITY, February 5, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival of the expedition at this place last evening. To-day has been spent in reconnoitring the enemy's position, and so far have discovered a battery of two small guns, situated in a valley seemingly perpendicularly to the river, and also a heavy force of infantry and cavalry behind a hill to the right of the battery, and running parallel to the river. On the second, we arrived at Sartalia, and at ten A.M. of the third we attacked the enemy at Liverpool, number about two thousand seven hundred men, under Ross, with two pieces of artillery. We silenced their guns, the army holding its position on the hills. At nightfall, the troops reëmbarked, and we dropped down for the night. The casualties were: the Petrel struck four times, without any serious damage; the other vessels, Marmora, Exchange, and Romeo, receiving no damage of any consequence. The Exchange and Romeo were hit several times by sharp-shooters. On the morning of the fourth, we advanced for another attack, but found the

enemy had gone, leaving only a small force of about two hundred sharp-shooters to annoy us and the transports in passing. The wheel-houses of the sunken steamer Ivy are above water directly opposite Liverpool, and in the narrowest part of the river. To the right of her, however, there is plenty of water. The river is high and rising. I forgot to mention the land forces lost eight killed and twenty-two wounded in the attack of the third. We understand that there are about eight thousand men, under Stark, Ross, and Loring, at Yazoo City. Our spies and scouts have failed to return. To-morrow will probably develop the strength of the enemy. I am happy to say that Colonel Coates, commanding the land forces, and myself, get along together very well, nor have any of the crews of the vessels touched any property of any description without sanction of the owners, and paying the full value in money. I issued stringent orders in relation to pilaging, etc. The Exchange was struck twice out of four shots to-day in the first reconnoissance, but no one hurt. One shot struck within two feet of the boilers, without doing any damage.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. K. OWEN,

Lieutenant Commander, commanding Fifth District.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

LETTER FROM REAR-ADMIRAL PORTER, TRANSMITTING ADDITIONAL REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER E. K. OWEN.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
RED RIVER, March 6, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of report from Lieutenant Commander E. K. Owen, in relation to movements up the Yazoo River.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF LIEUTENANT E. K. OWEN.

UNITED STATES STEAMER MARMORA, OFF }
GREENWOOD, Miss., February 15, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival of the expedition at this place on last evening. We met with no opposition, excepting a smart skirmish at the edge of the woods a mile back of this place, between the rebel cavalry under Forrest, and our own under Colonel Osband. We had two wounded. The enemy has fallen back to Grenada, and are fortifying that place. If the way is tolerably clear and the force not too heavy, our cavalry force (two hundred and fifty) and a portion of the infantry (five hundred) will go out in the morning. If we find the enemy too strong, we will go down the river, as the Tallahatchie and Yallahusha are entirely too low to ascend. This river is also falling rapidly, with only eight feet in the channel above Honey Island. I shall take good care that no boats shall get caught. The Star of the West is still in the channel in the Tallahatchie, with her wheels and upper-works out. Fort Pemberton is entirely destroy-

ed, as also all the cotton out of which it was built. We have succeeded, so far, in gathering about four hundred and fifty bales of cotton, of which eighty are on the gunboats, and the rest on the transports. Fifty-three bales are all of the C.S.A. that have been captured, though but very little of any is marked at all. When we leave here, it will be to go up the Little Schula, as far as the town of that name. Then we go down the river, fill up with coal, and ascend the Sunflower.

There has been no Union sentiment of any moment or value expressed since our advent into these waters. On the Sunflower, however, we have reason to believe it is prominent. This is an insignificant place, containing about forty houses of all kinds, and entirely of frame buildings. The inhabitants have mostly fled, leaving a few poor Irish. It is a rendezvous for dry-goods merchants, who obtain large supplies from Memphis *via* Friar's Point. We have met with no young men as yet, all having been forced into the army. The last military order of the rebels is to remove or shoot all the negroes between the ages of forty-five and sixteen. Some few negroes have already been shot by the rebel scouts.

I have been up the Tallahatchie as far as where the Star of the West is sunk, which is directly opposite the Fort, (Pemberton.) At the mouth of the Yallabusha the Ed. J. Gay is sunk, the decks being just above water. About one mile below, the Arcadia is sunk, with her upper-works out, and nearly filling the river at this stage of water. We found great difficulty in turning and coming down, the light upper-works suffering to some extent. The rebel steamer Sharpe was burnt a few days ago in the Yallabusha, to prevent her falling into our hands. As the river is falling quite rapidly, and with thirteen boats in the fleet, I think I shall drop down below the bars.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. K. OWEN,

Lieutenant commanding Fifth District.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

Doc. 125.

FIGHT NEAR COTTON PLANT, ARK.

MISSOURI DEMOCRAT ACCOUNT.

DUVALL'S BLUFF, ARK.,
CAMP EIGHTH MISSOURI CAVALRY VOLUNTEERS,
April 25, 1864.

ON the morning of April twentieth, detachments of companies A, B, C, E, F, H, I, L, and M of this regiment, about two hundred and fifty men, left this place under command of Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Lisenby, and arrived at Cotton Plant at ten o'clock next morning. Here we learned that two hundred guerrillas had left the town the day before. We resumed the march at eleven o'clock, and at dark halted and sent a small party to reconnoitre. Sergeant Major was informed that the rebs knew our designs, and had formed in line on both sides of the road. Upon this we marched back a mile, and cook-

ed, as we had scarcely eaten the day before. The next morning, at day-break, the rebs commenced a vigorous attack on our pickets. We mounted, formed, and rode out to meet the enemy. Company E, commanded by Captain William J. Bodenhamer, (a gallant and brave officer,) was sent to the right to flank the enemy, and the rest of the command attacked them in the front. In the early part of the fight, we drove them back about two hundred yards, when the rebs, consisting heretofore of cavalry, were reinforced by a large force of infantry, compelling us to fall back to our former position. Here a fire was kept up for two hours, when orders were received to fall back, as the enemy greatly outnumbered us, (estimated at one thousand six hundred.) We heard that we were to be aided by forces sent up the river, to attack them in the rear, and by troops from Helena, to attack them in that quarter. This fired the boys on, and made them fight with more vigor. Our wounded, among whom was D. Edward M. Clark, of company A, (wounded mortally,) were carried off the field to a neighboring house, which was fitted up as a hospital, and the wounded placed in charge of Dr. Cook, contract surgeon at this post, who remained with them, and is now in the enemy's hands. Company I, commanded by Lieutenant F. J. McAdoo, and company L, covered the retreat, till the wounded were all moved from the field, and then joined the balance of the command. We were closely followed, and fought constantly, for about five miles. We then halted, and the ground being favorable, formed to receive the enemy, and while doing so, we discovered that they were about to make a flank movement to cut us off, compelling us again to take up our line of march. Here Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Lisenby left us, taking with him companies I and H, pursuing a different road, to protect a ford at a bayou, which we would have to cross, and which it was feared the enemy would take possession of. The rest of the command proceeded further, under command of Major William J. Teed, making direct for the bayou. Colonel Lisenby arrived at the bayou, and waited some time for us, when he received information that Major Teed had been cut off by one hundred of the enemy, and to prevent being cut off also, the Colonel took a different road, swam Cache River, and proceeded directly to Duvall's Bluff, and arrived at the banks opposite this place next day. Major Teed arrived at the bayou, and sent out scouts to find the Colonel, but these returned without having found him, and so we proceeded unmolested, except by the rain, which poured down in torrents, and reached Clarendon at eight o'clock P.M.; camped, and waited for a boat to ferry us across White River. This arrived next day; ferried us across, and so we arrived here last night, much wearied, hungry, and exhausted, but content that it all happened in our three years. Upon arriving, we learned that parts of companies D, F, and G, altogether fifty, and parts of the Third Minne-

sota and Sixty-first Illinois infantry, under command of Colonel Andrews, the latter having come secretly from Little Rock, had left this place on Steamers Commercial and Raymond at the same time we did, and were to operate with us. They arrived at Augusta at daylight, on the twentieth, here disembarked, and proceeded toward Cache River by different roads; the cavalry taking one road and the infantry the other. It was not long before the cavalry, commanded by Captain J. H. Garrison, of company G, came upon the rebel Colonel Ponder, of the Ninth regiment Missouri Cavalry, C. S. A., who had been reconnoitring our forces. Upon seeing our cavalry, he endeavored to escape, but the boys gave chase, came upon him, and after firing a few shots at him, captured him, together with a few more rebels, and took him to the main command. After this, they proceeded toward the Cache River, arriving there at three o'clock P.M. Advance-guard here fired into a rebel picket on the other side of the river, causing them to skedaddle. They then turned back, and met the infantry resting three miles from the river, who returned with them to the boat. On the way there, the advance-guard (cavalry) came upon a rebel, who tried to escape them; they gave chase, and "Jonny Reb" was thrown from his "critter," and then surrendered. Upon being asked by Captain Garrison as to his occupation, he stated that he was a despatch-bearer for the C. S. A., and drew forth a batch of despatches, among which were some announcing a victory of the rebels over Banks on Red River. The troops arrived at Augusta without further molestation. The next two days scouts were sent out, bringing in a great number of mules, horses, and contrabands, and at daylight of the twenty-fourth they left Augusta, and arrived here at two o'clock P.M.

Accompanying the infantry was Lieutenant Albert Potthoff, Post Quartermaster at Little Rock, who is greatly pleased with his lot of horses and mules. Officers and men behaved gallantly. The enemy's loss is not known, but is believed to be severe.

Doc. 126.

EXPEDITION UP THE NEUSE RIVER, N. C.

ACCOUNT BY A PARTICIPANT.

UNITED STATES STEAMER ————,
OFF WILMINGTON, N. C., March 2, 1864.

On the evening of the twenty-ninth of February, we started from our ship on an expedition; the Captain in his "gig," with a master's mate and twelve oars. I had command of the first cutter, also pulling twelve oars, with the coxswain. We took with us an engineer and two firemen, and were, all told, twenty-five men and officers. The engineer and firemen accompanied us to take charge of and bring out a blockade-runner, in case we should meet any inside the forts. We are blockading at the mouth of the Neuse River. On each side of its mouth

are forts, with guns of heavy calibre, some of them of immense range. Sometimes the blockade-runners come down to the forts, out of range of our guns, of course, and lie there waiting an opportunity to slip out in a dark stormy night, etc. Had we found one of them there, we would have boarded, surprised, and worked her out if possible. But to our expedition.

Our main object was to capture General Herbert, the rebel General commanding this department, and whose headquarters were at Smithville, a small village up the river, and inside all the forts. We supposed there were about three regiments of rebels at this place. It was a good dark night. With muffled oars, we passed the forts unseen, although we passed close to them. Orders were given in whispers, and the strictest silence was observed. Saw plenty of fires from salt-works, as we were pulling up the river. At last we passed Smithville, and returned to the village; could hear voices of workmen at the salt-works on the bank distinctly; pulled in; landed near a small landing-place, where was a sentry, whom we found to be fast asleep—we didn't disturb his dreams. To our surprise, on advancing from our boats, we found a sand-battery in our very front, not twenty yards from our boats. The Captain ordered four men to stay in the boats, while the balance, with the exception of our Captain, myself, another officer, and a coxswain, were left near the boats, with orders to hold on to them, in case we were discovered, to the last moment. Seeing a man at work at the beach near by, an officer and man were sent to secure him; they crept up on to him, put a revolver to his head, and brought him to us. On their return, they got another—both of them contrabands, and just what we wanted. The Captain clapped pistol to the head of one, and told him to lead us to General Herbert's headquarters, and point to us where the sentries were posted. He took the lead; we followed, four in all; passed close to a sentry, he was asleep, (every body sleeps here apparently;) finally we arrived at the General's headquarters, and sat down under the edge of the verandah to "take our bearings," as Jack would say. It was a large house, with the verandah extending all around it. On the opposite side of the street was a long building, the barracks, where a battalion of soldiers were quartered. Learning from the "black" that the General's staff lived in the house with him, the Captain sent to the boat for four more men. Now we were eight, all told. The moon was now up and shining brightly; we tried the front-door, found it unlocked, and walked in; opened the door on the left side of the hall, and commenced hunting the General, "or any other man" that we could find. Our guide didn't know which was the General's chamber, so we had to explore, with strict orders not to fire, unless to prevent capture, and then only to fire when obliged to retreat. We were armed to the teeth—drawn cutlasses, and revolver in left hand. Captain struck a match in first room,

saw at once it was their mess-room; then tried right-hand door, found it locked; sent two men to watch in the rear of the house.

The rest of the party kept watch, while the Captain and I went up the stairs. (How the dogs did bark over the way about this time!) We went into an apartment on the landing, and were lighting a match, when we heard the door below slam violently, amid the crashing of glass. I said: "Captain, there's a row below; we must fight or go to Richmond!" We rushed down stairs, (a pretty good load of excitement on, as you may imagine;) coxswain told me a man had jumped out of the window, and was making off! I started to run back of the house to head him off, when I heard sounds of struggling in another room back—went in, and found the Captain had a fellow by the arm—revolver close to his head. "One word and you die!" said our Captain. This prisoner was in his drawers; two beds in the room, and one man had escaped. We asked prisoner if he was the General. He replied, "No; the General went to Wilmington this morning;" that he was "Captain Kelley, of the Engineer Corps, and on the staff of the General;" that "the officer who had escaped was Adjutant-General Hardeman," etc. Captain ordered him to dress himself without delay, and prepare to go with us. He (Captain Kelley) was terribly excited, and exclaimed: "What, you take me, surrounded by my own troops! For God's sake, who are you!" Up went the pistol to his head, and on went his clothes—quick was our play. He could not believe we were from the fleet outside. My feet were wet and cold; the sight of a fine red blanket on the Adjutant-General's bed was too much for me; I took it as a memento and comforter. We ran Captain Kelley down to the boats, expecting every moment to hear the alarm, and to be surrounded or attacked: but luck was with us. We shoved off with our prisoners—(the Captain and two contrabands)—all right so far.

Now to get by the forts. Kelley said "we never could do it—would be blown out of the water," etc. We pulled about twenty minutes down the river, when the enemy commenced making their night signals. Gracious! how the lights were flashing from all points, above and below us. Kelley understood these signals, of course; said they had telegraphed to the forts—"The enemy inside in boats." We pulled along slowly; just about this time the moon was obscured by a thick bank of clouds—now was our time. If ever I saw boats jump, 'twas then; every man knew his danger, but was cool. How grim old Fort Caswell loomed up as we passed her! We knew that a thousand eyes were watching the river for us; but, thank God! we got by undiscovered, and got on board our good ship by four o'clock A.M., all safe.

We were much disappointed at finding the General "not at home;" we would surely have had him. Had not the Adjutant-General escaped, we would have paid a quiet visit to several other houses in Smithville, and also intended to spike

a four-gun battery which lay very handy to that vicinity.

Next morning I went over in charge of a flag-of-truce boat, to arrange affairs with the commandant of Fort Caswell, (Colonel Jones,) so as to get the effects of Captain Kelley; landed on the beach under guns of the Fort. Colonel Jones and several of his officers were there to receive me. I introduced myself, and at once made known the object of the flag of truce, etc. I was obliged to wait there until they could send to Smithville for Captain Kelley's clothes, etc., etc. At first Colonel Jones was very reserved in his manner, and of course I was on my dignity as well. I could see that they felt a good deal mortified at our success. At last Colonel Jones (by the by, he is from Virginia—was a captain in the regular army when the war broke out) remarked: "Sir, you did a brave and gallant thing last night, and deserve great credit not only for the plan, but for the cool and daring manner in which it was executed. We know your object was to get our General, but, thank God! he was gone," etc., etc. After this they became quite sociable. The Colonel said he much regretted he could not invite me into the Fort; but said he: "You have already seen more than I wish you had." Refreshments were brought on, and we had a very pleasant chat. Adjutant-General Hardeman, who was there, (I told him I had his blanket, and the circumstances connected with my taking it,) laughingly said that any body who could think of being cold at such a time, etc., deserved an admiral's commission. The Colonel said that the sleepy sentries would be shot, and that some of the officers would be hauled over for negligence. He was surprised when I told him how many there were of our party. I told him "we were few but very select," etc.

Doc. 127.

BATTLE AT PADUCAH, KY.

PADUCAH, March 29, 1864.

The smoke of the battle of Paducah has at length cleared away, and we may add another chapter to the history of the war of the rebellion—to us, of this city, the most eventful chapter written.

On Thursday, the twenty-fourth instant, Union City, sixty-five miles distant, was attacked and surrendered to Colonel Faulkner, of the rebel army. The news speedily came to Paducah, with a note of warning to our commander to prepare for an attack.

Colonel Hicks having been apprised of the concentration of rebel forces south of here for some days previous, needed nothing to stimulate him to increased activity in the means of defense.

Rumor had a busy day playing on her "harp of a thousand strings" on Friday, the twenty-fifth, till about two o'clock in the evening, when all of a sudden the presence of a large rebel force in the suburbs of our city was no longer a doubt.

ful question. I beheld what I supposed to be a flag of truce moving up Broadway, our principal business street. Starting at once to provide for the safety of my family, believing that half an hour at least would intervene before the battle would open, I was surprised to hear the sound of musketry as I made my way to my residence. The battle had actually begun. Its sudden commencement can be accounted for only upon the presumption that the enemy's flag of truce was not a flag of truce, or at least was not respected by those who sent it, for Federal pickets were fired on and prisoners taken before the flag could possibly have reached its destination. Moreover, I am informed by Adjutant Taylor that when he went to meet the flag, with his white handkerchief waving, he was fired upon, and had to retreat. Thus the battle opened, leaving non-combatants, women, and children to make their escape through the rain of shot and shell, which had been provoked by this strange and untimely attack.

Our forces consisted of the Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry, Major Barnes, two hundred and seventy; three companies of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois infantry, Major Chapman, one hundred and two; and the first Kentucky heavy artillery, (corps d'Afrique,) Colonel Cunningham, two hundred and seventy-four; total, six hundred and forty-six. These were under the command of the war-worn veteran Colonel S. G. Hicks, who was severely wounded at the battle of Shiloh.

The force of the rebels is believed to have consisted of three brigades, under command of Major-General Forrest; General Buford and Colonel A. P. Thompson's forces were among them. It turned out that Colonel A. P. Thompson had the commission of Brigadier in his pocket. The rebel forces were supported by the august presence of his ex-Excellency Isham G. Harris.

After the battle had raged awhile, Colonel Hicks received a message by flag of truce, in substance as follows, namely: That he (Colonel Hicks) was assailed by an overwhelming force, that resistance was useless, and, to prevent further effusion of blood, he demanded the surrender of the fort, with all the Government property and stores at the post at Paducah; that if a surrender was made, Colonel Hicks and his forces should be treated as prisoners of war, but if refused and the fort had to be taken by force of arms, no quarters would be given. Signed by Major-General Forrest. To this bold demand Colonel Hicks laconically replied that he had been sent here by his Government to protect and defend the post, and his sense of duty and obligation as a soldier forbade the surrender.

The battle was then renewed with vigor, a spirited assault being made upon the fort by the Kentucky rebel forces, under command of Colonel or General A. P. Thompson. In this fatal assault Colonel Thompson received his death-chance as suddenly and furiously as the proud oak receives the thunder-bolt. A shell passed through his body, tearing to atoms the lower

part of the breast and down to the limbs, throwing portions of his body fifteen feet distant. It is said that just before, and almost simultaneously with the shell, a musket was fired at the Colonel by an ardent young African, which took effect in the forehead.

The assault was gallantly repulsed, and the shout of victory arose from the fort. There were other attempts to take it, but each time the besieging hosts were driven back by the intrepid boys at the fort, into whom now seemed to be infused the indomitable courage and valor of Colonel Hicks.

While the fort guns were at work most powerfully and fatally upon the enemy around, two gunboats, the Peosta, (thirty-six,) Lieutenant Shirk commanding, and the —, (thirty-two,) Captain O'Neil, poured an incessant torrent of shot and shell through the streets of the city upon the enemy, who were as busy as bees plundering stores, gathering up horses, etc., mostly belonging to citizens; but few Government horses being lost.

In addition to the plundering, the rebels fired the large frame building on Broadway, built and used by the Government as quartermasters' dépôt and office. They destroyed our railroad dépôt and a new boat upon the ways, both of which they knew to be the property of citizens. Four cars were burnt; the locomotives escaped. They set fire to a few bales of cotton on the levee. A row of some six buildings, one of which was occupied as military headquarters, fronting the river, served as a lodgment for their sharpshooters, who skilfully plied their art upon the lookouts and other openings upon the gunboats. A marine that showed his head was in great danger of losing it. Lieutenant Shirk at once discovered the necessity of routing them, and sent a few volleys into the buildings, which set them on fire.

A dastardly thing in the sharpshooters was the refuge they sought in a new boat upon the ways, filled with women and children. Thus protected by their sacred presence, they poured their deadly missiles upon the gunboats with impunity. After a while they fired the boat and skedaddled, leaving women and children to find other quarters.

Many business and dwelling-houses have suffered greatly from the shells of the gunboats, prominent among which are the Continental Hotel, City Hotel, and Branch Bank of Louisville. The latter is almost a mass of ruins, with its entire contents. Cashier S. B. Hughes and family resided in the building, but, fortunately, had escaped.

The entire Federal loss is fourteen killed, forty-six wounded, and perhaps thirty prisoners, taken from the hospitals.

It is difficult to estimate the rebel loss, as their killed and wounded were mostly buried by themselves or taken off in their retreat.

Adjutant Taylor estimates their loss at three hundred killed, and the usual proportion of wounded.

Cairo advices from points passed on their retreat indicate heavier losses. One thing is certain—they came, they saw, and they got most terribly thrashed. They plundered dry-goods and shoe-stores extensively, and obtained a large number of horses; but merchandise and horses have seldom been bought at so dear a price, illustrating the divine maxim, that the way of the transgressor is hard.

The battle closed for the night at about eleven o'clock. On the morning it was believed that the fight would be renewed, and Colonel Hicks determined to destroy the lodgment of their sharpshooters by firing the buildings that had been or could be made useful to the enemy in that way. Thus some thirty or forty houses fell a prey to the flames and the stern necessities of war. Many noble buildings, ornaments to our thriving but unfortunate young city, were destroyed, in most instances with their entire contents. The destruction of our gas-works is a sad affliction to us. The attack was so sudden, and had been preceded by so many false alarms, that few indeed were prepared for the shock.

Colonel Hicks, himself, always acting upon the principle that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, surely could not have anticipated, though he so nobly repulsed the impetuous dash, as he was fired at on his way from headquarters to the fort.

The pell-mell rush of citizens was of itself terrific, and, to many, would doubtless have been disastrous, but for the coolness, tact, self-possession, and untiring exertion of our most excellent Quartermaster, Captain J. A. Finley. After making the best possible disposition of such property as could not be removed to the river, records, papers, moneys, and other valuables, with his family, had to be taken care of. Moving them all to the large wharf-boat of J. H. Fowler & Co., which was now freighted with probably a thousand frightened souls, and valuables of a public and private kind, he turned his eyes upon the confused mass of human beings, on boat and shore, that were crying for safety. In a moment he comprehended the responsibility and magnitude of the task. Assuming control of the vast crowd, with limited means of escape, forgetful of self, he seemed to be the instrument in the hands of Providence that saved us. Owens's ferry-boat, the Blue Bird, was ordered alongside the wharf-boat. A coal-barge, upon which your humble servant, with his family and many others, had taken refuge, was ordered to drop down and make fast to the ferry. Insufficiency of motive power was a fearful question.

Meantime the Peosta poured her streams of fire over and around us, causing an awful tremor to seize our vitals. All now ready, Captain Finley ordered fastenings loosed, and heavily, like a huge leviathan, the trio of boats swung round, the graceful Peosta withdrawing a little to give us swing, and we were off to the opposite shore just in the nick of time; ten minutes later, and we would have been in the hands of the rebels, as they had ordered the destruction of every boat

in their reach. Why didn't they take the Peosta? She didn't run.

It is no light matter to have a vast crowd of thousands, mostly women and children and invalids, thrown together without a moment's preparation. For providing means of sustenance and comfort for that immense, terror-stricken crowd much praise is due Captain Finley, who, at the expense of his own feeble health, was hard at work for twenty-four hours, constantly on the alert to meet every necessity. Jo. Fowler, V. Owen, and Aleck. Woolfolk gave their hearts and hands freely to the work of providing for the multitude. The busy little Blue Bird and another small boat picked up many a little squad of terrified sufferers from the river bank and ferried them over during the night. The Blue Bird once ventured up too close to the concealed sharpshooters, and had to fall back into the safe old rule of little boats not venturing too far.

The steamer Louisville arrived late in the night. Captain Wolf, her commander, crowned himself and his boat all over with glory. Her state-rooms and larders were thrown open free of charge to the weary, hungry multitude, and her wheels were ever in motion to go where humanity and necessity required. The Louisville and Captain Wolf will never be forgotten by the hundreds who took refuge there. Captain Wolf really looked sorry when it was all over, for, although his stores must have been exhausted, his benevolence shone yet full-orbed upon every suffering face. The high-headed Liberty No. 2 steamed up about eleven o'clock Saturday morning, yet in time to regale many an empty stomach; and what could have given that prince of steamboat commanders, Captain Wes. Conner, more joy of heart than his ability to relieve the pangs of hunger under such dreadful circumstances? He gave all he had, and only looked sad when he had no more to give those homeless sufferers, and then invited as many as desired to take free passage on his boat. But we were all chained by a magic spell to the point from which we could behold our smoking homes. It is painful to turn from the praise of the benevolent to deal in censure, but the steamer New-Iowa deserves a passing notice for the exorbitant charges which were extorted from all who partook of her hospitalities. Had Captain Finley been promptly notified, she would have been required, in the name of the United States, to be a little more considerate and charitable.

Long live Colonel Hicks and the brave soldiers and marines who defended our city, and long live Captain Finley and the other noble hearts who contributed so fully and freely to the varied necessities of a panic-stricken, afflicted, and homeless people.*

ANOTHER NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

PADUCAH, KY., April 4, 1864.

There have been so many different and conflicting versions of the recent fight at Paducah, Kentucky, published in the papers, that I have

* See Fort Pillow Massacre, Doc. 1, ante.

concluded, as I was here a part of the time, and in sight of the place all the time, *quorum fui pars*, to give you some reminiscences of it; now that the smoke of battle has entirely cleared away, the enemy have gone out of the country, and we can ascertain definitely what has taken place.

I have been informed by one of our prominent officers here, who was in Fort Anderson and in the fight all the time, that our loss was fourteen killed and forty-four wounded. As the rebels carried off most of their dead and wounded, it is impossible to ascertain their exact loss; but it must have been enormous. This officer told the writer that our artillery mowed them down, making lanes through their ranks, which, however, were immediately closed up by others. I was told that as many as thirty dead were counted in one heap and nineteen in another! Forrest, in his retreat, told a lady in the country where he stopped (who related it to my informant, one of our officers on a scout) that he lost three hundred killed and one thousand wounded; and as these rebel officers generally diminish instead of exaggerate their losses, his loss must have been greater—probably four hundred killed, and one thousand two hundred or one thousand five hundred wounded, as their wounded were said to have been strewn along the road, at almost every house on it, and they were engaged all night in hauling them away along the road. Many must have been killed by our shells, which were thrown into almost every part of the town; and many were shot in houses from which the rebel sharpshooters fired upon our men on the gunboats and in the Fort. I was told by the officer first referred to above, that he counted as many as fifteen bodies in one house, and more or less of their dead were found in almost every house burnt.

Not only Forrest himself, but some of his officers, (and I have it from the persons to whom it was said,) confessed that they had been deceived by their friends here, in reference to the strength of the Fort and the number of the garrison. They had been told that the works were weak and not at all formidable; and that the Fort was manned by some two hundred or three hundred soldiers, and a few raw recruits of the Seventeenth Kentucky cavalry, without arms, and would be nothing to take!

I was personally well acquainted, and had been for several years before the rebellion, with the rebel General (formerly Colonel) Albert P. Thompson, who was killed while leading a charge on the Fort, within some forty yards of it. He was a prominent and popular lawyer of Paducah, and district-attorney, before the rebellion. When that broke out he joined the rebel army, and was promoted until he reached the rank of Colonel, when he received a severe wound in the neck at the rebel attack on Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from which he recovered. He was then promoted to the command (not rank, as I have been informed) of Brigadier-General in the rebel army, under Forrest. He appeared to have been killed by a shell, which exploded as it struck him, and tore his body literally to pieces. It is a remarkable

coincidence that he lost his life by war in the tragical manner he did, at the very place where he began his military career.

Forrest is said to have been at the house of a prominent citizen here, when he received Colonel Hicks's reply to his demand for a surrender of the Fort, and remarked: "Damn him! I came here to take the place, and, by God! I mean to do it." So that it is useless for the rebels and their sympathizers to say now, in order to cover over his disastrous defeat, that he came to obtain goods and supplies for his men, and merely made feints or demonstrations on the Fort to keep our men in it, until the rebels could obtain what they wanted and get off with it, and did not care about taking the Fort. They evidently came to take the Fort and town, if they could, and had they succeeded, they would have shot all the colored soldiers and their officers, held the place as long as they could, and stripped it of every thing valuable to them which they could have carried off.

I have it, on good authority, that Forrest said his men had been in fifty fights before, but this was the severest and most disastrous repulse he had ever met with. Although he carried off all the horses and mules he could find, stripping the livery-stables without any regard to the loyalty or disloyalty of the owners, and a great deal of plunder, the raid has cost him dearly—far more than any advantages he has gained by it. Some are fearful of another attack by the rebels, but I think there is little danger, and that their dear-bought "experience" will be sufficient to prevent a repetition. They would, no doubt, have plundered the town of a great deal more than they did, perhaps as much again, but the gunboats soon made the place too hot to hold them. As proof of this, the stores of some of the strongest and most ultra Union men in the place were not touched, while they took thousands of dollars' worth of goods from those of men considered rebel sympathizers, and some of them the strongest in the place.

I must now speak of our own men. Colonel S. G. Hicks, the commander of this post, whose bravery and skill as an officer had been tested on battle-fields before, and who was wounded at Shiloh, deserves the highest praise for his gallant and heroic defence of the forts with a little handful of men—his whole force, including about two hundred and fifty colored soldiers, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Cunningham, amounting to not more than one thousand men in all, only half of whom fought at a time—and certainly deserves promotion to a brigadiership. Major W. L. Gibson, our Provost-Marshal, who had fought in the war with Mexico with great credit to himself, and who was at Donelson, Shiloh, and on other battle-fields, fought with his usual distinguished coolness, calmness, and bravery; and Colonel Cunningham, with brilliant daring and heroic courage; and the colored soldiers generally with the greatest enthusiasm and bravery, emulating the white soldiers and conducting themselves well all the

time. One of the most mortifying things to Forrest, connected with his terrible defeat here, must be the reflection that his men were whipped in part by "nigger" soldiers, whom he had come to take and shoot, with their officers. Captain H. Bartling, Deputy District Provost-Marshal, under Captain Hall, and once Post Adjutant here, was severely wounded in one of his arms. Sergeant Hays and one or two other officers were also wounded.

I must speak now, in the last place, of the injuries sustained by our city, which suffered terribly by the bombardment and conflagration. Nearly all of Front Row, below Broadway street, including the headquarters building, was burnt. Also all the houses in the vicinity of the Fort, by order of Colonel Hicks, to stop the rebel sharp-shooters from getting up into them and picking our men off in the Fort. The gas-works were burnt, through a misunderstanding of the order of Colonel Hicks, who wished them preserved.

The rebels burned the large new quartermaster building on Broadway, with the stores in it; and also the railroad dépôt and cars. There would not have been a single house on Front street fired into by the gunboats had the rebel sharp-shooters kept out of them. As it is, every house in that part of the city next the river bears the marks of shot and shell, and the effects of the bombardment are visible in almost every part of it. The loss of the gas-works is much to be regretted, so that our city is left "in darkness" as well as "in ruins."

CHICAGO "TIMES" ACCOUNT.

CAIRO, March 27, 1865.

Last Friday night, information reached us that Forrest had made his appearance at Paducah at two P.M., with two thousand men, and had begun an attack on that city. Colonel Hicks, commander of the post, withdrew all his men, some eight hundred, into the fort, and sent the citizens across the river to the Illinois side. The telegraph operator at Mound City said he could see a great light in the direction of Paducah, and supposed the city was in flames. General Brayman, being notified of this, sent up the Twenty-fifth Wisconsin to reinforce the garrison. Saturday morning, the steamer Iatan came down, having passed Paducah at five o'clock, at which time the buildings occupied as headquarters, quartermaster's and commissary's offices, and ammunition dépôt, had been destroyed; also, many other houses, and the steamer Arizona, which was on the ways. The enemy appeared to have possession of the town, and the Fort and three gunboats had been shelling them vigorously. When the fight began, two hundred men occupied the Fort, and had three days' rations, but soon after, six hundred other troops were thrown in, and the rations were quickly used up. The Iatan was ordered to load at Cairo with provisions, and go to the relief of the garrison.

Your correspondent went aboard of this steamer, and proceeded to the scene of action, to as-

certain what damage had been done. Before we left, however, the Tycoon came down with a report that firing had ceased, and the rebels had gone. In the mean time, the Fourth division, Sixteenth army corps, which had been here for about a week, under command of General Veatch, embarked on several steamers for Paducah, hoping to catch Forrest before he could get out of the way. It is said that four thousand cavalry, sent out by General Grierson from Memphis, are in his rear. An order was issued from headquarters, Friday night, prohibiting the landing of steamboats on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River, between Cairo and Paducah, and the crossing of skiffs from one side of the river to the other without a permit from some military officer.

We arrived at Metropolis at seven P.M., where we found a number of women and children, who had escaped from Paducah the day before. They were seated around a fire on the bank of the river, and apparently making the best of their condition. Here we were told that shelling had again commenced at three o'clock, but it was supposed that the gunboats were trying to drive the enemy out of the woods. At twelve M., it was said, a flag of truce had been sent in by Forrest. Friday evening, a rebel, who tried to cut the telegraph, was shot dead. Captain Bawkmann and Captain Crutchfield, of the Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry, were wounded in the head, and Captain Bartley, in the arm. Sergeant T. Hays, of the Fifteenth Kentucky cavalry, was killed. Four white men and seven negroes in the Fort were killed. Twenty-five houses around the Fort were destroyed by the Federals, because they afforded shelter for sharp-shooters, who could fire directly into the fortification. At Metropolis, we learned that just before the enemy came into the city, all the citizens returned to the Fort, and remained there until Colonel Hicks informed them that he could not furnish arms for all, and those who desired to cross the river could do so. Accordingly, many got aboard of the wharf-boat, which was towed by a ferry-boat to the opposite side of the river. As we approached Paducah, we saw the camp-fires of these people illuminating the river. Provisions were scarce among them, but Colonel Hicks had just sent over a supply which had come from Cairo, with instructions to give to the poor, but sell to those who were able to pay. It was after dark when we landed at Paducah, but we walked up toward the Fort through the smouldering ruins of the once beautiful city. The warehouses and dwellings exhibited prominent marks of the recent struggle. In many places, nothing but bare walls and chimneys were standing. Scarcely a building escaped the terrific fire of the gunboats, and many of them were completely riddled by shrapnel and solid shot. The gunboats Peosta and Paw Paw fired, in all, about five hundred rounds, and had two men slightly wounded. The commander of the latter vessel received a slight scratch on his cheek, and a Minié ball passed through his pantaloons. The cabins of the boats were perforated with shot. It was the

fire of the gunboats that did so much damage to the town. Had it not been for the navy, Colonel Hicks would have had a much more severe contest. Upon arriving within the Fort, we learned that when Forrest first came in, he formed a line of battle about two and a half miles in length, after which, he sent a flag of truce to Colonel Hicks, stating that he had enough men to storm and capture the Fort, but desiring to avoid unnecessary bloodshed, he demanded a surrender, promising to treat his captives as prisoners of war, and threatening, in case of refusal, to give no quarter. Colonel Hicks replied that he had been placed there to defend the Fort; that he was obliged to obey orders, and could not, as an honest soldier, comply with the demand.

While this parley was going on, Forrest advanced his sharpshooters, and placed them in houses where they could pick off men in the Fort and on the gunboats. The battle soon began, and for several hours, raged with great fury. The gunboats poured their broadsides into the city, demolishing buildings, and killing and wounding many of the enemy. The guns from the Fort thundered forth into the rebel ranks, and as the confederates rushed up to their breastworks, mowed them down like grass. Forrest put his best regiments in front, and, notwithstanding they exhibited great courage, some of the men marching up to the very mouths of the guns, they were repulsed four or five times. Their commanding general said they had never faltered before. There were about eight hundred men within the fortifications, but only about one third actively participated in the fight. Colonel Hicks calmly directed all the operations, and showed such bravery and skill as entitle him to the highest praise. Around the Fort lay heaps of unburied rebels, and the blackened remains of many beautiful dwellings.

While the battle was raging, parties of the enemy scouted through the city, plundering stores and robbing stables. A large amount of goods was carried away, and many horses stolen; none of the latter belonging to the Government were taken, as the rebels were told they were the property of a prominent secessionist. The fight lasted all the afternoon, and resulted in a Federal loss of as stated below, and about thirty prisoners. These were convalescents, and were taken from the hospital. The names of some of them are as follows: Thomas S. Wakefield, Corporal, company K, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin infantry; George W. Babb, company A, Thirtieth Tennessee cavalry; Thomas Daniels, company C, Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry; Hiram Smith, Sergeant, company B, Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry; Z. Booth, Sergeant, company B, Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry; John Mullin, company E, Thirtieth Illinois infantry; G. T. Sharp, Corporal, company K, Sixty-third Ohio; John S. Howard, Corporal, company K, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois; Samuel Loder, company I, Thirty-first Iowa infantry; John Morehead, company E, Ninth Illinois infantry; Hanson Hart, Acting Assistant-Surgeon; Simon A. Murphy,

citizen; John Jordan, company K, One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois; M. R. Waller, company C, Sixteenth Kentucky; J. A. Sadford, company B, Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry; R. J. Marts, First Ohio battery; G. W. Farley, company D, Sixteenth Kentucky cavalry; Isaac Austin, company G, Twenty-fifth Wisconsin; W. J. Bridges, company F, One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois; P. Byerly, company I, Twenty-ninth Missouri; Thomas Pollard, company A, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Illinois; James Park, company E, Seventh Tennessee cavalry; W. Waldeman, company F, Thirty-first Iowa; Henry Nabors, company E, Seventh Tennessee cavalry; A. Irwin, S. Hamilton, and Robert Barnes.

These, with the four hundred taken a day or two before at Union City, Forrest offered to exchange for confederate prisoners, man for man; but Colonel Hicks replied that he was not authorized to make any such arrangement. The number of white Federals killed, is fourteen; wounded, forty-six. Eleven negroes were killed and wounded, all shot in the head.

The rebels had three hundred killed, and about one thousand wounded. The latter they took to Mayfield by railroad; the former, they left unburied. Among the confederate officers slain was Brigadier-General A. P. Thompson, a former resident of Paducah. The enemy remained about the city until three p.m., on Saturday, when they moved off in the direction of Columbus, where it was supposed the next fight would take place. Learning that that place was threatened, your correspondent hurried aboard the despatch-boat Volunteer, and returned to Cairo this morning.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

BROOKLYN, MASSACHUSETTS, ILLINOIS,
NEAR PADUCAH, KY., March 29, 1864. }

Now that the sounds of battle have died away, and the smoke cleared off, and we can see the losses that have been sustained, the destruction that has been wrought, the repulses met with, and the victories gained, I will give some details of the recent attack and fight at Paducah.

For a long time past, our town has been threatened with a rebel attack and raid; but we thought that they would hardly have the temerity to make one, knowing, as no doubt they did, that we had one of the best fortified forts (Fort Anderson) in the country, sufficiently garrisoned and supplied with guns and ammunition; and that it was the determination of our commanders, if the place was attacked by the rebels, that it should be shelled until made too hot to hold them.

But we found, recently, that we were mistaken, and it became too plain that they intended an attack, and that very shortly. We had information a few days before, that the rebel General Forrest, with seven thousand men, had attacked Union City, Tennessee; then that it had surrendered; then that the rebels were at Wingo Station, in Graves County, Kentucky, advancing toward Mayfield; then that they were on this side, advancing on Paducah; and then, on Fri-

day last, that their advance-guard were just outside our town; then, at one o'clock p.m., that they were entering it. They started a flag of truce in, but our men fired on it, and it was stopped. They were said to be about three thousand strong, with a reserve force of some four thousand or five thousand behind. Part of them formed a line of battle beyond and behind the Fort; and the balance came rushing into town, and immediately commenced robbing and pillaging the livery stables, stores, and houses—showing that the plundering of goods and stock was their main object, and that they probably anticipated bombardment of the place.

In the mean time, as Colonel S. G. Hicks, the commander of the post, had issued an order for non-combatants, women, and children, in case of an attack, to retire to the wharf, long lines of them came pouring down, (among them your correspondent,) and as it had been arranged for the wharf-boat and steam ferry-boat to take them across the river, these were soon densely crowded. While waiting to get all on board, and for the ferry-boat to get up steam, the battle at the Fort began.

Colonel Hicks and Major W. L. Gibson, our Provost-Marshal, and other officers had retired to the Fort, where we had about one thousand men, some two hundred or three hundred of whom were colored soldiers, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Cunningham. Opposed to this handful of men, the rebels had, taking their whole force, seven to one, and their attacking force, three to one. Fearful odds! Three times did the rebels charge the Fort, and were as often repulsed, with fearful slaughter, our guns mowing them down in heaps, besides the execution done by the musketry—as many as thirty being counted in one heap, and nineteen in another!—the colored soldiers fighting bravely, clubbing their muskets and beating the rebels back as they would mount the walls of the Fort. After an hour or more of hard fighting, the rebels were finally repulsed and routed, when a loud shout went up from the Fort, which was echoed back from the wharf-boat and those on shore.

Two of our gunboats were fortunately present, and participated in the fight, shelling the rebels while they were assailing the Fort. After a while, the wharf-boat, lashed to the ferry-boat, was towed out into the stream and across the river to a place of security. One of the gunboats then went up and took position opposite Broadway street, and the other above her, and began shelling the town with fearful effect, now full of rebels engaged in robbing and sacking the houses.

A flag of truce was sent in the Fort, demanding a surrender, when the reply of Colonel Hicks was: "If you want the Fort, take it." Major Gibson, Colonel Cunningham, and all our officers, as well as men, fought with distinguished courage and gallantry. Colonel Hicks is entitled to the greatest praise for the heroic manner in which he and his gallant little band defended the Fort against such overwhelming numbers opposed to

them, and certainly deserves a brigadiership. Major Gibson distinguished himself by his coolness and undaunted courage, and Colonel Cunningham by his bold daring and bravery.

Our casualties were twelve white killed, and seven colored soldiers; how many wounded I have not learned. As these were killed by rebel sharpshooters from the upper parts of the houses in the vicinity, Colonel Hicks ordered the burning of these houses. As the rebels carried off many of their dead and wounded, their exact loss cannot be ascertained, but it must have been two hundred or three hundred killed. The rebel General (formerly Colonel) Albert G. Thompson, ("Bert Thompson,") while leading on a charge, was killed by the explosion of a shell, within forty feet of the fort, and his body so badly mangled that it could not be carried off by the rebels, one arm not being found at all. Before the breaking out of the rebellion, he was a prominent lawyer of Paducah, and district-attorney, but joined the rebels here; and it is a singular coincidence that, after serving in the rebel army, being wounded at the battle of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and promoted to a Brigadier-General, he was killed in the very town where he began his military career.

There has been great destruction of property by the rebels and the bombardment, upward of a hundred houses having been burned, embracing all the lower part of Front street, below Broadway, including the headquarters building, the new and large quartermaster's building on Broadway, hospital No. 1, the railroad dépôt and cars, half the square between Market-House square and Front street, etc. Almost everywhere are to be seen the marks of the shells; the gunboats and guns of the Fort, which, after the rebels were repulsed, were turned on the town, doing fearful execution!

On Saturday evening, the rebels forming line of battle at a "respectful distance" from the Fort, again sent in a flag of truce demanding a surrender, and giving until four o'clock to answer, threatening to destroy the town in case of refusal. Colonel Hicks returned his old answer: "If you want the fort, take it." But they took care to "keep their distance," and retired without destroying the town. It was no doubt a ruse to cover their retreat, and enable them to get off with their plunder and stock as far as possible before being pursued by our forces. Yesterday (Monday) evening a flag of truce came from Mayfield, where Forrest is said to have his headquarters, accompanied by thirty men, demanding a surrender of the town and Fort, and stating that he had twelve thousand men, and in case of refusal, they would come and take them. Colonel Hicks told them that if Forrest had one hundred thousand men it made no difference with him—he intended to hold them. There is no surrender in him! The word does not belong to his vocabulary. Whether Forrest will come or not, remains to be seen. We are now largely reënforced, and can bid him defiance. Our flag has waved all the time over the Fort,

and still waves proudly in triumph over its walls.

INDIANAPOLIS "JOURNAL" ACCOUNT.

We have not seen any account of the fight at Paducah from an eye-witness, and the following letter from George Vance of our city, who is an officer on the gunboat which did such good service there, and saw all that occurred, will be read with interest. It is not only an intelligent and graphic description, written with all a boy's vivacity and earnestness of feeling, but it is perfectly trustworthy in all its states of the writer's own knowledge. It is dated U. S. S. Piosta, off Paducah, Monday afternoon last. It says:

Well, our big fight is over, at least for the present. The rebels have not made their appearance, except with "flags of truce," since I dropped you the note of Saturday night, and I believe they will keep away from here for the future. The lesson they received has been a pretty severe one for them, and I think they will not be in a hurry to try our mettle soon again. The rebs under General Forrest were six thousand strong, with eight pieces of artillery. We arrived off Paducah at noon on Friday, and found the town full of rumors, of course, but having had so many scares of the kind we paid little attention to it. However, we remained at our anchorage, instead of going on to Cairo, as we intended. Captain Shirk went down to Cairo on a steamboat, thinking that thing was one of the usual false alarms. But at about three o'clock in the afternoon the town bells began tolling, and the women and children came pouring down the levee. Shortly after our pickets were driven in. Then we began to think we were in for it, sure enough. The fort, which stands about five hundred yards down the river from the centre of the town, and about a hundred from the river-bank, is a good earth-work defence, with a ditch around it, mounts six guns, and during the fight was defended by four hundred men, half of them negro soldiers, and a part of them citizens of Paducah. The "fun" commenced with an attack on the Fort by three thousand men and four pieces of artillery. At the same time a large force was in the town plundering the houses and stores. The first time the rebs charged up to the very ditch, but fell back, having suffered severely. Our boat lay off abreast of the Fort, and we poured in a steady steam of shells. We worked seven guns, and I tell you we worked with a will. While the fighting was going on the women and children were being ferried across the river. I was really sorry to see the women driven around like so many sheep, but we could not stop to help them any. While the banks were crowded, and in our firing over the crowd, a piece of lead riven off of one of our rifle-shots struck a little girl and killed her.

After driving the rebs back at the Fort, we ran up and commenced on the thieves in town; and they gave it back to us from every window, hole, and corner on the levee, and it was just like a hail-storm for about half an hour. We of course

could not work the guns on our upper deck, and it was dangerous loading even the guns behind the casemates, as we were so close to the buildings that the sharp-shooters could hit a port almost every time. We directed our shots at the buildings to drive them out; but actually the buildings would have to begin to crumble and fall before they would slacken their fire. Their fire was so accurate that I am minus a new pair of boots by it, and came near being minus a leg.

The rebs made another attack on the Fort early in the evening, and another at nine o'clock that night, in both of which they were repulsed with heavy loss. The fight at night was grand; the burning houses lit the whole arrangement up so we could see just where to put our shots. The rebel sharp-shooters, who occupied the houses around the Fort, did more damage than all the rest put together. They could look right into the Fort, and so pick our men off. During this attack we upset one of the rebel pieces of artillery, and kept them from getting any of their guns in position. We also claim to have killed rebel General Thompson, who was struck by a shell and torn all to pieces. He fell about forty yards from the Fort, where he lay with the rest of the killed all day Saturday. I saw several trophies that were taken from his body, among them his pistols, the stars off his collar, etc. During Friday night we lay "off and on," throwing shells into the town to keep the rebs from ransacking the place. About twelve o'clock that night we heard that all the rebel officers were taking supper at the St. Francis Hotel, a large building about one hundred and fifty yards from the river. So for a while we landed the shell into it quite lively, and, as we have since found out, a shrapnel went square into the dining-room and exploded, spattering every thing with its load of bullets. A thirty-two pounder shell took a range of rooms from one end of the building to the other, and burst in the last one. But our firing into this house was unnecessary, for there were no rebs in it at the time, and even when they did go in they received cold hospitality from the landlord and lady, who were strong Union people and spunky as rats. They, with several others stopping in the house, witnessed the whole fight. Summing the whole thing up, the few soldiers who defended the Fort and the gunboat Piosta have covered themselves with glory. This is no bragging, for the soldiers did fight with desperation, the negroes as well as the whites; and as for the Piosta, I leave it to the soldiers and to the citizens of Paducah whether we have not gained a reputation (even among the rebs and Forrest himself) worth having.

NEW-YORK "TRIBUNE" ACCOUNT.

PADUCAH, KY., March 29, 1864.

Few who have had occasion to pass up or down the Ohio River have failed to notice and admire this place, which is noted for the beauty of its situation, its fine wharf, commodious business houses, tasteful residences, and above all, the evident enterprise of its people. Before the war,

it had a population of about ten thousand, and was considered the most flourishing little city below Louisville, it being the principal dépôt for that portion of Kentucky known as "Jackson's Purchase." Upon the breaking out of the rebellion, the secession mania took deep root in the minds of its citizens, and when, in September, 1861, General Grant occupied it for the first time, the streets and houses were found decorated with rebel flags in anticipation of the arrival of Polk's army. Of its original population, not more than one third is now remaining, those who make up the four or five thousand inhabitants which it possessed up to the time of Forrest's attack being recent arrivals from other States.

Positive information was received by Colonel Hicks on the twenty-fourth, of the arrival of Forrest at Mayfield, twenty-two miles south from Paducah, and an attack was not unlooked for. Your correspondent was on that day at Columbus, having come up to that point from Memphis in anticipation of an attack upon the former place, and it was there considered certain that Forrest would attempt to capture either Columbus or Paducah, but most probably Paducah. In fact, his occupation of Mayfield indicated this place as his objective point. The forces under Colonel Hicks's command were five companies of the Sixteenth Kentucky, three hundred and eleven strong; three companies of the One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois, numbering one hundred and twenty-four men, and a detachment of the First Kentucky artillery, (colored,) two hundred and fifty men—in all six hundred and eighty-five. Any information of the strength and position of the fortifications, and number of guns, beyond what the enemy has already learned to his sorrow, cannot be given with propriety. It will be sufficient to say that the works occupied by Colonel Hicks are toward the lower end of the city, and cover the roads from the interior.

Next morning, (twenty-fifth,) scouts reported that Forrest was only eight or ten miles distant, and was moving in this direction with a heavy column, which rumor broadly stated to be from five thousand to fifteen thousand strong. Immediately upon learning that we were to be attacked, Colonel Hicks notified the inhabitants of that fact by special order, and commenced moving them to the other side of the river. The anxiety of the citizens for the two preceding days, consequent upon the rumored approach of the enemy, now found expression in the wildest excitement, and men, women, and children rushed through the streets and down to the wharf in dread of the approaching conflict. Fortunately, means were at hand to transfer them to the opposite shore with despatch, and when the first attack was made, but few were remaining in the city. Knowing the great numerical superiority of the enemy, Colonel Hicks ordered his whole command to the Fort, and awaited his appearance.

The gunboats, Paw-Paw and Peosta, which were anchored out in the river, weighed and moved toward the upper end of the wharf—the

one to the mouth of the Tennessee, the other a little below. These boats have a light armament, and are known on the river as "tin-clads," their plating being only sufficiently thick to resist the missiles of small arms, and perhaps grape-shot.

Nearly all of the woods back of the city have been cleared away, either by the hand of improvement or from military necessity, and there is an almost unobstructed view for half a mile, and in some places much further. The ground intervening between the city and the timber is somewhat undulating, but not sufficiently so to afford any considerable advantage to an advancing line of battle. A little before one o'clock, the enemy's advance came in sight, and in a moment afterward the main body appeared in the act of forming line—his right extending toward the Tennessee and being nearest to town, while the left was partially concealed by timber at long cannon range. The men on either flank were mounted, while the bodies of dismounted men, who at that distance seemed to be a little in advance of the others, appeared in occasional intervals in the line which was little less than two miles long.

The enemy seems to have entered on his campaign with an accurate knowledge of what was to be done, and was evidently posted as to the strength of our garrison here as well as at Union City. There was no delay in the advance. He pushed his line forward rapidly and steadily, while at the same time a detachment from the right flank several hundred strong, dashed into the now deserted city, and down Market street, and the other streets back of it, until, coming within rifle-range of the Fort, they opened a galling fire from the houses upon the garrison. But before this detachment had succeeded in getting in town, several shots had been exchanged between the enemy's artillery and ours. The gunboats had also begun to play upon them, when, upon finding the city being rapidly occupied by a continually increasing force, the fire of the gunboats, as previously concerted, was turned upon the houses occupied by the rebels, the vessels dropping down the river until proper range could be had.

It seems that Colonel Hicks, prudently, did not strain his men at the commencement of the action, and although his fire was accurate, it was delivered slowly—the range being different at almost every discharge. The necessity he was under of turning some of his guns upon the town so slackened our fire that the enemy was enabled to make a charge upon the Fort. But the movement was perceived and prepared for, and the first signs of an advance were greeted with a heavy and well-directed fire, which created some confusion. The rebels continued to advance, however, and a part of them, by veering to the right, threw themselves partially under cover of the uneven ground and the suburban buildings. On they came, with loud cheers that sounded distinctly through the now increasing roar of battle, and which were defiantly answered by our men, who now, reeking with perspiration,

plied their rammers with accelerated rapidity and hurled destruction through the advancing lines. As soon as they came within good rifle-range, a terribly destructive fire was opened upon them, and men toppled, reeled, and fell to the ground by scores. Although the overwhelming force continued to close upon the Fort, it was now evident that there was much disorder among them, and presently a portion of the line gave way, when the whole force broke in confusion and retreated precipitately, leaving the ground strewn with not less than two hundred killed and wounded. The discomfited rebels were then re-formed upon their original line.

As the smoke began to clear up, it was discovered that the city was on fire in several places. The railroad dépôt was already completely wrapped in flames, having been fired by the rebels. The shelling of the gunboats had dislodged the sharpshooters from the buildings nearest the Fort, and their fire was just being directed toward other portions of the town, when a flag of truce was observed coming from the enemy's lines.

The flag of truce was borne by Lieutenant McKnight, aid to Forrest, and was met by the Post Adjutant. McKnight presented a note from Forrest to Colonel Hicks, demanding the immediate and unconditional surrender of the Fort and garrison, and saying that in the event of a refusal to accede to the demand, he would take the Fort by storm and grant no quarter. Colonel Hicks promptly replied that he was sent there with orders to defend the post, and intended to obey, as any honorable officer should. An hour was consumed during this parley, immediately after which the enemy advanced.

The houses near the Fort were again occupied by sharpshooters, and the rebels moved rapidly up with increased numbers and apparently a full determination to succeed. They dashed forward from behind buildings and such other objects as served to cover their advance, while the main column rushed upon the Fort despite the murderous fire that opposed them. But their efforts were futile. The indomitable "six hundred" had no idea of being overpowered, and amid the answering thunders from Fort and gunboats, and the unbroken rattle of small-arms, the enemy was again repulsed, and fled from the field disordered and whipped. Not less than five hundred men, dead or wounded, covered the field within rifle-range of the Fort. A more gallant defence was never made. But the fighting did not cease with this repulse. The rebels swarmed thicker and thicker in the buildings, and an unintermitting storm of lead was poured from roofs and windows, notwithstanding the houses were being perforated by shot and shell from all our guns.

Every gun in the Fort was now turned upon the town, while the gunboats took an active part in sweeping the streets and shelling the houses. The enemy, finding that our force was not strong enough to risk leaving the works, did not re-form his whole line again, but sent his men by de-

tachments, several hundred strong, into the city, some to burn and pillage, and others to reinforce those who were yet firing upon the garrison. Now was the hardest trial our brave fellows had to bear. In spite of the shells that were sent crashing through the buildings, the sharpshooters, who by this time must have numbered nearly one thousand, held their positions, or else falling back for a few minutes, again came forward and delivered their fire.

It was now nearly night. The battle had continued from ten o'clock to after five, and yet the fate of the day remained undecided. The heroic garrison, headed by their resolute commander, still stood unfalteringly to their posts, while the enemy, conscious of the strength of his overwhelming numbers, seemed loth, although signally repulsed, to yield to the fact of his undeniable defeat.

Four hours had passed, during three of which there was an almost unbroken roar of artillery and small arms. In the mean time, the rebels had occupied every part of the town. The headquarters and quartermaster's buildings, which were in the most compactly built part of the city, had been sacked and fired. The marine ways had also been fired, and the steamer *Dacotah*, which was on the stocks for repairs, was boarded, the crew robbed of every thing, and the boat burned. Almost every store in the place was broken open and its contents damaged, destroyed, or carried off. Clothing, and especially boots and shoes, seemed to have been chiefly sought for, although an exceedingly large quantity of all styles and qualities of dry goods, groceries, and provisions was carried off. Every horse that could be found was taken, and in fact nothing that could suit taste or convenience was overlooked.

As the sun began to sink, the slackened fire from the buildings told that our shelling had not been without effect, and the rebels could be seen from the Fort as they left the houses by hundreds and moved back toward the upper end of the town, bearing their dead and wounded. Many, however, remained behind, and although the firing was now light, it was continuous.

By this time the ammunition in the Fort was well-nigh exhausted, and it was barely possible that if the enemy had again attempted to storm the works, the small garrison might have been overpowered by sheer stress of overwhelming numbers. But his disastrous experience of that day deterred him, and his offensive operations were confined to sharp-shooting from the buildings. This was kept up until nearly midnight, when the firing ceased entirely, and the rebels left the town. Colonel Hicks's announcement to the garrison that their ammunition had almost given out, but that they would defend themselves with the bayonet, was received with loud cheers, and showed a determination to fight to the last. That was an anxious night to the occupants of the Fort. The knowledge that their means of defence would not, if attacked, last much longer, that the enemy was still within gun-shot of them

with a force outnumbering them nearly ten to one, and that it was very probable that a night attack would be made, disinclined all to sleep, and the peremptory order of Colonel Hicks that every man should remain broad awake and stand to his post was scarcely necessary. So the night passed, every man awaiting expectantly the anticipated attack, and determined to win or die.

Next morning, twenty-sixth, the enemy was found to be still in our front, but some hundred yards in rear of his original line of the day before. Every thing pointed to another attack, and another day of trial for our gallant garrison. In view of this, Colonel Hicks sent out several detachments with orders to burn all the buildings which had been occupied by the enemy's sharpshooters on the previous day, or that could afford them a similar protection in the event of an attack on this day. This order was promptly executed, and in less than fifteen minutes that part of the town below Broadway and between Market street and the river, together with many other buildings outside of those limits, was in flames. Many of the finest business houses and dwellings were thus destroyed, and none who have formerly been acquainted with this once beautiful city can help regretting the sad but imperative necessity that called for its partial destruction. About nine o'clock a flag of truce emerged from their lines, and approached the Fort. It covered a proposal for an exchange of prisoners, Forrest having about five hundred of our men who were surrendered at Union City, and fifty or sixty captured in hospital the day before. Colonel Hicks having no power to exchange prisoners, replied in accordance with that fact, and the confederate officer departed. Again we waited in anticipation of an attack momentarily, when a verbal communication was sent in by Forrest, asking for a private interview in case further fighting could be obviated by negotiation.

Colonel Hicks, with his characteristic pluck, replied verbally that he, accompanied by two officers of a designated rank, would meet General Forrest and two officers of corresponding rank, with or without arms, at any mutually convenient spot. This occurred after noon. No reply was received, and no attack was made, and so the day wore away—the enemy yet threatening, but apparently afraid to advance. In the mean time assistance had arrived from Cairo, seventy miles below, and our men felt encouraged but apprehensive. The night passed much in the same way as the one preceding, the greatest vigilance being exercised, and the men resting at or near their posts.

The next day, twenty-seventh, the rebels had entirely disappeared from view, but a scouting party, sent out for the purpose, found them still near, and demonstrating threateningly. On this day, many of the citizens and merchants who had any thing left, commenced packing their effects for the purpose of leaving the place, as it was confidently expected that the rebels would

return and complete the work of pillage and destruction.

Another anxious night wore wearily away, and the morning of the twenty-eighth dawned. Our scouts found the country filled with bodies of men varying from fifty to one hundred, but the main body had moved back toward Mayfield. This seemed encouraging, until another report, which was apparently trustworthy, became current in town, that Forrest's army had formed a junction at Mayfield with a large force of rebels, and was again coming in this direction. A scene of excitement now ensued similar to that of the morning of the twenty-fifth. Every thing that could, under the circumstances, be removed, (for but few draft animals were remaining) was carried down to the levee preparatory to shipping. Much of this property was carried by hand, some of the heaviest boxes of goods being thus brought from stores some several squares distant. The excitement lasted all night, and every boat that passed made large additions to her cargo and passenger-list. This morning the excitement and exodus still continued, and the attack was hourly expected up till noon, when it became generally known that the military authorities had learned that the enemy was at or near Mayfield, and was threatening Columbus, and that there were no demonstrations at all making toward Paducah.

So ends thus much of the history of one of the most adventurous raids made during the war. Whether the rebels will try their strength on any other Union post remains to be seen. It is known that they are showing a threatening front in the direction of Columbus.

A detail of the loss of property during the fight cannot be obtained, though even if it could it would be uninteresting in connection with the story of the battle. It will be sufficient to say that the value of the property carried away and destroyed by the rebels exceeds, at a moderate estimate, half a million of dollars. The value of the houses burned, by order of Colonel Hicks, must be as much if not more. The enemy's loss in men cannot be accurately ascertained, but in killed and wounded will not fall short of one thousand. It is rumored that several citizens, who imprudently did not leave the city with the bulk of the inhabitants, were killed or injured.

OFFICIAL REBEL REPORTS.

DEMOPOLIS, April 2, 1864.

To General S. Cooper :

The following despatch from General Forrest has just been received.

L. POLK,
Lieutenant-General.

DRESDEN, TENN., March 27, }
Via OKOLOSA, April 2, 1864. }

To Lieutenant-General Polk :

I left Jackson on the twenty-third ultimo, and captured Union City on the twenty-fourth, with four hundred and fifty prisoners, among them the renegade, Hankins, and most of his regi-

ment; about two hundred horses, and five hundred small-arms.

I also took possession of Hickman, the enemy having passed it.

I moved north with Buford's division, marching direct from Jackson to Paducah in fifty hours; attacked it on the evening of the twenty-sixth, drove the enemy to their gunboats and forts, held the town for ten hours, and could have held it longer, but found the small-pox raging, and evacuated the place.

We captured many stores and horses, burned up sixty bales of cotton, one steamer in the dry-dock, and brought out fifty prisoners.

My loss at Union City and Paducah, as far as known, is twenty-five killed and wounded—among them Colonel Thompson, commanding the Kentucky brigade, killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Lanham, of the Faulkner regiment, mortally wounded; and Colonel Crosslin, of the Ninth Kentucky, and Lieutenant-Colonel Morton, of the Second Tennessee, slightly wounded.

The enemy's loss at Paducah was fifty killed and wounded. The prisoners, in all, five hundred.

N. B. FORREST.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION FORREST'S CAVALRY,
MAYFIELD, KY., March 28.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —.

The General Commanding returns to the officers and troops of this division his congratulations upon the success which has thus far attended the campaign into Kentucky. The hardships you bore upon a march almost unprecedented, from Tibbie Station, Mississippi, to Paducah, in a week; the devotion you have exhibited to the cause of freedom, and the valor our skirmishers displayed in their attack upon the fort at Paducah, call for the highest admiration and praise of your commander. At the very doors of their homes some of your comrades laid down their lives to rescue Kentucky from the iron heel of abolition despotism, and the rule of the negro. Among those whose faces are gone from us for ever, we are forced to pay a lasting regret to the memory of one brave, courteous, and beloved, and whose merits as a citizen, as a friend, and as a soldier, we all felt and appreciated. He fell as a soldier desires to fall, at the head of his command, a hero regretted by all. Colonel A. P. Thompson, Third Kentucky regiment, and commanding the Third brigade, will long be remembered by all who knew his noble deeds and heroic death. With a force less than that of the enemy within the stockade, you, in an exposed condition, with your skirmishers, silenced his guns; caused one of his gunboats to withdraw from action, fearful of the accuracy of your fire; captured and destroyed immense stores—quartermaster, commissary, and ordnance; and inflicted upon him a loss of twenty-seven killed, and from seventy to eighty wounded, besides capturing sixty-four prisoners; your own loss being ten killed and forty wounded.

The General Commanding feels proud of the division, and relies upon your courage, your for-

titude, and your discipline, to hold this portion of the State of Kentucky, aided as you will be by your friends now flocking to your ranks.

C. A. BUFORD,
Brigadier-General, P. A., C. &

Official:

THOMAS M. CROWDER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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BATTLE OF FITZHUGH'S WOODS, ARK.

REPORT OF MAJOR POSTER.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD MINNESOTA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
LITTLE ROCK, ARK., April 3, 1864.

Captain John Peetz, Post-Adjutant, Little Rock:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the part which the detachment of the Third Minnesota volunteers, under my command, took in the recent expedition and action up White River, under command of Colonel C. C. Andrews, of the Third Minnesota.

I received orders from Colonel Andrews at half-past four o'clock p.m., March thirtieth, to be in readiness to march with four days' rations at six o'clock that evening, and at seven o'clock I marched my command, six companies—company B, commanded by Lieutenant Pierce, company C by Lieutenant Grummons, company E by Lieutenant Knight, company G by Captain Devereux, company H by Lieutenant Misener, company I by Captain Swan—one hundred and eighty-six strong—to the ferry, and immediately proceeded to the railroad dépôt, where, by direction of the Colonel, we embarked on the cars, and at nine p.m. left for Duvall's Bluff. We reached the Bluff at four o'clock next morning, and forthwith embarked on the steamer Dove, and at seven o'clock, together with a small force of the Eighth Missouri cavalry, proceeded up White River, reaching Gregory's Landing—which is ten miles above the mouth of the Little Red, and one hundred and ten miles above Duvall's Bluff—about eight o'clock p.m., where we disembarked, and marched to the support of the cavalry, toward Cache River Crossing, where it was supposed McCrea was encamped. After marching three miles in the darkness and rain, it was ascertained that McCrea had left that country and gone toward Jacksonport. Upon getting this information, we immediately returned to the boat, and proceeded up the river to Augusta, where we arrived at half-past five a.m., on the first of April; disembarked, and pushed without delay, with one hundred and sixty men, all told, into the country, on the Jacksonport road, the cavalry in advance. My orders were to keep within supporting distance, which I did. At the crossing of the Cache River road, four miles from Augusta, I encamped with the cavalry, which had been skirmishing with the enemy for the last two miles, and here found them in force. The Colonel ordered me to take three companies into the woods and engage them. I took companies B, H, and I,

and drove the enemy before me about one mile, and across a large cypress-swamp. I afterward learned from prisoners that the force I drove was the notorious Rutherford and about one hundred and fifty men. At this time the rest of the force came up, the cavalry advanced, and I followed, crossing the swamp, and proceeding toward Jacksonport, the cavalry doing the skirmishing. We marched on to the Methodist church, near Dr. Westmoreland's house, twelve miles from Augusta, where, by the Colonel's orders, I halted my command, while the cavalry scouted in advance. Finding no force of the enemy, they returned, and, after a short rest, started back for the boats. We had moved back about two and a half miles, and halted to rest at Fitzhugh's farm-house, where we discovered a large force of mounted men charging down upon us on our right and rear. I immediately formed, and, by Colonel Andrews's orders, sent two companies to engage the enemy; Captain Swan, company I, those in the road, and Lieutenant Misener, company H, those on the right. They charged down through the open field with loud yells. I let them approach within one hundred and fifty yards, then sent a volley of Minié balls into them, which caused them to cease their yelling, and break to the rear for the woods with headlong speed. I followed a short distance, and discovered we had inflicted a severe loss on them. Our cavalry having pushed on in advance, we did not follow up. Finding the enemy was not disposed to come out of the woods, we again proceeded toward Augusta. We marched on about two and a half miles, to Fitzhugh's Woods, when the enemy was again heard shouting and yelling, and seen coming down through an old corn-field, on the same flank as before. I immediately fixed bayonets, and charged on at a double-quick to meet him, coming up in line at about two hundred yards from this force, which was, I should judge, at least three hundred strong, and gave him a volley before he opened. He immediately broke to the rear for the thick timber. At this instant, when we gave a shout to see the enemy so broken, we were attacked by another and still larger force from the road we had just come up. The troops were immediately faced about, and charged down into the woods in the face of a deadly fire from the enemy. While leading this charge, the Colonel's horse was killed under him. After gaining the heavy timber, we engaged the enemy as skirmishers, in a contest which lasted two hours and a half, when I discovered that we were getting short of ammunition. I immediately reported the fact to Colonel Andrews, who ordered me to withdraw gradually from the timber and occupy some farm-buildings up the road toward Augusta, and protect the crossing of Cypress Swamp, about half a mile further on, which was successfully accomplished; the cavalry passed through the swamp, the infantry following. We then formed on the opposite side, and marched to Augusta, six miles, without further molestation, bringing some thirty prisoners,

and a large number of contrabands, which had been picked up during the day.

The following embraces a full list of the casualties in the regiment at the combat of Fitzhugh's Woods:

Company B.—Privates Benjamin Sanderson and Ole Hanson, killed; Sergeant Albert G. Hunt, severely wounded; Corporal Edward Fraygang, severely wounded; private William F. Ingham, severely wounded; First Sergeant, Henry A. Durand, slightly wounded; privates George Brewer and William Shearier, wounded and missing.

Company C.—Private Henry W. Farnsworth, killed; privates James P. Chapin and Henry H. Wallace, severely wounded; Corporal Lewis Kimball, slightly wounded; private Orin Case, slightly wounded.

Company E.—First Sergeant Corydon D. Bevans and private Clark D. Harding, killed; Corporal Isaac Lauver and private Albert G. Leach, severely wounded.

Company G.—Private Albert R. Pierce, severely wounded; private Andrew Bingham, missing.

Company H.—Corporal George H. Peaslee, killed; privates Rollin O. Crawford and John Eaton, severely wounded.

Company F.—Privates: Washington I. Smith, killed; Joseph Markling, dangerously wounded; Andrew Clark, severely wounded; John Pope, wounded and missing.

Quartermaster's Sergeant, H. D. Pettibone, slightly wounded.

Killed, seven; wounded, sixteen; missing, four. Total casualties, twenty-seven.

The loss of the enemy, as near as could be ascertained, was upward of one hundred killed and wounded—four times our own. Of these, several were known to be officers.

I am very proud to say that every man was perfectly cool during the entire engagement, and many instances of great daring and bravery occurred which are worthy of being mentioned. Hardly a man escaped without some bullet-mark through his clothing.

I am especially obliged to Lieutenant E. Champlin, Acting Adjutant; Sergeant-Major Akers, Quartermaster Sergeant H. D. Pettibone, and First Sergeant C. D. Bevans, who, I lament to say, was killed; also First Sergeant James M. Moran, company H, and, in short, to all the officers and men of the regiment, for their promptitude in obeying all orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EVERETT W. FOSTER,

Major Third Minnesota, commanding Regiment

ST. PAUL "PIONEER" ACCOUNT.

St. Paul, April 18.

In conversation with Captain Devereux, of the Third regiment, who has just returned from Little Rock, Arkansas, we were favored with the following particulars of the recent fight at Fitzhugh's Woods, near Augusta, in North-Eastern Arkansas.

On Wednesday, the thirtieth ultimo, the Third regiment was on duty at Little Rock, in Arkan.

sas. At five p.m. it received orders from Colonel (now General) Andrews, commanding the post, to be prepared to march in one hour. At half-past six o'clock, the regiment was marched to the railroad dépot, and conveyed by the cars to Duval's Bluff. At four a.m., the expedition, consisting of six companies of the Third, numbering one hundred and sixty men, under Major E. W. Foster, and forty of the Eighth Missouri cavalry, under Captain Estes—the whole under command of General Andrews—was embarked at Duval's Bluff on the steamer Dove, and proceeded up White River, convoyed by gunboat No. Twenty-five, of the Mosquito Fleet. At Gregory's Landing, sixty-five miles from the Bluff, the expedition was landed at eight p.m., and marched into the interior, a distance of four or five miles, in the direction where the noted rebel General McRae was supposed to be encamped. His camping-ground was found, and it was learned from inhabitants of the neighborhood that McRae, with a considerable force, had left that camp on the Monday previous, and gone in the direction of Augusta, near which place they supposed him then to be. The command was immediately returned to the boat, and proceeded up the river to Augusta, reaching that place at about daylight of Friday morning. A picket-guard was at once posted around the town, and a patrol sent through it, which latter arrested and brought to the boat a number of citizens, that information might be obtained from them as to the whereabouts of McRae and his command. The citizens, however, knew, or pretended to know, little or nothing about McRae. General Andrews, acting on the previous information, resolved to leave the boats at Augusta, and march into the country; and did so march the command a distance of twelve or thirteen miles. It was remarked as a singular fact that the citizens along the line of our march, as at Augusta, all professed to know nothing of McRae or his whereabouts, though the command soon after learned positively that he was in the immediate neighborhood. Having gained no reliable information whatever, the General ordered a return to the boats, intending to proceed from Augusta further up the river, and make another landing and reconnoissance.

At half-past twelve o'clock, on the return, at about six miles from Augusta, the command was attacked by General McRae's force, from five hundred to eight hundred mounted men; at the same time on both flanks and in the rear. Retaining a small reserve, General Andrews caused his men to be deployed as skirmishers toward each point of attack, while the rebels were coming on with a yell, as if to make a desperate charge. So soon as the lines of Federal skirmishers were formed, firing was commenced, at orders given, and the rebels were repulsed, retreated, and were followed by the skirmishers, till the lines becoming too extended, it was deemed best they should be withdrawn, and kept available for mutual support. At the retiring of our lines, the rebels advanced again. We had to retire a short distance, and then formed our line behind a fence, from

whence we checked the rebel advance. After an hour and a half of continual firing on both sides, our lines were moved forward, and the rebels driven to the original position of their attack. After about fifteen minutes, the rebels were dismounted, and charged upon us, yelling and whooping. We were unable to check their advance until we had fallen back to the line at the fence. We held this line until about half-past four o'clock, the enemy ceasing their fire at about four o'clock and retiring, protected by rough ground and the trees, annoyed by prompt fire from our line at every exposure.

The fight lasted about four hours, on ground of McRae's own choosing, and three desperate attacks from superior numbers had been repulsed, our men behaving nobly. Twice the rebels charged upon our lines, in line, mounted. The third time they dismounted, and advanced under cover of trees and with the advantage of ground. The enemy, at the close, showed no stomach for further fight, and was, in the opinion of our men, badly hurt. His first intention seems to have been, under the impression that his force was large enough to capture us, to cut off our line of retreat to the river.

Finding that the rebels intended no further attack, General Andrews returned with his command to the river, without hindrance or gaining sight again of their forces. Near the battle-field, about five miles from Augusta, the column had to make its way on the road through a swamp, where the muddy water overflowed it from one to three feet deep, and where the enemy, with his knowledge of the country, might, if his fighting disposition had remained good, have attacked General Andrews in a bad position for concerted defence.

The loss of General Andrews's force in this action was seven killed, sixteen wounded, and four missing. Total casualties, twenty-seven. The loss of the enemy, as near as could be ascertained, was upward of one hundred in killed and wounded, of whom a number were known to be officers. Our force, having no ambulances or wagons, left its dead on the field.

Among the incidents of this fight at Fitzhugh's Woods are the following: General Andrews's horse was shot dead from under him. Two bullets passed through Major Foster's coat into his saddle. Three bullets passed through Captain Swan's coat. Orderly-Sergeant H. A. Durand, of company B, was taking aim at a rebel, when a bullet struck the cock of his gun on the side, knocked it off, and glancing wounded the Sergeant slightly on the side of his forehead. The men wore their blankets rolled and twisted, the ends tied together, and the coil thus made thrown over the head, and hanging on the left shoulder and right side. After the fight one of the men found a very large bullet imbedded in his blanket, having passed two thirds through the twisted folds, just above his stomach.

It was understood, at leaving Little Rock, that the object of the expedition was to relieve Batesville, an outpost on White River, threatened by

McRae's force, or to divert McRae's attention from that post for the time.

MISSOURI "DEMOCRAT" ACCOUNT.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., April 6, 1864.

A force of one hundred and fifty of the Third Minnesota infantry, and fifty of the Eighth Missouri cavalry, under Colonel C. C. Andrews, left Little Rock at eight P.M. of the thirtieth ultimo, reached Duvall's Bluff at four o'clock next morning, and embarked on the steamer Dove. With the iron-clad No. 25 we reached Gregory's Landing at dark. Secrecy being indispensable, we took every man we met prisoner. Disembarking, we moved in the dark toward the understood locality of the rebel McRay's camp, five miles distant. After fording the muddy branch of White River, we learned that Ray and his band had gone up the river to attack our transports then on their way to Batesville.

Returning to our boat, we reached Augusta and landed at sunrise; then took up our line of march on the Jacksonport road, having learned that the enemy was posted in strong force near it. Less than a mile ahead, we discovered McRay's advance. They ran like Indians, and we chased about one mile, making several prisoners, and at length approaching a body of rebels who showed some disposition to stand, but soon dispersed in the woods. We followed McRay twelve miles over the Jacksonport road, and then, learning nothing more of him, started back near night for our boats. We had gone about five miles when we were suddenly attacked on the left rear. Our brave lads sprang to position and went to work. The battle lasted two hours and a half. The rebels were at least three to our one. They struggled powerfully to surround us, at one time forming in a complete semi-circle and inflicting a severe cross-fire. They showed little disposition to advance far from the swamp, for whenever they attempted to leave it, our fire was most effectual. To draw them from the timber, we fell back a few hundred yards to a strong position near a farm-house. Every attempt they made to approach us was repulsed with loss. Being five miles from our boat, the sun getting low, and the rebels retiring in their swamp, we leisurely resumed our march, and at sunset reached the boat, singing the "Battle-Cry of Freedom," giving three cheers for the flag and three for Colonel Andrews.

We were away from Little Rock three days, travelled three hundred and twenty miles, chased McRay's boasted band of eight hundred twelve miles without being able to get a fight out of them, and repulsed an attack of five hundred rebels. We lost twenty-five killed, wounded, and missing, and are sure the rebels lost not less than one hundred. We saw several of their officers unsaddled, one of them doing his best to get his men to charge. He was killed—a brave fellow, and may have deserved a better fate.

The moral effect of this successful expedition in this section will be excellent. A majority are praying for the overthrow of the rebellion.

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I would be doing injustice to my own feelings if I were to close this article without speaking of Colonel Andrews's noble behavior in this engagement. His horse was shot from under him, and the strap of his sabre was shot in two, and balls whistled thick as hail all around him. Through all this he was cool and deliberate as a judge upon the bench. He inspired his men with bravery, and the enemy with terror. He is certainly one of the ablest commanders west of the Mississippi.

A. B. FRAZIER,
Surgeon Fourth Arkansas Cavalry.

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ENGLAND AND THE REBELS.

The following correspondence appeared in the *Mobile Tribune* of April seventeenth:

H. B. M.'S LEGATION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 1, 1864. }

Mr. Jefferson Davis, etc., etc., Richmond, Va. :

SIR: I have been instructed by Earl Russell, her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to convey to you the following extract of a despatch which has been forwarded to me by his lordship. I have chosen the method which appeared to me to be the only available one, under the present unhappy circumstances in which the country is involved, and I trust that the absence of all recognized diplomatic or consular residents or other agents of her Majesty near Richmond, will be recognized as sufficient reason for its not being sent through usual channels. I need scarcely say that the bearer of this despatch, whom you have consented to allow to visit Richmond, has been authorized by the Government of the United States to pass into your lines on the flag-of-truce boat, for the purpose of delivering it, and will desire your permission to return for Washington by the same mode of conveyance.

I have the honor to be, with high respect,
your obedient, humble servant,

LYONS.

[COPY.]

You will also convey to Mr. Davis at Richmond, through such channels as shall be available, and as you may in your discretion deem proper, the formal protest and remonstrance of her Majesty's government against the efforts of the authorities of the so-called confederate States to build war-vessels within her Majesty's dominions, to be employed against the Government of the United States. Perhaps your Lordship might best accomplish this object by obtaining permission from the authorities of both belligerents to send a special messenger to Richmond with the necessary despatch, in which you will transmit this paragraph, or the substance of it, together with all that follows, to the close of this communication.

Her Majesty's Government, in taking this course, desire Mr. Davis to rest assured that it is adopted entirely in that spirit of neutrality which has been declared the policy of this country with regard to the two belligerents now so

lamentably desolating America, and which will continue to be pursued, with a careful and earnest desire to make it conducive to the most rigid impartiality and justice.

After consulting with the law officers of the Crown, her Majesty's Government have come to the decision that agents of the authorities of the so-called confederate States have been engaged in building vessels which would be at least partially equipped for war purposes on leaving the ports of this country; that these war-vessels would undoubtedly be used against the United States, a country with which this Government is at peace; that this would be a violation of the neutrality laws of the realm; and that the Government of the United States would have just ground for serious complaints against her Majesty's Government, should they permit such an infraction of the amicable relations now subsisting between the two countries.

Her Majesty's Government confidently rely on the frankness, courtesy, and discernment which Mr. Davis has displayed in the difficult circumstances in which he has been placed during the past three years for a recognition of the correctness of the position which her Majesty's Government have taken upon this subject. No matter what might be the difficulty in proving in a court of law that the parties procuring the building of the vessels are agents of the so-called confederate States, it is universally understood throughout the world that they are so, and her Majesty's Government are satisfied that Mr. Davis would not deny that they are so. Constructed as "rams," as these vessels are, they would certainly be in a condition, on leaving port, to inflict the most serious damage on vessels belonging to the United States, as was shown by the destruction of the Cumberland, United States sloop of war, by the "ram" Merrimac, merely by the latter being run into collision with the Cumberland. Such vessels are to all intents and purposes equipped as war-vessels of a certain power, although they be without a gun or any ammunition on board; nor can the frequent use of the word "equip," in the sense of "to furnish with every thing necessary for a voyage," be held for a moment to limit its significance to the furnishing of a war-vessel with every thing which it might be possible to put upon her, or the ultimately putting of which on her might be contemplated. Such a construction cannot be entertained for an instant. It is clear that a hundred-and-twenty-gun ship might be equipped for war purposes with any fraction of her armament on board, although she might not be so powerful or so efficient as she would be if she had the whole of it. A ram would be also equipped for war purposes, although the absence of her ordnance and ammunition might render her less effective than she would be with them. This, it is presumed by her Majesty's Government, will be conceded by Mr. Davis, without further argument or illustration in support of it.

This much being established to the perfect

conviction of her Majesty's government, and the law officers of the crown, and admitted, as they are convinced it must be, by Mr. Davis, and by every other person of sound and impartial judgment, there is not the slightest room to doubt that it is purposed to use the vessels in question against the United States, a country with which this nation is at peace and on terms of amity, and that the permitting of them to leave the ports of her Majesty's dominions would be a violation of the neutrality laws of the kingdom, and such an injurious act toward the United States as would justify the government of that country in seriously complaining of it as unfriendly and offensive in the highest degree, even to the imminent peril of rupturing the peaceful relations now existing between the two countries.

Under these circumstances, her Majesty's government protest and remonstrate against any further efforts being made on the part of the so-called confederate States, or the authorities or agents thereof, to build, or cause to be built, or to purchase, or cause to be purchased, any such vessels as those styled rams, or any other vessels to be used for war purposes against the United States, or against any country with which the United Kingdom is at peace and on terms of amity; and her Majesty's government further protest and remonstrate against all acts in violation of the neutrality laws of the realm.

I have the honor to be your Lordship's obedient servant,
RUSSELL.

REPLY OF JEFFERSON DAVIS

RICHMOND, VA., U. S. A., April 6, 1864.

To the Right Hon. Lord Lyons, C. B., etc., H. B. M.'s Minister to the Government of the United States:

MY LORD: I have been instructed by the President to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from your lordship, inclosing a copy of a portion of a despatch from Earl Russell, H. B. M.'s Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, purporting to be a "formal protest and remonstrance of her Majesty's government against the efforts of the authorities of the so-called confederate States, to build war-vessels within her Majesty's dominions, to be employed against the government of the United States."

The President desires me to say to your lordship, that while he is not unwilling to waive, in existing circumstances, the transmission of such a document through other than the usual and proper channel, it would be inconsistent with the dignity of the position he fills as Chief Magistrate of a nation comprising a population of more than twelve millions, occupying a territory many times larger than the United Kingdom, and possessing resources unsurpassed by those of any other country on the face of the globe, to allow the attempt of Earl Russell to ignore the actual existence of the confederate States, and to contumeliously style them "so-called," to pass without a protest and a remonstrance. The President, therefore, does protest and remonstrate against this studied insult; and he instructs me

to say, that in future, any document in which it may be repeated will be returned unanswered and unnoticed.

With respect to the subject of the extract from Earl Russell's despatch, the President desires me to state, that the plea of neutrality which is used to sustain the sinister course of her Majesty's present government against the government of the confederate States, is so clearly contradicted by their actions that it is regarded by the world, not even excepting the United States, as a mere cover for actual hostility, and the President cannot but feel that this is a just view of it. Were, indeed, her Majesty's government sincere in a desire and determination to maintain neutrality, the President would not but feel that they would neither be just nor gallant to allow the subjugation of a nation like the confederate States, by such a barbarous, despotic race as are now attempting it. He cannot but feel, with the history and traditions of the Anglo-Saxon race before him, that under a government faithfully representing the people of Great Britain, the whole weight and power of that nation would be unhesitatingly thrown into the scale, in favor of the principles of free government on which these States were originally formed, and for which alone the confederate States are now struggling. He cannot but feel that with such a government, and with the plea of neutrality urged upon the people, as it now is, no such pitiful spectacle could be witnessed as is now manifested by her Majesty's present government, in the persistent persecution of the confederate States, at the beck and bidding of officers of the United States, while a prime minister mocks and insults the intelligence of a House of Commons, and of the world, by excusing the permission to allow British subjects to go to the United States to fight against us, by the paltry subterfuge that it was the great demand for labor, and the high rate of wages that were taking them thither. He cannot but feel that a neutrality most cunningly, audaciously, fawningly, and insolently sought and urged, begged and demanded by one belligerent, and repudiated by the other, must be seen, by all impartial men, to be a mere pretext for aiding the cause of one at the expense of the other; while pretending to be impartial, to be, in short, but a cover for treacherous, malignant hostility.

As for the specious arguments on the subject of the rams, advanced by Earl Russell, the President desires me to state that he is content to leave the world and history to pronounce judgment upon this attempt to heap injury upon insult, by declaring that her Majesty's government and law officers are satisfied of the questions involved, while those questions are still before the highest legal tribunal of the kingdom, composed of members of the government and the highest law officers of the crown, for their decision. The President himself will not condescend to notice them.

I have the honor to be your lordship's obedient, humble servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON.

Doc. 130.

GENERAL STEELE'S EXPEDITION.

LITTLE ROCK "DEMOCRAT" ACCOUNT.

LITTLE ROCK, May 8, 1864.

WE have, heretofore, given such accounts as reached us of the movement of the army southward to coöperate with General Banks in his proposed expedition against Shreveport. We present, to-day, a succinct statement, which we have collected from all the statements of the operations of the gallant little army of General Steele, from the day he left here.

The advanced-guard moved from Little Rock on the twenty-third of March, on the military road. On the twenty-fourth, the whole command moved, the head of the column resting that night on the Saline, beyond Benton. On the twenty-fifth, the command crossed Saline bottom, and on the succeeding day reached Rockport. On the twenty-seventh, a bridge was thrown across the Ouachita River and the troops crossed and moved in the direction of Arkadelphia. That night there was a heavy rain-storm, and the army encamped at Bayou Roche on the night of the twenty-eighth, and arrived at Arkadelphia on the succeeding day, where it remained until the first of April, waiting to be joined by General Thayer.

From the time the head of the column reached Benton, the advance-guard was continually skirmishing. Our losses were some two or three wounded, and we captured a few prisoners.

On the first of April, the army moved forward to Spoonville, a distance of twelve or fourteen miles. On the second, it moved from Spoonville in the direction of Washington, and at nine miles from the former place, encountered Marmaduke and Cabell, in considerable force. The next obstacle was Little Red River, a rapid stream and difficult to cross. General Steele had the choice of three crossings: that at Tate's Ferry, at the crossing of the military road, and at Elkins's Ferry. The enemy very truly supposed that the object of General Steele was to reach Camden, and occupied the road to Tate's Ferry in force, and had thrown up works, and made preparations to resist the crossing of our army. Learning this, General Steele moved his command forward, as if he intended to proceed directly to Washington, and leave Camden on his left. When within ten miles of the crossing of the military road, he threw forward some troops on the military road as if intending to pursue it, sent a detachment of cavalry to seize and hold Elkins's Ferry, and turned the direction of the main body of the army southward, at right angles with the former course. The troops sent forward on the military road encountered Marmaduke and Shelby in force, and kept them in play; but at the same time, Shelby attacked the rear of the army, under command of Brigadier-General Rice, near the crossing of the Terre Noir. The enemy attacked with great bravery, and were repulsed with heavy loss.

On the third of April, the entire command crossed the Little Red River at Elkins's Ferry, and so well planned had been the movement, and so promptly executed, that it was not until the evening of that day, and by accident, that the enemy learned that the army had crossed. On this day, Colonel Engleman's brigade had a serious engagement at Okolona, and soundly thrashed the enemy. On the succeeding day, Marmaduke and Cabell, with a force of four or five thousand men, made a furious attack, but were easily driven off, our army capturing, among other prisoners, two lieutenants, one of them a member of Marmaduke's staff. The army remained here a day or two, waiting for General Thayer to come up, who had been obliged to come by a different route from the one originally intended, on account of forage and bad roads. Our forces found that the enemy had thrown up works to cover the road through the bottom.

Immense labor had been expended here, as they were over a mile in length, consisting of felled trees and heavy earth-work. After a sharp skirmish, the enemy left their defences and our troops occupied them. On the evening of the seventh a terrible storm came up, with thunder and lightning and a deluge of rain. The river rose three feet, and the succeeding day was spent in corduroying the bottoms and throwing a bridge across the river for the passage of Thayer's command, which had come up and now joined the main army.

On Sunday, the tenth, a bright and beautiful day, the army moved on to Prairie E'Ann, where, it was understood, Price had determined to make a final and desperate stand. At a point on the prairie two branches make off from the direct road. The right hand goes to Washington, the direct road goes to Spring Hill, which is on the direct route to Shreveport, and the left leads to Camden. This point was covered by the enemy, who did not know which road General Steele proposed to take. An artillery fight took place, the enemy having two or three batteries, which ceased at nightfall. After dark, the enemy, having discovered the position of our artillery during the day, made a desperate effort to capture the guns, but were repulsed with severe loss, and retreated to the earth and timber-works over a mile long, commanding the Washington road. On the next day our army moved nearer the rebel position, and felt of it to ascertain its strength and disposition. On the twelfth, at daylight, General Steele pushed forward and so disposed his forces as to turn their left flank, when the enemy fled to Washington.

They were pursued by cavalry for several miles, as if it was intended to follow them up, but our army then took the road to Camden. The next day was spent in crossing the Terre Bouge bottom, one of the worst in the State. It had to be corduroyed for miles and bridges made. While this was being done, the rebel General Dockery attacked the rear, commanded by General Thayer, who drove the assailants back and punished them severely. On the night of the

fourteenth it was generally known that the rebels had found out that the real destination was Camden, that they had been outwitted, and that they had sent Cabell and Shelby in front of the Union army to resist the march to Camden. The fifteenth was spent in driving the rebels from position to position, and our army entered Camden. Camden was found to be strongly fortified, and, with boats on the Ouachita to bring supplies, could have been maintained against any rebel force. Deserters who came in reported that Banks had been defeated, and spies returned with the same intelligence. Some despatches from the enemy were captured, which confirmed the fact that if Banks was not defeated he had been so crippled as to make it necessary for him to stop.

On the eighteenth, a forage team sent out by the quartermaster was captured by the enemy. This was the first disaster during the expedition. On the twentieth, a supply-train arrived from Pine Bluff, and on the twenty-second the empty train was sent back, escorted by a brigade of infantry, four pieces of artillery, and a proper proportion of cavalry. On the twenty-fifth, news was received that the train had been captured, and Lieutenant-Colonel Drake, of the Seventy-seventh Ohio, who was in command, was mortally wounded.

Deserters, prisoners, spies, and scouts, who came or were brought in, gave information that rendered it certain that Kirby Smith, in person, with reinforcements of eight thousand infantry, had joined Price and were advancing. Taking all these things into consideration, the scarcity of forage, the difficulty of keeping open a line for supplies, and that the rebels could avoid a battle and go round Camden, General Steele decided to evacuate the place and return to his former lines.

On the night of the twenty-sixth, the whole command crossed the Ouachita, and moved for Little Rock, by way of Princeton and Jenkins's Ferry, on the Saline, which point was reached on the twenty-seventh, and a pontoon thrown across. Here it was learned that the rebel General Fagan, with a large force and fourteen pieces of artillery, had left their camp, five miles above that point, and were moving up the river to where it could be forded, in order to cross and threaten Little Rock. A cavalry force was sent to intercept Fagan. About noon of that day it commenced raining, and continued to rain hard during that and the succeeding day. Price came up at this point, and the battle alluded to in yesterday's paper was fought on Saturday, the thirtieth. It was a splendid victory, the rebels retreating, losing three pieces of artillery and other material of war.

After the defeat of the rebels, as the roads and weather prevented marching, General Steele decided to send General Carr to Little Rock to watch Fagan, as he felt confident of again whipping Price and Smith, should they conclude to attack again.

As the rebels did not come to time, the army

took up its line of march, and while we are writing is marching through the city with the guns and trophies captured from the enemy.

Such is an outline of the expedition as we have gathered it from those who accompanied it. Our losses in the various skirmishes were light, being only in wounded and those taken with the train. The report of the loss on Saturday has not been received, but it was small, and that of the enemy heavy, as the latter attacked while our men fought from position.

Generals Rice, Solomon, Carr, and Thayer, all fought like bull-dogs, and, when their commands were attacked, successfully repulsed the enemy. The negro regiments fought well, and took two guns at Elkins's Ferry.

It is evident that the check received by General Banks, and his falling back to Grand Ecore, made a further advance by General Steele, with his small army, impossible. It was useless to hold Camden and depend upon supplies from this point or Pine Bluff. As the Red River expedition had been delayed, if not broken up, a return to Little Rock was the only alternative.

The command has marched over three hundred miles, driven rebels nearly the whole time, giving them battle wherever they offered it, whipped them in every engagement, outwitted them when they attempted strategy, and has returned with comparatively little loss, if we except the return train, which was cut off and captured by superior numbers.

Doc. 131.

RED RIVER EXPEDITION.

REPORTS OF ADMIRAL PORTER.

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON,
FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, OFF RED RIVER,
March 2, 1864. }

SIR: I came down here anticipating a move on the part of the army up toward Shreveport; but as the river is lower than it has been known to be for years, I much fear that the combined movement cannot come off without interfering with plans formed by General Grant.

General Sherman has gone to New-Orleans to make arrangements with General Banks, and I am expecting his return every day. In the mean time the gunboats are up the Atchafalaya and Black Rivers, destroying bridges and stores, and endeavoring to destroy eight thousand cattle collected at Sicily Island.

The Mississippi River is very quiet, and the rebels retreated into the interior on hearing of the advance of the gunboats.

I am, sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy,
Washington, D. C.

CAPTURE OF SIMMSPORT AND FORT DE RUSSY.*

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, }
FORT DE RUSSY, RED RIVER, March 15, 1864.

SIR: I had the honor to report to you that I was about to ascend Red River with a fleet of gunboats, in company with a portion of General Sherman's command, or that of General Banks, whichever concluded to go.

On the seventh of March I had assembled at the mouth of Red River a large fleet of iron-clads, composed of the following vessels: Essex, Commander Robert Townsend; Benton, Lieutenant Commander James A. Greer; La Fayette, Lieutenant Commander J. P. Foster; Choctaw, Lieutenant Commander F. M. Ramsey; Chillicothe, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant S. P. Couthouy; Ozark, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant George W. Browne; Louisville, Lieutenant Commander E. K. Owen; Carondelet, Lieutenant Commander J. G. Mitchell; Eastport, Lieutenant Commander S. L. Phelps; Pittsburgh, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant W. R. Hoel; Mound City, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant A. R. Langthorne; Osage, Lieutenant Commander T. O. Selfridge; Neosho, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Samuel Howard; Ouachita, Lieutenant Commander Byron Wilson; Fort Hindman, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant John Pearce. And the lighter boats: Lexington, Lieutenant George M. Bache; Cricket, Acting Master H. H. Gorringer; Gazelle, Acting Master Charles Thatcher; Black Hawk, Lieutenant Commander K. R. Broese.

I received communications from General Banks, informing me that he would be in Alexandria on the seventeenth March, and I made my dispositions to meet him there. On the eleventh instant, part of General Sherman's command, ten thousand men, under the command of Brigadier-General A. J. Smith, joined me in transports at the mouth of Red River, and next morning early the gunboats started up the river, followed by the transports. There was just sufficient water to allow the larger boats to pass. By previous arrangement, Lieutenant Commander Phelps, in the Eastport, was ordered to push on up with his vessel and those that could keep with him, and clear away the heavy obstructions the rebels had placed in the river, and to amuse the Fort until the army could land at Simmsport and get into the rear of the enemy's works, which could be done by making a march of thirty miles.

The Benton, Pittsburgh, Chillicothe, Louisville, Mound City, Carondelet, Ouachita, Lexington, and Gazelle turned off to the left into the Atchafalaya, followed by the troops, while the others went on up the river. The gunboats arrived at Simmsport about twelve o'clock, and found the enemy posted in force about three miles back. The Benton landed her crew, and drove in the pickets. The army came along in about half an hour more, and landed the next morning, taking possession of the enemy's camp-

* See Doc. 96, ante.

ing ground, the latter retreating toward Fort De Russy. That night, General Smith concluded to follow them by land, while I proceeded up Red River with all the gunboats and transports. In the mean time the Eastport had reached the obstructions, and, with the vessels that kept pace with her, had commenced the work of demolition on the formidable barricade, on which the rebels had been employed five months. They supposed it impassable, but our energetic sailors, with hard work, opened a passage in a few hours. The obstructions consisted of heavy piles driven into the mud, and braced in every direction; they were also clamped together with heavy iron plates and chains.

The Eastport and Neosho got through about four o'clock in the afternoon, and proceeded up to the Fort, which at that moment was being surrounded by the troops under General Smith, who had marched from Simmsport since daylight. A brisk musketry-fire was going on between the rebels and our troops, and they were so close together it was difficult to distinguish the combatants. The Eastport opened her batteries, but, fearing to injure our own men, ceased firing, when our troops proceeded to the assault, and carried the place. In a few moments, and with small loss, two hundred and fifty prisoners, eight heavy guns, and two field-pieces fell into our hands, and all the munitions of war.

The main body of the enemy, five thousand strong, under the rebel General Walker, made their escape. They left the Fort, it was said, to give battle to our troops, and left a garrison of three hundred men to defend it. Our army came in by a different road from what they expected, and made short work of them. Among the guns captured was one of the Indianola's nine-inch, and one belonging to the Harriet Lane. The rest of the guns were twenty-four and thirty-two pounders, and one one hundred and sixty pounder rifle.

As soon as the Fort was in possession of the troops, I sent off up the river the fleetest gunboats I had, to cut the enemy off, if possible, or harass them until our troops could be placed on the transports. By sunset the transports will be in Alexandria and ahead of the rebels, and I hope the latter will be cut off.

These works have been made much more formidable than they were last year, and the loss of guns must be severely felt by the rebels, as they have only fifteen more heavy guns in this section of the country. The whole affair has been well managed; the troops made a splendid march and attack, and the officers in command of the gunboats and transports have shown great zeal and industry in getting up the river and through the obstructions which the rebels deemed impassable.

I forgot to mention in my last report that in the recent attack on Trinity by the gunboats, a number of negroes were recaptured, who were captured by the enemy in a recent attack upon Goodrich's Landing.

I inclose herewith a list of the guns captured

at Fort De Russy, with their numbers, as some of them appear to be heavy guns. The Ordnance Bureau may be able to account for them.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAVID D. PORTER,

Rear-Admiral

HON. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

List of Guns captured at Fort De Russy water-battery.—One thirty-two pounder, thirty-three hundred weight, F. P. F., No. 227, navy, in bar-bette, J. S. C. Proven 1847.

One thirty-one pounder, thirty-three hundred weight, F. P. F., No. 226, navy, in bar-bette, J. S. C. Proven 1847.

Two nine-inch Dahlgren guns. No marks could be discovered on these guns, but they bore all the evidence of having been in service in the navy, the remains of gun-blackening being on them. Both lugs were cut for locks with the usual composition; piece fitted in to spare lug.

One thirty-two pounder, sixty hundred weight, 1827, navy gun.

One thirty-two pounder United States rifled, marked W. J. W., No. 289. This gun is an old army thirty-two pounder, rifled, with band shrunk on the breech.

Two twenty-four pounder siege-guns, two six-pounder field-pieces, in hill battery.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, }
OFF ALEXANDRIA, LA., March 16, 1864. }

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that I arrived at this place this afternoon. As soon as the Forts were surrendered, I pushed on the fastest vessels, Ouachita and Lexington, followed by the Eastport, to Alexandria. The Ouachita arrived here as the last of a fleet of transports passed over the falls. The rebels set fire to a large ferry-boat, and one of the boats grounding on the falls, was also burnt, to prevent her falling into our hands. As no reliable pilot could be procured to take our boats across the falls, the transports will have to escape for the present, but are sure to be captured or destroyed before the month is over. The surrender of the forts at Point De Russy is of much more importance than I at first supposed. The rebels had depended on that point to stop any advance of army or navy into this part of rebeldom. Large quantities of ammunition, best engineers, and best troops were sent there, and in two or three months more it would have been a most formidable place. As it was, it was not complete, (though the guns were in position,) and would have stood a very poor chance if attacked in force. The works have been laid out by a Colonel De Russy, and are of the most extensive and formidable kind. Colonel De Russy, from appearances, is a most excellent engineer to build forts, but don't seem to know what to do with them after they are constructed. The same remark may apply to his obstructions, which look well on paper, but don't stop our advance. The efforts of these people to keep up this war remind one very much of the antics of Chinamen, who build canvas forts, paint hideous dragons on

their shields, turn somersets, and yell in the face of their enemies, to frighten them, and then run away at the first sign of an engagement.

It puts the sailors and soldiers out of all patience with them, after the trouble they have had in getting here. Now and then the army have a little brush with their pickets; but that don't often happen. It is not the intention of these rebels to fight. The men are tired of the war, and many of their officers are anxious to go into cotton speculation. A large trade has been carried on between this and New-Orleans, the rebels receiving supplies for their cotton. There is a surprising abundance of every kind of food in this country, and no suffering among the people, except for luxuries. It would be folly to suppose they could all be starved out. The only way is to take possession of this rich region, hold it with a strong military and naval force, and enforce the laws.

There are some good Union men here, who have suffered much. I hope the day of their delivery has come.

General Smith has left a good force at the forts (and I left the Benton and Essex) to destroy them effectually, which will be some labor. We have seven or eight thousand troops in this city, and are expecting to hear soon of General Banks's arrival. He has been delayed by storms, which have made the roads heavy.

The force that left the forts with a party under General Polignac, from Harrisonburgh, have gone out to meet General Banks, who will soon dispose of them, and the chances are that, when all our cavalry now approaching with General Banks get after them, the rebels will be captured or scattered, not to unite again for some time.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

P.S.—I beg leave to mention, as a proof of the rapidity with which this portion of General Sherman's command, under Brigadier-General A. J. Smith, did their work, they marched twenty-eight miles, starting at daylight; built a bridge which cost them over two hours' hard work; had a sharp skirmishing and artillery attack of two hours, and had possession of the forts all intact before sunset.

It is one of the best military moves made this war.

I beg leave to inclose copy of Lieutenant Commander S. L. Phelps's report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM ADMIRAL PORTER TO LIEUTENANT COMMANDER S. L. PHELPS.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, U. S. MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
RED RIVER, March 13, 1864. }

SIR: You will proceed at once up the Red River with the vessels I will detail to follow you, and commence removing the obstructions in the river, while, in the mean time, I will take a tour

into the Atchafalaya, and land the troops at Simmsport, for the purpose of reconnoitring, etc. If you remove the obstructions, move up within a short distance of Fort De Russy, but make no attack until I get up with the main force, though, if there is any force at De Russy, you can amuse them by feints until the army get into their rear. Take every precaution against torpedoes, and protect your men against sharp-shooters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.
Lieutenant Commander S. L. PHELPS,
Commanding Eastport.

REPORT OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER S. L. PHELPS.

UNITED STATES IRON-CLAD RAM EASTPORT, }
ALEXANDRIA, LA., March 16, 1864. }

SIR: In obedience to your order of the twelfth instant, I proceeded up Red River; the La Fayette, Choctaw, Osage, Neosho, Ozark, Fort Hindman, and Cricket in company, meeting with no obstacle till we reached the obstructions eight miles below Fort De Russy, on the fourteenth instant. The great length and draught of the La Fayette and Choctaw rendered it difficult for them to navigate this narrow and crooked river, and our progress was slow. Near the head of the Rappahannock were works for light artillery, commanding a difficult turn in the river, which had been recently abandoned.

The obstructions consisted of piles driven across the river, supported by a second tier of shorter ones, on which rested braces and ties from the upper ones. Immediately below these is a raft of timber, well secured across the river, and made of logs which do not float. Finally, a forest of trees had been cut and floated down upon the piles from above. The river had broken through these obstructions, and had partially undermined the rifle-pits on the right bank. The Fort Hindman removed a portion of the raft, when I ran this vessel up, and, by both pulling and ramming, broke out the piles and framework still obstructing the passage of vessels. This work consumed nearly the entire day. The Osage, Fort Hindman, and Cricket followed me through, and we hastened up to the Fort.

For a short time there had been rapid artillery firing, which ceased as we came in sight of the works, then about sunset, except three shots fired by the rebels from a gun in an angle of the water-battery. We could see the enemy using musketry from the parapets of the rear works, but could see nothing of the attacking force. An officer from General Smith had reached the vessel, notifying me of the approach of his force, but with no advice as to time or plan of attack.

The line of fire of the gunboats would have passed directly to the rear of the works, injuring our own people more than the enemy in his works. I fired a short-fuzed shell at an elevation as a signal gun, and then ventured one one-hundred pounder rifle-shell at the water-battery, which shell burst over it, and the enemy ran from it. A few moments after this, a white flag was displayed from the rear works, some six hun-

dred yards from the water-battery, and which alone had been attacked.

The guns and works were captured uninjured, and one hundred and eighty-five prisoners fell into General Smith's hands, those of the enemy occupying the water-battery making good their escape. General Walker, the rebel commander, had marched out with five thousand men ostensibly to attack our approaching land force, leaving a garrison of but three hundred men to defend works incomplete and of considerable extent, and which, if complete, had been of great strength.

Your order of the fourteenth instant was delayed some five hours beyond the time necessary in reaching me, and, in consequence, I did not reach this place till the evening of the fifteenth, a short time after the lighter vessels pushed on ahead, and which had arrived one half hour too late to capture six steamers which had succeeded in getting over the falls, and escaping with one exception, the steamer Countess, burned by the enemy after grounding on the falls. Had your order duly reached me, we no doubt would have captured the steamers. By morning, nine gunboats had arrived, and I landed a force of one hundred and eighty men to occupy the town, and to seize the rebel property. This force, under Lieutenant Commander Selfridge, was in occupation of the place when you arrived. Seven prisoners of war were captured by the pickets.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. L. PHELPS,
Lieutenant Commander.

Rear-Admiral DAVID D. PORTER, U. S. N.,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA, March 29, 1864. }

SIR: Being about to leave for Shreveport, or as high up the river as I can get, I have the honor to report progress.

After a great deal of labor, and two and a half days' hard work, we succeeded in getting the Eastport over the rocks on the falls, hauling her over by main force; now and then a rise of an inch or so of water would help her along, and she finally was enabled to pass the advance of the army, encamped on the bank of the river twenty-five miles above Alexandria. Other vessels got through, and a few more remain to be got over, when we will push on to the end. It is very slow work getting over these rocks, but as yet we have met with no accidents. One hospital-ship, belonging to the marine brigade, sank on the falls by striking on the rocks, but all the rest of the transports went over safely. I shall only be able to take up a part of the force I brought with me, and leave the river guarded all the way through. The rebels are retreating before the army, and, as usual, are destroying every thing that can fall into our hands, treating public and private property alike. This is the last hold they will have in this country, and they seem determined to wreak their vengeance on the unoffending inhabitants who have some little cotton to dispose of. Their destructiveness

has been a death-blow to the rebellion in this State, and General Dick Taylor has left a name behind him to be execrated when the rebellion is long past.

Confederate money is worth here one quarter of a cent on the dollar, or the most I have heard offered is three cents. The currency of a country is the best proof of its prosperity.

The health of the squadron, I am happy to say, continues good.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. POTTER,
Rear-Admiral

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

FLAG-SHIP CRICKET, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
OFF GRAND ECORE, LOUISIANA, April 14, 1864. }

SIR: I had the honor of reporting to you the movements of the squadron as far as Alexandria, and the intention of General Banks to move on at once to Shreveport. He deemed the coöperation of the gunboats so essential to success, that I had to run some risks and make unusual exertions to get them over the falls.

The army started on the appointed day, and I pushed up the gunboats to cover them, if they should be needed, as fast as they got over the falls. The vessels arrived at Grand Ecore without accident, and had good water, the river apparently about to reach its usual stage at this season. The Cricket, Eastport, Mound City, Chillicothe, Carondelet, Pittsburgh, Ozark, Neosho, Osage, Lexington, and Fort Hindman, Louisville, and Pittsburgh, were the vessels sent up, and a fleet of thirty transports followed them.

Grand Ecore was occupied by our forces without opposition. The works deserted. Lieutenant Commander Phelps captured one thirty-two pounder on the river, below Grand Ecore, which he destroyed, making twenty-two guns captured from the enemy since we entered the river.

The army had arrived at Natchitoches, near Grand Ecore, when I got up here, and was preparing for an immediate march. As the river was rising very slowly, I would not risk the larger vessels by taking them higher up, but started on the seventh of April for Shreveport, with the Cricket, Fort Hindman, Lexington, Osage, Neosho, and Chillicothe, with the hope of getting the rest of the vessels along when the usual rise came. Twenty transports were sent along, filled with army stores, and with a portion of General A. J. Smith's division on board. It was intended that the fleet should reach Springfield Landing on the third day, and then communicate with the army, a portion of which expected to be at Springfield at that time. I found the difficulties of navigation very great, but we reached the point specified within an hour of the time appointed. At this point we were brought to a stop; the enemy had sunk a very large steamer (the New Falls City) right across the river, her ends resting on each bank, and her hull, broken in the middle, resting on the bottom. This was a serious obstruction, but I went to work to remove it. Before I commenced operations, how-

ever, a courier came in from General Banks, bringing the unpleasant and most unexpected news, "Our army has met with a reverse," and was falling back to Pleasant Hill, some sixty miles in our rear. Orders also came to General A. J. Smith to return to Grand Ecore with the transports and the troops he had with him. Here was an end to our expedition for the present, and we reluctantly turned back, after having nearly reached the object we were aiming at. The information we received was of a very unsatisfactory kind, and we did not know really what was the exact state of affairs, no letters having been sent by post courier.

It would be very difficult to describe the return passage of the fleet through this narrow and snaggy river. As long as our army could advance triumphantly, it was not so bad; but we had every reason to suppose that our return would be interrupted in every way and at every point by the enemy's land forces, and we were not disappointed. They commenced on us from high banks, at a place called Coushatta, and kept up a fire of musketry whenever an opportunity was offered them. By a proper distribution of the gunboats I had no trouble in driving them away, though from the high banks they could fire on our decks almost with impunity. As we proceeded down the river they increased in numbers, and as we only made thirty miles a day, they could cross from point to point and be ready to meet us on our arrival below. On the left bank of the river a man by the name of Harrison, with one thousand nine hundred cavalry and four or five pieces of artillery, was appointed to follow us down and annoy us. It was very fortunate for us that this person and his command were lately severely handled by a gunboat, (a few weeks ago,) which made them careful about coming within range. On the evening of the twelfth instant we were attacked from the right bank of the river by a detachment of men of quite another character. They were a part of the army which two or three days previous had gained success over our army, and flushed with victory, or under the excitement of liquor, they appeared suddenly upon the right bank, and fearlessly opened fire on the Osage, Lieutenant Commander T. O. Selfridge, (iron-clad,) she being hard aground at the time with a transport (the Black Hawk) alongside of her, towing her off. The rebels opened with two thousand muskets, and soon drove every one out of the Black Hawk to the safe casemates of the monitor. Lieutenant Bache had just come from his vessel, (the Lexington,) and fortunately was enabled to pull up to her again, keeping close under the bank, while the Osage opened a destructive fire on these poor deluded wretches, who, maddened with liquor and led on by their officers, were vainly attempting to capture an iron vessel. I am told that their hootings and actions baffle description. Force after force seemed to be brought up to the edge of the bank, where they confronted the guns of the iron vessel, only to be cut down by grape-shot and can-

ister. In the mean time Lieutenant Bache had reached his vessel, and widening the distance between him and the Osage, he opened a cross-fire on the infuriated rebels, who fought with such desperation and courage against certain destruction, that it could only be accounted for in one way. Our opinions were verified on inspection of some of the bodies of the slain—the men actually smelling of Louisiana rum! This affair lasted nearly two hours before the rebels fled. They brought up two pieces of artillery, one of which was quickly knocked over by the Lexington's guns, the other they managed to carry off. The cross-fire of the Lexington finally decided this curious affair of a fight between infantry and gunboats. The rebels were mowed down by her canister, and finally retreated in as quick haste as they had come to the attack, leaving the space of a mile covered with the dead and wounded, muskets and knapsacks. A dying rebel informed our men that General Greene had his head blown off, which I do not vouch for as true. If true, it is a serious loss to the rebels. Night coming on, we had no means of ascertaining the damage done to the rebels. We were troubled no more from the right bank of the river, and a party of five thousand men who were marching to cut us off were persuaded to change their mind after hearing of the unfortunate termination to the first expedition. That same night I ordered the transports to proceed on, having placed the gunboats at a point where the rebels had a battery. All the transports were passed safely, the rebels not firing a shot in return to the many that were bursting over the hills. The next morning, the thirteenth instant, I followed down myself, and finding at Compte, six miles from Grand Ecore by land, that they had got aground, and would be some time in getting through, I proceeded down in this vessel to Grand Ecore, and got General Banks to send up troops enough to keep the guerrillas away from the river. We were fired on as usual after we started down, but when I had the troops sent up, the transports came along without any rouble. This has been an expedition where a great deal of labor has been expended, a great deal of individual bravery shown, and on such occasions the commander-in-chief is apt to find out the metal of which his officers are made, and on future occasions it will enable him to select those who will not likely fail in the time of need. To Lieutenant Commander T. O. Selfridge, commanding the Osage, and Lieutenant George M. Bache, commanding the Lexington, I am particularly indebted for the gallant manner in which they defended their vessels, and for their management during the expedition, always anticipating and intelligently carrying out my wishes and orders.

I found the fleet at Grand Ecore somewhat in an unpleasant situation—two of them being above the bar, and not likely to get away again this season, unless there is a rise of a foot. I could not provide against this, when over a hun-

dred miles up the river. If nature does not change her laws, there will no doubt be a rise of water; but there was one year, 1848, when there was no rise in the Red River, and it may happen again. The rebels are cutting off the supply by diverting different sources of water into other channels; all of which would have been stopped, had our army arrived as far as Shreveport. I have done my best (and so have the officers and men under my command) to make this expedition a success throughout, and do not know that we have failed in any thing we have undertaken. Had we not heard of the retreat of the army, I should still have gone on to the end. A wise Providence, which rules and directs all things, has thought proper to stay our progress and throw impediments in the way, for some good reason.

We have nothing left but to try it again, and hold on to this country with all the force we can raise. It is just as valuable to us and important to the cause as any other portion of the Union. Those who have interests here, and are faithful to the Government, have a right to expect our protection, and when this part of Louisiana is conquered, we hold Arkansas and all the right bank of the Mississippi without firing another gun.

There is a class of men who have during this war shown a great deal of bravery and patriotism, and who have seldom met with any notice from those whose duty it is to report such matters. I speak of the pilots on the Western waters. Without any hope of future reward, through fame, or in a pecuniary way, they enter into the business of piloting the transports through dangers that would make a faint-hearted man quail. Occupying the most exposed position, a fair mark for a sharp-shooter, they are continually fired at, and often hit, without so much as a mention being made of their gallantry. On this expedition they have been much exposed, and have showed great gallantry in managing their vessels while under fire, in this, to them, unknown river. I beg leave to pay this small tribute to their bravery and zeal, and must say, as a class, I never knew a braver set of men. I also beg leave to mention favorably Acting Master H. H. Gorringe, commanding this vessel. He has shown great zeal, courage, and ability during this expedition, serving his guns rapidly and well, at his post night and day, ready for any thing, and assisting materially in getting the transports by dangerous points. Mounting one of his twenty-four pounder howitzers on his upper deck, he was enabled to sweep the bank in all directions, and one or two fires had the desired effect. He was of great service to me throughout the expedition; was slightly wounded, but nothing of consequence, (owing to his exposing himself so much.)

I have the honor to be, very respectfully your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON,
OFF ALEXANDRIA, LA., April 17, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival at this point for a few hours. I shall return to Grand Ecore in two hours. I had succeeded in getting all the large vessels over the bar at Grand Ecore, and in a fair way of getting down as far as Alexandria, when I heard the Eastport had sunk eight miles below. I sent down at once and found it to be so; she was five hours sinking, said to be done by a torpedo; she don't seem to be damaged much. I came down for my steam-pump boats; have one alongside the Eastport already, and take another up with me to-day. There will be trouble getting her up if the river ever rises again; the water comes as high as her gun-deck; her guns and heavy articles have been taken off. I came here and found trouble at Fort Pillow; the policy pursued, in not defending the strong posts where so much blood and treasure have been expended, will always cause these difficulties. I had two boats up there, but the negro and invalid garrison were not strong enough to do their part. I have sent the Essex, Benton, Choctaw, La Fayette, Ouachita, and Avenger up to Fort Pillow to prevent any permanent landing there. I sent an expedition up the Washita as far as Munroe, which captured three thousand bales of confederate cotton, brought away eight hundred negroes, and destroyed much rebel property. The expedition was under Lieutenant Commander Foster, and was particularly successful. I am bringing up light-draught vessels to take the place of the heavy boats during the low water. We have only eight feet of water between this and Grand Ecore, and many lumps exist. This expedition, and the failure of the army to advance, have given me a great deal of trouble; but I don't despair of getting out of it. It is only a matter of want of water, and I cannot think that this river would fail to rise while all the others are booming. Being constantly engaged in providing for the many curious cases that are daily occurring, I hope you will excuse me for not making fuller reports.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP CRICKET, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON,
OFF ALEXANDRIA, LA., April 28, 1864.

SIR: I had the honor to inform you, in my communication No. 106, of the sinking of the Eastport while proceeding down to Alexandria, caused by the explosion of a torpedo under her bottom, and near her bow. On hearing this bad news, I proceeded at once to the vessel, and found her sunk to the gun-deck; the water over it on one side.

I saw that no time was to be lost, and went at once to Alexandria, in hopes of finding one of our steam pump-boats, then due. Lieutenant Commander Phelps had already sent a tug down

for the same purpose, and as I passed around the falls, the pump-boat hove in sight, and proceeded on up. An hour after, the other boat came up, and I sent her up also, being confident that the Eastport would now be raised.

I had ordered all her guns taken out and all her ammunition transferred to other vessels, which was done by the time I reached her again, forty-eight hours after the pump-boats went up.

I was detained a day in Alexandria, making a different disposition of the vessels in the Mississippi, owing to the report of the capture of Fort Pillow by the rebels. I sent some of the heavy iron-clads up there with orders to remain, and also changed the destination of various vessels in the different rivers.

When I returned to the Eastport, I found her in a fair way of being afloat, though all the heavy steam-pumps together did not do more than slightly decrease the water. The leak had to be stopped by bulkheading. Lieutenant Commander Phelps went to work vigorously to endeavor to save his vessel, and he was seconded by his officers and crew. I don't think I ever witnessed harder work than was performed by the officers and crew of the Eastport, and it seemed to be the determination of all on board that she should not fall into the hands of the enemy, if it could be helped.

I felt confident that the Eastport would be saved, if time permitted, but I had a faint idea that our army were about to fall back on Alexandria, when it would become necessary to destroy the Eastport, or perhaps some other vessels.

On my arrival at Grand Ecore, I found that preparations were making to move the army in the direction of Alexandria, and I ordered the large vessels at once below the bars with orders to proceed slowly to Alexandria, keeping with me six of the lighter-draught vessels to cover the land forces, and give protection to the transports.

The day after my return to Grand Ecore, orders were issued for the army to move to Alexandria. The Eastport was not yet afloat, and I thought our chance of saving her very small, unless we were certain of having no enemy to annoy us after the army left. On the twentieth of April I went down to the Eastport again, and after informing the commander how matters stood, we concluded that it was necessary to run some risks, if we wished to save the vessel. She was now slightly resting on the bottom on one side, and steam had been raised on her.

On the twenty-first she started in tow of the pump-boat, Champion Number Five, and with the pump of Champion Number Three transferred to the Eastport, and connected with her boilers. This arrangement, with the addition of one or two syphon-pumps, kept the water out of the fire-room, and confined it to the bow.

I waited at a point eight miles below Grand Ecore, and sent up a gunboat to convoy down all the transports that were left up, this vessel bringing up the rear, towing a flat on which were all the Eastport's guns.

On the first day the Eastport made twenty

miles down the river, but at six o'clock in the evening she grounded, from not being in the channel, and the first of our difficulties commenced in getting her over the bars and other obstructions which abound in this river.

It would be impossible to give an adequate idea of the difficulties of the navigation, from the twenty-first of April up to the twenty-sixth, the time when it was no longer considered possible to get the Eastport over the sand-bars and logs, now increasing, unless time was allowed to remove them, and the enemy were kept from annoying us while we were at work.

The Lieutenant Commander commanding the Eastport, S. L. Phelps, had done all that man could do to save his vessel, and felt it to be a matter of pride to get her to Alexandria.

She had grounded eight times badly, and each time under circumstances where it was very doubtful if she would come off; but the Commander's confidence never deserted him, and I could not help but admire his coolness and faith in getting his vessel to Alexandria, when I knew there were places to pass below, with much less water on them.

I determined that I would never leave this vessel to her fate as long as the commander felt a hope of getting her down.

He worked with almost superhuman efforts to accomplish the object in view, sleeping apparently neither night nor day. Every body worked, and went through privations of all kinds, and I must say, that mentally, I never went through so much anxiety in my life.

On the sixth day of this labor of hauling the Eastport over the bars, and after congratulating ourselves that we had passed every impediment, orders were given to fill up with fence-rails for fuel, and we started down-stream, with the expectation of making at least thirty miles that day. The vessel had already been brought sixty miles on her way, and sixty more would bring her within our lines.

The army, though, were sixty miles ahead of us, and the report was that the rebels were following in their rear, also opposing them in front, and we might naturally expect, when the army arrived safely in Alexandria, that the whole power of the enemy would be directed to cutting off my small force of three light-draughts, and the Eastport, without any guns; indeed, we had already received notice that such were their intentions.

On April twenty-fifth, I made signal to pass down-stream, and had scarcely started before the Eastport was hard aground, and this time in a position where even the commander's hopes of relieving her failed. The difficulty here was a want of water, and the bed of the river was filled with logs, over which it would be impossible to get the vessel, unless we had the time.

We tried to lighten her by removing her iron-plating, but this we found to be labor beyond our power; the plates could not be removed in a short time, and that plan was abandoned at once.

I had determined to remain by the Eastport un-

til she was safe within our lines, or blown up, to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy.

On two occasions I had given the Commander preparatory instructions relative to her destruction, thinking her time had come; but, still hopeful and persistent, he stuck to the work, and deserved to have met with greater success.

Every effort was made to get the Eastport off from what proved to be her final resting-place.

The gunboat Fort Hindman (whose commander has worked to save the Eastport with a zeal I never saw surpassed) succeeded, with her steam capstan, in moving her bow, but only enough to get into a worse position right across the channel, with a bed of logs under her, and from that place it seemed that no human power could move her. The Commander having admitted there seemed no hope of getting her off, unless we had time, and our rear protected, I gave the order to destroy her.

One ton of powder was placed in her in various positions, she was filled with such combustibles as we could procure, and at forty-five minutes past one P.M., April twenty-sixth, the Eastport was blown up, Lieutenant Commander Phelps applying the match, and being the last one to leave the vessel. He had barely time to reach the boat when the Eastport blew up, covering the boat with fragments of wood. Seven different explosions followed, and then the flames burst forth in every direction.

The vessel was completely destroyed—as perfect a wreck as ever was made by powder. She remains a troublesome obstruction, to block up the channel for some time to come. All stores, etc., were removed, and such parts of the machinery as could be made available by the rebels.

There was nothing but the iron plates left behind, which finally fell inside the hull. Some fell out-board, as the fire burnt away the wood to which they were attached, and will soon disappear under the sands.

I would have brought away every piece of iron, had I not been warned that I had over-staid my time.

Gangs of guerrillas began to hover on the left bank of the river, and just previous to blowing up the Eastport we were attacked by a heavy force on the right bank.

This vessel was lying tied to the bank, and I was backing out from the Eastport in the Hindman, to give the former a chance to blow up without injury to any one. The rebels selected this moment to make their attack, and rising suddenly from the bank opened on our little squadron with one thousand two hundred muskets, and then made a rush to board the Cricket.

The enemy, however, were properly met and repelled, and the Cricket, dropping out from the bank, opened on them with grape and canister; and with a heavy cross-fire from the two other vessels, the rebels were routed in five minutes. After this, we blew the Eastport up, and proceeded down the river.

We were not molested until we had gone about twenty miles, at a point above Cane River. When

rounding the point, the vessels in close order, and ready for action, we descried a party of the enemy with artillery, on the right bank, and we immediately opened fire with our bow-guns. The enemy immediately returned it with a large number of cannon, eighteen in all, every shot of which struck this vessel.

The Captain (Acting Master H. H. Gorringer) gave orders to stop the engines, for the purpose of fighting the battery and covering the boats astern; I corrected this mistake, and got head-way on the vessel again, but not soon enough to avoid the pelting shower of shot and shell which the enemy poured into us, every shot going through and through us, clearing all our decks in a moment.

Finding the guns not firing rapidly, I stepped on the gun-deck to see what was the matter. As I stepped down, the after-gun was struck with a shell and disabled, and every man at the gun killed and wounded. At the same moment the crew from the forward gun were swept away by a shell exploding, and the men were wounded in the fire-room, leaving only one man to fire up.

I made up a gun's crew from the contrabands, who fought the gun to the last moment. Finding that the engine did not move, I went into the engine-room and found the chief engineer killed, whose place was soon supplied by an assistant. I then went to the pilot-house, and found that a shot had gone through it and wounded one of the pilots. I took charge of the vessel, and as the battery was a very heavy one, I determined to pass it, which was done under the heaviest fire I ever witnessed.

I attempted to turn her head up-stream, to attack with our two bow-guns, the only guns left; but as this was impracticable, I let her drift down around the point, and shelled the enemy's batteries in the rear. This disturbed them for a moment, and enabled the light-draught Juliet and pump-boat Champion, lashed together, to escape from under the bank, where they had drifted.

The Juliet had her steam-pipe cut and became disabled, having drifted clear from under the guns of the enemy and close into the bank, where the guns could not be depressed to reach them, and from whence the Champion towed her in safety, when the Hindman opened her batteries, and this vessel was firing into the rear of the enemy's batteries.

Seeing that the Hindman did not pass the batteries, the Juliet disabled, and that one of the pump-boats had her boiler exploded by a shot, I ran down to a point three or four miles below, where I had ordered two iron-clads to be ready to meet me in case of emergency.

Unfortunately, I ran on shore a short time after passing the batteries, and remained there three hours, took fire in the mean time from the explosion of some cartridges, the box containing which had been struck by the enemy's shot. It was after dark when I reached the appointed place, where I found the Osage lying opposite a field-battery of the enemy, which they had been shelling throughout the day.

The Lexington had been hard at work at them, and had been hulled fifteen times, with only one man killed. The firing above had ceased, and as the channel was very intricate, I could not send her up to the assistance of the vessels without danger of her getting aground. I knew that they were all above the batteries, and was in hopes that the Hindman had silenced them.

Lieutenant Commander Phelps had two vessels in charge, the Juliet and Champion, which he wished to get through safely. He kept them out of range until he could partially repair the Juliet, and then, starting under a heavy fire, he made a push by. Unfortunately the pump-boat was disabled and set fire to, and burnt up. The Hindman had her wheel-ropes cut away, and drifted past, turning round and round, and getting well cut up in going by.

The Juliet was cut to pieces in hull and machinery; had fifteen killed and wounded. Four miles below they met the Neosho going up, too late to cover them. Had she arrived in time, she could likely have cleaned out the batteries, at least diverted the fire of them until the passage of the boats.

I inclose the report of Lieutenant Commanding Phelps, from the time of his first misfortune until his arrival at this place, where I now am with all the fleet, having lost none of the gunboats, but very much surprised that I have any left, considering all the difficulties encountered. When the rebels had followed our army to the point where they could effect no more, all their attention was turned to the little squadron I had escorting the Eastport.

Every man and gun was brought to the river, and we had to contend against such odds that it seemed impossible to escape destruction or very severe handling. No vessels were ever better fought, and none of this class (mere thread-paper vessels) were ever under so hot a fire.

In five minutes the Cricket was struck thirty-eight times, with solid shot and shell, with a loss of twenty-five killed and wounded—half her crew; the Juliet about the same, with fifteen killed and wounded. The Hindman lost three killed and four or five wounded.

I may have lacked judgment in not blowing the Eastport up sooner, when I found that we were a secondary consideration to the army; but as I had staid behind myself to see the last transport through safely, I could not do less with one of my own vessels.

I was unable to keep up communication with the army; as the means of communication were with them, and as they marched along faster than I calculated, (forty miles in one day, when I supposed they would only go twenty,) I was more in their rear than I should have been. This arose from my desire to save the Eastport, and hoping that some signal success on the part of the army, (which I felt confident was able to whip all the rebels in that part of the country,) would dispose of the enemy altogether.

From the beginning of this expedition up to the present time, the officers and men of the

squadron have worked with superhuman zeal, and overcome difficulties which seemed insurmountable. The success of the expedition depended entirely on the success of the navy in getting the transports safely to an appointed place—Springfield Landing—which would have put us in communication with the army, and then in possession of all their materials of war.

This we accomplished; and when the army returned, unexpectedly, we fought our way back again without the loss of any kind, excepting men, inflicting a loss of five hundred men on the enemy, killed their best General, Greene, and a number of his officers.

On our way down to Alexandria, obstacles were overcome, enough to appall the stoutest heart. Guns had to be taken out of vessels and then jumped over sand-bars and logs, and the squadron arrived here in time to prevent any attack on our reserve stores.

The difficulty about water is a most unusual one, and we must certainly have a rise of the few feet we want before the end of the season. All the rivers are booming at this time, and it should be so here. I am no more responsible for the failure of water here than I would be if the Mississippi went dry at this season—a thing that never happened yet.

I came up here with the river on the rise, and water enough for our largest vessels; and even on my way up to Shreveport from Grand Ecore the water rose, while it commenced falling where I left the largest gunboats. Falling or not, I could not go back while in charge of the transports and the material on which an army of thirty thousand men depended. Nothing would justify me in doing so.

I have still confidence in a good Providence, which I am sure will not desert us, and confidence that the nation will not permit this fleet to be sacrificed, when it has so well performed its part in what should have been a complete success.

In conclusion, I beg leave to mention the brave, cool, and zealous manner in which Lieutenant Commander Phelps worked to get his vessel out of her difficulties, never losing his faith for a single moment; also the handsome manner in which he brought the two fragile gunboats past those heavy batteries, cheating the enemy of the prize they had promised themselves.

To Acting Volunteer Lieutenant John Pearce, commanding the Fort Hindman, great praise is due for the efforts he made, night and day, to get the Eastport off, working his officers and men until they could hardly stand.

Acting Master George W. Rogers, of the Pittsburgh, deserves great credit for the manner in which he worked at the bulkheads of the Eastport, up to his middle in water, for eight days; to him we intrusted the duty of stopping the leak, which he fairly accomplished under the most trying circumstances.

Acting Master J. S. Watson defended his vessel in the most gallant manner, and never was a vessel more cut up.

Where all do their duty it is hard to descri-

minate; but when the record of this expedition is overhauled, the names of Commander R. Townsend, commanding Essex; Lieutenant Commander S. L. Phelps, Eastport; Lieutenant Commander Watson Smith, Chillicothe, (temporarily;) Lieutenant Commander K. R. Breese, Black Hawk; Lieutenant Commander J. P. Foster, La Fayette; Lieutenant Commander J. A. Greer, Benton; Lieutenant Commander E. K. Owen, Louisville; Lieutenant Commander J. G. Mitchell, Carondelet; Lieutenant Commander F. M. Ramsay, Choctaw; Lieutenant Commander T. O. Selfridge, Osage; Lieutenant Commander Byron Wilson, Ouachita; Lieutenant Commander Geo. M. Bache, Lexington; Lieutenant Commander S. W. Terry, Benefit, (naval transport;); Acting Volunteer Lieutenant W. R. Hoel, Pittsburgh; Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Samuel Howard, Neosho; Acting Volunteer Lieutenant George W. Browne, Ozark; Acting Volunteer Lieutenant A. R. Langthorne, Mound City; Acting Volunteer Lieutenant John Pearce, Fort Hindman; Acting Master H. H. Gorringer, Cricket; Acting Master J. S. Watson, Juliet; Acting Master Charles Thatcher, Gazelle—should stand prominent, having zealously performed every thing required of them, with an ability deserving of the highest praise.

I deem it necessary to send to you a bearer of despatches, who will explain to you fully the condition of the fleet.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 ant,

DAVID PORTER,
 Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
 Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

PERILOUS SITUATION OF THE FLEET.

FLAG-SHIP CRICKET, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON,
 BELOW GRAND ECORE, LA., April 26, 1864. }

SIR: In my last communication I informed you of the sinking of the Eastport by a torpedo about eight miles below Grand Ecore. The moment I heard of it, I went down to Alexandria, and sent a despatch-vessel for our two steam pump-boats; one was coming over the falls as I passed down, and the other fortunately came in sight an hour afterward. They were both sent up and set to work to raise the sunken vessel. She was so much shattered in the bottom that I almost despaired of effecting any thing. The same day that the boats arrived up, General Banks gave orders for the army to prepare to move on to Alexandria, and as Grand Ecore was only four miles from us by land, the chances were that the rebels would mount numerous artillery on the bluff close at hand, and prevent our working. Nevertheless we went to work, and proceeded until the vessel was raised, the pumps working all the time, and we unable to get at the leak. Lieutenant Commander Phelps worked with great perseverance, coolness, and patience under these unpleasant circumstances. The same day the army moved, we moved down with the Eastport with her own steam, and one steam-pump alongside of her, barely keeping her free, and the leak not discovered. We started

very fair, and made in a few hours twenty miles down river, having sent convoy to bring down the transports, which were taken safely to Alexandria. But the Eastport got out of the channel, and it seems impossible to move her ahead. Every thing that man can do, has been done, and I shall persevere until attacked here, or until the falling water endangers the other vessels. There will be but one course for me to pursue, that is, to perform the painful duty of destroying the Eastport, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands. I have no certainty of getting her down as far as Alexandria; the water has fallen too much to leave her here, with our army retreating to Alexandria, and with twenty-five thousand rebels (if victorious) assailing us at every point. We can fight them to the last. At this time, the rebels are following our army, and the artillery and musketry can be heard quite distinctly. We do not know the result. Had the army held Grand Ecore a fortnight, we would with certainty have saved the vessel, and will do so now, if we can find water to get her down. She has a great deal of water in her, which increases her draught and makes her very heavy; her pumps cannot get it all out, nor can we find the place where she is injured. The unfortunate issue of this expedition has thrown the gunboats into a bad predicament. When I came up here, the water was rising, and all our vessels navigated the river to Grand Ecore with ease, and with some of them I reached Springfield Landing, the place designated by General Banks for the gunboats to meet the army. My part was successfully accomplished; the failure of the army to proceed, and the retreat back to Grand Ecore, left me almost at the mercy of the enemy. Fortunately we got through without any accident or serious disaster from the enemy's fire. I soon saw that the army would go to Alexandria again, and we would be left above the bar in a helpless condition. I went to work immediately to get the heavy boats below, which I succeeded in doing by great exertions on the part of the commanders. I kept the lighter-draught vessels to cover the army if they should need it, and to take the transports down safely; all of which was done. The vessels are mostly at Alexandria, above the falls, excepting this one and two others I kept to protect the Eastport. When the rebels heard we had arrived at Grand Ecore, they commenced turning the source of water supply off into the lakes, which would have been remedied, had the army succeeded in getting to Shreveport. I cannot blame myself for coming up at the only season when the water rises. All the rivers are full and rising, but the Red River is falling at the rate of two inches a day—a most unusual occurrence—this river always being full until the middle of June. Whether we will yet have a rise, it would be impossible for any one to foresee. It seems like an impossibility that we could be caught in such a predicament in the time of rising water, but such may be the case. If General Banks should determine to evacuate this country, the gunboats will be cut off from all

communication with the Mississippi. It cannot be possible that the country would be willing to have eight iron-clads, three or four other gun-boats, and many transports sacrificed without an effort to save them. It would be the worst thing that has happened this war. I beg leave, most respectfully, to call your earnest attention to this matter. I shall remonstrate with all the energy I am capable of against being left here and having to destroy my vessels, and I hope, sir, that you will see, in the position wherein I am placed, strong reasons for holding this country, and reinforcing the army with troops, to do it with a certainty. Two months are left yet in which to expect a rise; but many say it will not come; the wish, perhaps, being father to the thought. It would be hard, indeed, after coöperating with the army, and the navy performing successfully all that was required of it, to be left in a position where we would have to surrender or blow up. I will promise you the latter. I have no hope of getting the Eastport down, though the commander is still very sanguine. If we could get her within forty miles of Alexandria, we could save her; or if it rises there will be no trouble at all. If the enemy bring on their heavy artillery, the people on the steam-pumps will not be able to work at all. With the gun-boats alone and untrammelled, I should not be afraid of any force the rebels could bring to bear upon us, being confident that we could beat them off, if they came in strong force. Whatever may happen, I shall hope for the best, but consider it my duty to anticipate events, and run no risk of losing this squadron. I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

CAPTURE OF THE STEAMERS COVINGTON AND SIGNAL.

REPORT OF ACTING VOLUNTEER LIEUT. G. P. LORD.

UNITED STATES STEAMER CHILLICOTHE, }
ABOVE ALEXANDRIA FALLS, May 8, 1864. }

SIR: It is with feelings of regret that I report the loss of the United States steamer Covington, and most respectfully submit the following report:

I left Alexandria, conveying the steamer Warner, at eight o'clock on the morning of May fourth, 1864. While passing Wilson's plantation, the Warner was fired into by about one hundred infantry, losing one man. I fired my stern guns at them for some time, and passed on. After proceeding about one mile and a half further, Mr. McClosky, a pilot belonging to the General Price, struck the stern of the vessel against a bar, thereby breaking the port-rudder badly and shivering the tiller. I told him hereafter, Mr. Emerson, my other pilot, would manage her. I tied up all night about a mile from the Red House, and commenced repairing my rudder and tiller. At about five o'clock I was joined by the United States steamer Signal. Both of us kept up through the night an irregular fire on the

right-hand shore going down, as they had fired upon us with infantry while we were repairing.

At half-past four o'clock in the morning we all got under way; the Warner in the lead, Covington next, and the Signal last. At Dunn's Bayou (on the right going down) we were fired upon by two pieces of artillery and infantry. The Covington was hit by this battery only three times, and the Warner's rudders were disabled; but she still continued down-stream until she came to a short point in the river, when she went into the bank. She had no sooner struck the bank, when a rebel battery (on the right-hand shore going down) and from four thousand to five thousand infantry opened on her and my vessel. The Covington and Signal immediately commenced firing. Almost every shot either struck the boilers, steam-pipe, or machinery of the Warner, as she was only about one hundred yards from the battery. After we had engaged the battery about three hours, the Warner hoisted a white flag. We still kept up our fire, and I sent a party from my vessel under a severe fire to burn her, but the colonel in charge sent me word that there were nearly one hundred and twenty-five killed and wounded, and requested that I would not burn her, which was granted. A short time after this, I was informed that the Signal was disabled. I immediately rounded to, and went alongside of her, took her in tow and started up-stream, but my rudders became disabled and the Signal got adrift. (It was impossible to pass the Warner, so Mr. Emerson, my pilot, informed me.) Knowing that the Signal would drift down on the Warner, and the rebels could immediately board her, I ordered the commanding officer to anchor her, which was done.

Finding it impossible to handle my vessel, and fearing I should get on the side where artillery and infantry were, I went over on the other bank and made fast, head up-stream. I used my stern guns on the lower battery and my broadside on the infantry abreast of us, and my bow guns on a battery that was ahead of us, which had been brought down from Dunn's Bayou. My escape-pipe was cut while alongside of the Signal, causing a great deal of steam to escape, and making the impression that the boilers had been struck. The men, however, soon rallied, and kept up a brisk fire on the enemy. Most of the soldiers and officers, among whom were Colonel Sharp, of the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth New-York volunteers, Colonel Rainor, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois, (wounded in both legs,) Lieutenant Simpson, Aid-de-Camp to General Banks, and Acting Assistant-Paymaster Chester, went over on the Signal. The Signal getting adrift from us, they were not able to return to my vessel. After I had been tied to the bank an hour or so, my steam-drum was cut, and a shell struck under the boilers, letting out all the water. My ammunition gave out; my howitzers were disabled by the bracket-bolts drawing out, and every shot coming through us, with one officer and a good many of men already killed, I determined to burn my vessel. I spiked the

guns, had coals of fire strewn on the decks, and myself and executive officer set fire to the cotton which was on the guard alongside of the engines. I saw it burning finely before I left, and feel sure she was destroyed. While leaving the vessel to get up on the bank, a terrible fire of infantry was opened on us, and some were killed in going up. I collected my officers and men all together, and found I had with me nine officers and twenty-three men, (my crew was composed of fourteen officers and and sixty-two men,) and started through the woods for Alexandria, at twenty minutes of eleven o'clock. When within ten miles of Alexandria, we were fired upon by rebel cavalry, thereby scattering us. I am glad to say that they have nearly all arrived here safe, with the exception of Acting Third Assistant Engineer Syms, who was wounded in the head while fighting a few guerrillas who had fired into a party of my men, while close to Alexandria. He has since arrived safe. The whole action lasted about five hours, and the Covington was badly riddled from stem to stern, there being no less than five shots in her hull, and some forty or fifty in her upper works. The officers and men behaved with great gallantry, and with the exception of a few this was their first action. Acting Master's Mate C. W. Gross was killed by a shot that came through the shell-room. The officers and men lost all of their personal effects; the only things that were saved being the signal-book and the despatches intrusted to my care, which were returned to you. The arms that were brought with us, I turned over to Acting Master H. Gorringer, of the Cricket, taking a receipt for the same.

In conclusion, I most respectfully beg that a court of inquiry may be called to determine whether the honor of our flag suffered in my hands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE P. LORD,
Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, United States Navy.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
MOUND CITY, June 29, 1864. }

SIR: I inclose a report of the Surgeon of the Signal, who was released unconditionally by the rebels. It only corroborates all the reports I have received of the gallant defence of this vessel, which, I am told, was a most perfect wreck, when she fell into the hands of the enemy, who were much chagrined that so frail a vessel had contended so long against seven guns placed in position to get a cross-fire on her.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF ACTING ASSISTANT-SURGEON N. BREWSTER.

UNITED STATES STEAMER NEW NATIONAL, }
MOUND CITY, June 27, 1864. }

SIR: Agreeably to your request, I have the honor of submitting the following report of the loss of the United States steamer Signal:

Leaving Alexandria on the fourth of May, she proceeded down the river, and anchored at night in company with United States steamer Covington and transport Warner. Starting again at daylight, we had proceeded but a short distance, when the enemy opened on us with a battery of two guns, and from several others as we passed on. Their fire was promptly returned, and continued until nine o'clock, when it ceased for a few minutes, and the opportunity was seized for distributing bread, as breakfast has not been served. The firing soon commenced again, and continued until near noon, when the order was passed for all hands to prepare to abandon and burn the ship, having been totally disabled for more than an hour, the Warner flying a white flag, and the Covington nearly consumed, exploding her magazine soon after. Preparations were made and a part of the men had safely passed up the bank, when the order was countermanded; it being deemed a useless waste of life for more to attempt it, and wholly impossible to remove the wounded, under the fire of the batteries and several hundred sharpshooters, and the white flag was raised.

My station was unfavorable for observation, and my professional duties occupied considerable of my time; but I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the good conduct of those stationed near me, and with whom I came in contact during the action. Acting Volunteer Lieutenant E. Morgan, commanding, appeared to be coolly attending to his duties. Acting Ensign C. P. Bragg, Executive Officer, Ensign W. F. Loan, and Acting Master's Mate R. P. Croft, had charge of the divisions, and, cheering the men by voice and example, held them to their stations, despite the withering fire of the enemy's sharpshooters through the open ports, and were ably seconded by the captains of the guns. To the coolness of the engineers in shutting off the steam and emptying the boilers, when the steam-pipe was cut, the safety of many is owing. The pilot, Perry Wilkes, left his wheel only when he was disabled in his hand by a bursting shell. I would make special mention of Acting Ensigns Bragg and Loan, who went out in full view of several hundred sharpshooters and let go the anchor; and again to ship the cable, this time assisted by John Fighland, (seaman,) who was here disabled by his second wound. Michael McCormic (boatswain's mate) and Timothy O'Donahue, (seaman,) captains of guns, were wounded early in the day, but stood to their guns until ordered away. George Butts, gunner's mate, and Charles Aster, quarter-gunner, were on the sick-list, but did duty during the whole engagement. Several whose names I have forgotten returned to their guns when their wounds had been dressed, and, with few exceptions, all stood to their work, using muskets when their guns could not be brought to bear.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BREWSTER,
Acting Assistant-Surgeon.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER.

UNITED STATES STEAMER NEW NATIONAL, }
June 27, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the condition of the sick and wounded captured by the enemy on the fifth of May, and left in my care in the confederate States hospital at Cheneyville, Louisiana: Chas. Allen, second-class fireman, Signal, sick; Michael Lyons, coal-heaver, Signal, wounded; A. J. Shiver, seaman, Signal, wounded; John Highland, seaman, Signal, wounded; Gabriel Frear, landsman, Signal, wounded; Isaac Highland, seaman, Covington, wounded; Lewis Jones, quartermaster, Signal, wounded.

They were paroled on the sixteenth of June, and delivered to Colonel Dwight, United States army, on the seventeenth, who transferred them to the United States steamer General Bragg. I reported on board the United States steamer Choctaw on the eighteenth, and received orders to remove the wounded to Hospital Pinkney and report to you for duty.

In obedience I took passage on the New National, and took to the hospital all except Lewis Jones, quartermaster of the Signal, whose time has expired, and Isaac Highland, ordinary seaman, Covington, entirely recovered. They are on board that vessel now awaiting orders.

I have submitted, through the fleet surgeon, a detailed report of the casualties on board the Signal.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BREWSTER,

Acting Assistant-Surgeon U. S. Steamer Signal.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

ENGAGEMENT AT GAINES'S LANDING.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
MOUND CITY, June 8, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a report of Acting Ensign H. B. O'Neill, commanding United States steamer Curlew, giving an account of an attack made upon that vessel, on the morning of May twenty-fifth, by a rebel battery of ten or twelve guns, opposite Gaines's Landing. It appears that, although taken somewhat by surprise, all were quickly at their stations, and behaved well during the engagement, which lasted about twenty minutes.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,

Rear-Admiral.

Hon. GIDEON WELLS,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

REPORT OF ACTING ENSIGN H. B. O'NEILL.

UNITED STATES STEAMER CURLEW, May 24, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that at five o'clock this morning, when opposite Gaines's Landing, Arkansas, we were fired into from a battery on shore, consisting of ten, if not of twelve, guns. At least six full volleys were fired at us. One twelve-pound shell struck the casemate of this vessel, lodging upon the ground without exploding. Two six-pound solid shot went through the casemates about midships on

port side, just above the deck, without doing any material injury. Shrapnel flew thick around, two or three small balls penetrating the cabin.

One of their guns evidently was of large calibre, as several shots went far over and beyond the vessel. No one on board was injured, although several of the crew had narrow escapes. Notwithstanding the crew was just turning out of their hammocks, and having been but little accustomed to such attacks, they acted with coolness and promptness during the engagement, which lasted about twenty minutes, working the guns with alacrity—firing twenty-eight rounds with a good degree of precision. Some of the shots from our gun were seen to strike in their midst.

The United States steamer Tyler being about two miles in advance of us, I blew the whistle to notify her that I was engaging a battery. Before she arrived they left the ground.

After consultation with the commander of the Tyler, it was deemed best, the battery having left, to proceed on our way.

Some distance above we met the transport steamer Nicholas Longworth, when we were ordered by Lieutenant Commander James M. Prichett, of the Tyler, in company with the United States steamer Romeo, to return and convoy her below where the battery was, which we did, without meeting any further difficulty. This caused a delay in our arrival at Cairo of at least twelve hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. B. O'NEILL,

Acting Ensign, Commanding.

Rear-Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

PASSAGE OF THE FALLS BY THE FLEET.

REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
MOUTH OF RED RIVER, May 16, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the vessels lately caught by low water above the falls at Alexandria have been released from their unpleasant position. The water had fallen so low that I had no hope or expectation of getting the vessels out this season, and as the army had made arrangements to evacuate the country, I saw nothing before me but the destruction of the best part of the Mississippi squadron.

There seems to have been an especial providence looking out for us in providing a man equal to the emergency. Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, Acting Engineer of the Nineteenth army corps, proposed a plan of building a series of dams across the rocks at the falls, and raising the water high enough to let the vessels pass over. This proposition looked like madness, and the best engineers ridiculed it; but Colonel Bailey was so sanguine of success that I requested General Banks to have it done, and he entered heartily into the work. Provisions were short and forage was almost out, and the dam was promised to be finished in ten days, or the army would have to leave us. I was doubtful about the time, but had no doubt about the ultimate

success, if time would only permit. General Banks placed at the disposal of Colonel Bailey all the force he required, consisting of some three thousand men and two or three hundred wagons. All the neighboring steam-mills were torn down for material, two or three regiments of Maine men were set to work felling trees, and on the second day after my arrival in Alexandria from Grand Ecore the work had fairly begun. Trees were falling with great rapidity; teams were moving in all directions, bringing in brick and stone; quarries were opened; flatboats were built to bring stone down from above; and every man seemed to be working with a vigor I have seldom seen equalled, while perhaps not one in fifty believed in the success of the undertaking.

These falls are about a mile in length, filled with rugged rocks, over which, at the present stage of water, it seemed to be impossible to make a channel.

The work was commenced by running out from the left bank of the river a tree dam, made of the bodies of very large trees, brush, brick, and stone, cross-tied with other heavy timber, and strengthened in every way which ingenuity could devise. This was run out about three hundred feet into the river; four large coal-barges were then filled with brick and sunk at the end of it. From the right bank of the river cribs filled with stone were built out to meet the barges. All of which was successfully accomplished, notwithstanding there was a current running of nine miles an hour, which threatened to sweep every thing before it.

It will take too much time to enter into the details of this truly wonderful work. Suffice it to say, that the dam had nearly reached completion in eight days' working time, and the water had risen sufficiently on the upper falls to allow the Fort Hindman, Osage, and Neosho to get down and be ready to pass the dam. In another day it would have been high enough to enable all the other vessels to pass the upper falls. Unfortunately, on the morning of the ninth instant, the pressure of water became so great that it swept away two of the stone barges, which swung in below the dam on one side. Seeing this unfortunate accident, I jumped on a horse and rode up to where the upper vessels were anchored, and ordered the Lexington to pass the upper falls, if possible, and immediately attempt to go through the dam. I thought I might be able to save the four vessels below, not knowing whether the persons employed on the work would ever have the heart to renew their enterprise.

The Lexington succeeded in getting over the upper falls just in time, the water rapidly falling as she was passing over. She then steered directly for the opening in the dam, through which the water was rushing so furiously that it seemed as if nothing but destruction awaited her. Thousands of beating hearts looked on, anxious for the result. The silence was so great as the Lexington approached the dam that a pin might almost be heard to fall. She entered the gap

with a full head of steam on, pitched down the roaring torrent, made two or three spasmodic rolls, hung for a moment on the rocks below, was then swept into deep water by the current, and rounded to safely into the bank. Thirty thousand voices rose in one deafening cheer, and universal joy seemed to pervade the face of every man present.

The Neosho followed next; all her hatches battened down, and every precaution taken against accident. She did not fare as well as the Lexington, her pilot having become frightened as he approached the abyss and stopped her engine, when I particularly ordered a full head of steam to be carried; the result was that for a moment her hull disappeared from sight under the water. Every one thought she was lost. She rose, however, swept along over the rocks with the current, and fortunately escaped with only one hole in her bottom, which was stopped in the course of an hour.

The Hindman and Osage both came through beautifully without touching a thing, and I thought if I was only fortunate enough to get my large vessels as well over the falls, my fleet once more would do good service on the Mississippi.

The accident to the dam, instead of disheartening Colonel Bailey, only induced him to renew his exertions, after he had seen the success of getting four vessels through.

The noble-hearted soldiers, seeing their labor of the last eight days swept away in a moment, cheerfully went to work to repair damages, being confident now that all the gunboats would be finally brought over. These men had been working for eight days and nights up to their necks in water in the boiling sun, cutting trees and wheeling bricks, and nothing but good humor prevailed among them. On the whole, it was very fortunate that the dam was carried away, as the two barges that were swept away from the centre swung around against some rocks on the left, and made a fine cushion for the vessels, and prevented them, as it afterward appeared, from running on certain destruction.

The force of the water and the current being too great to construct a continuous dam of six hundred feet across the river in so short a time, Colonel Bailey determined to leave a gap of fifty-five feet in the dam, and build a series of wing dams on the upper falls. This was accomplished in three days' time, and on the eleventh instant the Mound City, Carondelet, and Pittsburgh came over the upper falls, a good deal of labor having been expended in hauling them through, the channel being very crooked, and scarcely wide enough for them. Next day the Ozark, Louisville, Chillicothe, and two tugs also succeeded in crossing the upper falls. Immediately afterward the Mound City, Carondelet, and Pittsburgh started in succession to pass the dam, all their hatches battened down, and every precaution taken to prevent accident. The passage of these vessels was a most beautiful sight, only to be realized when seen. They passed over without an acci-

dent, except the unshipping of one or two rudders. This was witnessed by all the troops, and the vessels were heartily cheered when they passed over. Next morning, at ten o'clock, the Louisville, Chillicothe, Ozark, and two tugs passed over without any accident, except the loss of a man, who was swept off the deck of one of the tugs. By three o'clock that afternoon the vessels were all coaled, ammunition replaced, and all steamed down the river, with the convoy of transports in company. A good deal of difficulty was anticipated in getting over the bars in lower Red River; depth of water reported only five feet; gunboats were drawing six. Providentially, we had a rise from the back-water of the Mississippi, that river being very high at that time; the back-water extending to Alexandria, one hundred and fifty miles distant, enabling us to pass all the bars and obstructions with safety.

Words are inadequate to express the admiration I feel for the abilities of Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey. This is, without doubt, the best engineering feat ever performed. Under the best circumstances, a private company would not have completed this work under one year, and to an ordinary mind the whole thing would have appeared an utter impossibility. Leaving out his abilities as an engineer, the credit he has conferred upon the country, he has saved to the Union a valuable fleet, worth nearly two million dollars. More, he has deprived the enemy of a triumph which would have emboldened them to carry on this war a year or two longer; for the intended departure of the army was a fixed fact, and there was nothing left for me to do, in case that event occurred, but to destroy every part of the vessels, so that the rebels could make nothing of them. The highest honors the Government can bestow on Colonel Bailey can never repay him for the service he has rendered the country.

To General Banks, personally, I am much indebted for the happy manner in which he has forwarded this enterprise, giving it his whole attention, night and day, scarcely sleeping while the work was going on; tending personally to see that all the requirements of Colonel Bailey were complied with on the instant.

I do not believe there ever was a case where such difficulties were overcome in such a short space of time, and without any preparation.

I beg leave to mention the names of some of the persons engaged on this work, as I think that credit should be given to every man employed on it. I am unable to give the names of all, but sincerely trust that General Banks will do full justice to every officer engaged in this undertaking, when he makes his report. I only regret that time did not enable me to get the names of all concerned. The following are the names of the most prominent persons:

Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, Acting Military Engineer, Nineteenth army corps, in charge of the work.

Lieutenant-Colonel Pearcall, Assistant.

Colonel Dwight, Acting Assistant Inspector-General.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Kinsey, One Hundred and Sixty-first New-York volunteers.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hubbard, Thirtieth Maine volunteers.

Major Sawtelle, Provost-Marshall, and Lieutenant Williamson, Ordnance Officer.

The following were a portion of the regiments employed: Twenty-ninth Maine, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Emmerson; One Hundred and Sixteenth New-York, commanded by Colonel George M. Love; One Hundred and Sixty-first New-York, commanded by Captain Prentiss; One Hundred and Thirty-third New-York, commanded by Colonel Currie.

The engineer regiment and officers of the Thirtieth army corps were also employed.

I feel that I have done but feeble justice to the work or the persons engaged in it. Being severely indisposed, I feel myself unable to go into further details. I trust some future historian will treat this matter as it deserves to be treated, because it is a subject in which the whole country should feel an interest, and the noble men who succeeded so admirably in this arduous task, should not lose one atom of credit so justly due them.

The Mississippi squadron will never forget the obligations it is under to Lieutenant-Colonel Bailey, acting Military Engineer of the Nineteenth army corps.

Previous to passing the vessels over the falls, I had nearly all the guns, ammunition, provisions, chain-cables, anchors, and every thing that could affect their draught, taken out of them.

The commanders were indefatigable in their exertion to accomplish the object before them, and a happier set of men were never seen than when their vessels were once more in fighting trim.

If this expedition has not been so successful as the country hoped for, it has exhibited the indomitable spirit of Eastern and Western men to overcome obstacles deemed by most people insurmountable. It has presented a new feature in the war, nothing like which has ever been accomplished before.

I regret to inform you, among the misfortunes of this expedition, of the loss of two small light-draught gunboats—the Signal and Covington. I sent them down from Alexandria to convoy a quartermaster's boat, the Warner, loaded with cotton and some four hundred troops on board, not knowing that the enemy had any artillery on the river below us, or any thing more than wandering gangs of guerrillas, armed with muskets, which these vessels were competent to drive off. It appears, however, that the rebels were enabled to pass our advance force at night with six thousand men and some twenty-five pieces of artillery. With these they established a series of batteries at a place called Dunn's Bayou, thirty miles below Alexandria—a very commanding position. These batteries were so masked that they could not be seen in passing, even by the closest observation.

The first notice the vessels received of the bat-

tery was a furious fire which opened on the quartermaster's boat, the Warner, piercing her boilers, and completely disabling her. At the same time six thousand infantry opened with musketry, killing and wounding half the soldiers on this vessel. She drifted in to the opposite bank, where a number managed to make their escape in the bushes, though many were killed in attempting to do so.

The Signal and Covington immediately rounded to and opened their guns on the batteries, and pushed up, endeavoring to rescue the Warner from her perilous position. They had, however, as much as they could do to take care of themselves, the cross-fire of the three batteries cutting them up in a terrible manner. Their steam-pipes were soon cut, and their boilers perforated with shot, notwithstanding which they fought the batteries for five long hours, the vessels being cut all to pieces, and many killed and wounded on board.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant George P. Lord, commanding the Covington, having expended all his shot, spiked his guns, set fire to his vessel, and escaped with what was left of his crew to the shore, and his vessel blew up.

The Signal, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Edward Morgan, still fought her guns for half an hour after the destruction of the Covington. He found it impossible to destroy his vessel by burning, her decks being covered with wounded, and humanity forbade him sacrificing the lives of the noble fellows who had defended their vessel so gallantly. He gave permission to all those who wished to escape to do so. Some of them attempted to get off by climbing up the bank. Many were killed while doing so, by the murderous fire of musketry poured in from the opposite side. The captain remained by the vessel, and was captured, if he remained alive; but I have no information regarding him. The rebels took the guns off of her, and placed her across the channel as an obstruction—sunk her.

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I feel very much for the poor fellows who fell into the rebels' hands, as the latter have been very merciless to some of the prisoners they have taken, and committed outrages at which humanity shudders.

The vessels will all return to their stations in a few days, as there is no prospect, under present circumstances, of renewing operations in this part of Louisiana, the season having passed for operating with any chance of success.

I am sorry to see that the rebel guerrillas have become quite troublesome on the Mississippi since I left, all of which will be rectified within the coming week.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HON. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF REAR-ADMIRAL D. D. PORTER.

FLAG-SHIP BLACK HAWK, MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON,
OFF MOUTH OF RED RIVER, LA., May 19, 1864. }

SIR: In my report in relation to the release of the gunboats from their unpleasant position above the falls, I did not think it prudent to mention that I was obliged to destroy eleven thirty-two pounders—not having time to haul them from above the fall to Alexandria, the army having moved and drawn in all their pickets. The best guns were hauled first. The thirty-two pounders were old guns, and would have been condemned on the first opportunity. For the same reason I also omitted to mention that I was obliged to take off the iron from the sides of the Pook gunboats, and from the Ozark, to enable them to get over. Not being able to haul this iron around the falls to Alexandria, from want of wagons, I ordered the gunboats to run up the river at night to a point where they could find from five to six fathoms of water, where the iron was thrown overboard, and where, in a few moments, it would sink many feet under the quicksands, thus leaving no possible chance for the rebels to recover it.

The Pook vessels run so much better without this iron than they ever did before, and it never having been of any use to them, I propose leaving it off altogether. Their forward casemates are still heavily protected with iron, and as they always fight bow on, it is all they should carry. Besides, they are getting old, and having done a great deal of service without any repairs, they cannot bear the weight. They now run from two to two and a half knots faster than before.

The Ozark is a miserable vessel. Her turret has ceased to work altogether, and is about twice as high and heavy as it should be. I really do not know what can be done with her, unless it is to take the turret off, and, with some additional strengthening, put casemates about her. This, when done, will enable her to lie at some of the points on the river where a formidable vessel is required.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT, May 31, 1864.

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It is with no ordinary feelings of pleasure that the department learns of the safe passage of that valuable squadron, threatened as it was with inevitable capture or destruction, and congratulates you and your command that the fleet which had borne such a conspicuous part in many of the great events of the war has been spared to the country for future usefulness and renown.

You will tender the thanks of the department to the officers and men of the army for the cheerful aid given you in this great emergency, without which the squadron would unavoidably have fallen into the hands of the rebels or been destroyed. While regretting the loss of the steamers Signal and Covington, and lamenting for the brave men who fell in the engagement with the enemy, the department takes great pleasure in expressing its admiration of the gallant manner in which those vessels were defended, and has reason to believe that the officers and men did their whole duty nobly and faithfully.

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OPERATIONS OF THE ARMY.

CAPTURE OF NATCHITOCHES, LA.

IN THE FIELD, NEAR NATCHITOCHES, LA., April 2, 1864.

The army under General Banks having arrived from various points at Alexandria, on Monday morning, March twenty-eighth, General Lee, at the head of his cavalry division, dashed out in the direction of Natchitoches, where it was supposed the enemy would be found in some force. Early on the following morning he reached Cane River, and immediately commenced the erection of a bridge. Owing to the width of the stream, the inclemency of the weather, and other drawbacks, it was not completed until late at night, when the General crossed over and moved to within a short distance of Natchitoches, twenty-five miles distant. On Thursday morning he advanced to the town, and was met by the enemy, whom he completely routed after a brisk but short skirmish. The rebels lost six or eight killed and wounded and twenty-five prisoners. Union loss none.

General Dick Taylor commanded the rebels. His force was supposed to number one thousand men at least.

All day Friday General Lee waited for the infantry and artillery to come up, and this morning, learning that the rebels were falling back toward Pleasant Hill, he started in pursuit with the First brigade, Colonel Lucas; Third brigade, Colonel Robinson; Fourth brigade, Colonel Dudley. The Fourteenth New-York cavalry had the advance, under command of Major Bassford. After marching a distance of fifteen miles, Major Bassford came suddenly upon the enemy, posted in a strong position. They opened upon him with artillery, when the gallant Major immediately ordered a charge, and the willing boys obeyed with a cheer. At them they went, their

bright sabres gleaming in the sunshine, and the rebels falling back rapidly. Major Bassford pursued them seven miles, killing and wounding some, and taking many prisoners. Fearful of being cut off from the main body, the Major withdrew from the pursuit, but fought them gallantly until the arrival of Colonel Lucas. The Colonel was not long in coming up, and immediately formed his whole brigade in line. He moved forward a short distance, and was met with what promised to be a determined resistance, but they could not withstand the fury of his onslaught, and were compelled to give way, after a very severe fight of about one hour.

The hottest of the fight took place at Crump's Hill, where the roads leading from Pleasant Hill and Fort Jessup come together on the Shreveport road, and about twelve miles distant from both the first-named places. Captain Rawle's battery of the Fifth United States artillery took a very active and creditable part in the fight.

Colonel Dudley came up with his brigade in time to give the rebels a few parting shots.

Colonel Robinson's brigade was in the rear, but is now on the ground, ready to take part in the action to-morrow, if the rebels see proper to accept the offer of battle; and they may be compelled to fight, whether they like it or not.

The fight took place in a densely wooded and uneven country, known as the Piny Woods, and both cavalry and artillery found it difficult to operate.

The force opposed to us was composed of the First and Second Louisiana; Fifth, Seventh, and Bray's Texas cavalry; Moreton's brigade; and one battery of artillery, numbering in all about three thousand men. Walker's division was camped here last night, but moved on to Pleasant Hill this morning. The rebels have now all fallen back toward Pleasant Hill, where it is thought they will make a stand.

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Our loss was one private of the Fourteenth New-York cavalry, one private of the Second Louisiana cavalry, two privates of the Second Illinois cavalry, and one private of the Sixteenth Indiana mounted infantry.

Many rebels were killed and wounded, and about sixty taken prisoners.

Our cavalry lost about thirty horses killed and wounded.

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tery was a furious fire which opened on the quartermaster's boat, the Warner, piercing her boilers, and completely disabling her. At the same time six thousand infantry opened with musketry, killing and wounding half the soldiers on this vessel. She drifted in to the opposite bank, where a number managed to make their escape in the bushes, though many were killed in attempting to do so.

The Signal and Covington immediately rounded to and opened their guns on the batteries, and pushed up, endeavoring to rescue the Warner from her perilous position. They had, however, as much as they could do to take care of themselves, the cross-fire of the three batteries cutting them up in a terrible manner. Their steam-pipes were soon cut, and their boilers perforated with shot, notwithstanding which they fought the batteries for five long hours, the vessels being cut all to pieces, and many killed and wounded on board.

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stragglers as he could find, and at the same time to ascertain, while out, the whereabouts of the enemy.

He had proceeded not more than a mile and a half from Pleasant Hill when he came upon a large body of rebel cavalry, who were within close support of solid phalanxes of infantry, the bayonets of which gleamed through the dense woods wherever the sun's rays penetrated. According to his instructions, Colonel Gooding commenced falling back slowly and in good order, at the same time continuing to reply to the fire of the enemy. While thus retreating, Colonel Gooding lost some thirty men, killed, wounded, and missing, and it was at this period that Captain Basset and Lieutenant Hall, of the Second New-York veteran cavalry were severely wounded, Lieutenant Hall surviving his injuries but a short time. Colonel Gooding had a very narrow escape from instant death, a Minié ball cutting the crown of his felt hat in two places.

We had barely finished our frugal meal at four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, when the previous quietude was suddenly disturbed by the roar of the enemy's artillery and quite rapid musketry firing on our left. During the forenoon, General Banks had evidently decided upon a retreat, as a large body of troops were ordered to fall back to Grand Ecore, thirty-five miles distant. Among the troops sent back were Colonel Dudley's and Colonel Gooding's cavalry brigades, the remnant of the once formidable Thirteenth army corps, several batteries, and nearly, if not all, of the colored troops, as I could not learn of any of the latter participating in Saturday's fight.

Hundreds of wagons were likewise sent to the rear. In fact, preparations were made to fall back to Grand Ecore on Saturday night. The reason for this retrograde movement was the lack of subsistence for our troops, and forage for our horses. The report of our anticipated retreat was received with expressions of dismay and disgust by the officers of the Sixteenth army corps, all expressing a desire to press on toward Mansfield, some fourteen miles distant, the point where Friday's disgrace occurred. From Mansfield, it was General A. J. Smith's intention to push a sufficient force toward Red River, eighteen or twenty miles, where a junction could have been formed with the balance of his forces, some two thousand men, belonging to the Seventeenth army corps, and under the immediate command of Brigadier-General Kirby Smith.

Here our transports were ordered to rendezvous until further instructions were received. Our commissary and ammunition boats were to be met at this point, and after establishing communication, it would have been an easy matter to supply our men with rations for ten days or more, enabling them to pursue the enemy, who, we learned from undoubted authority, were in want of water, which could not be found within fourteen miles of the battle-field. Our forces controlled all the water within a circle of ten or twelve miles, and the rebels suffered severely for

want of water. This fact is corroborated by the prisoners whom we captured on Saturday.

The weather on Saturday was most unpropitious for a fair fight. The morning air was intensely cold, and a more cheerless, disheartened sea of bronzed countenances I never beheld. Each private seemed to comprehend the vast magnitude of our needless disaster. There was a gloomy silence apparently pervading every camp, and we could hear no gladsome shouts of victory ring throughout the decimated ranks. It is useless to deny that the universal opinion of the rank and file was that our repulse was an ignominious defeat, which ordinary generalship might have foreseen and prevented.

The wind howled piteously through the trees, fanning the long pendants of gray, funereal-like moss which decked the tops of the tall, waving cypress and pines. The sky was shrouded with portentous clouds, while dense volumes of dust partially concealed the long pontoon-trains as they rumbled heavily to the rear. At half-past four o'clock precisely, the rebel cavalry advanced toward the right and centre, the exultant foe yelling in the most fiendish manner, at the same time brandishing their sabres in the air.

On they came, at a slow trot, in good order, as they neared our lines gradually quickening their pace, while close in their rear came the three solid battle-lines of the enemy, shouting an indescribable battle-cry, which would cause the nerves of the timid to vibrate, reminding one of all the ferocity of savages. From out the woods belched the enemy's artillery, when there arose from the crouching forms of several thousand loyal men a fearful roll of musketry, opening wide gaps in the rebel lines; but they were as speedily closed, and the enraged foe, with a sudden dash, threw his gigantic force against our front, and for a moment our whole line seemed to waver, giving way a few yards.

The suspense of this fearful moment was terrible to bear, for it did seem to portend defeat. In another moment our artillery scattered grape and canister in appalling quantities upon the exasperated enemy, literally mowing them down as with an enormous scythe. With deafening cheers, and waving of starry banners, our lines pressed on the rear lines, going into the latter conflict at the "double-quick." It was now five o'clock, and the battle was at its highest, raging with unabated fury, the long and deadly roll of musketry continuing until night, spreading her sable mantle over the bloody picture, screened the combatants from each other's view, and put an end to that day's hostilities.

There was something more than solemn grandeur in the scene at Pleasant Hill at sunset on Saturday, April ninth. Standing on a slight eminence which overlooked the left and centre of our lines, I could see the terrific struggle between our well-disciplined troops and the enemy. The sun shone directly in the faces of our men, while the wind blew back the smoke of both the enemy's fire and that of our own gallant men, into our

ranks, rendering it almost impossible, at times, to distinguish the enemy in the dense clouds of smoke. All of a sudden our whole front seemed to gather renewed strength, and they swept the rebels before them like chaff, following them up closely.

The enemy made another desperate stand, when Colonel Shaw, commanding the Third brigade, First division, Sixteenth corps, gave the order to charge bayonets, and the crisis was soon over, the rebels being unable to stand the pressure of "Yankee" steel. In the very thickest of the fight, on our left and centre, rode the patriarchal-looking warrior, Colonel Andrew Jackson Smith, whose troops received an increased inspiration of heroism by his presence. Wherever he rode, cheer after cheer greeted him, for there is an irresistible attraction around this officer, who has exhibited the real Jacksonian energy. Not less conspicuous were Major-General Banks and staff, General Joseph A. Mower, of the First division, Sixteenth army corps, General Franklin and staff, and General Emory and staff.

As the dusk of evening became more and more intense, and the last glimmering streaks of day were rapidly fading away, the enemy struggled merely for the possession of the battle-field, and a tremendous roar of musketry burst forth from their staggering lines, which was responded to by two or three terrific volleys from our side, and then came that dead, quiet calm, broken only by the moaning of our men's voices and the groans of the dying. The enemy retreated rapidly that night, General A. J. Mower, of the Sixteenth army corps, having pushed out some four miles from Pleasant Hill, without being able to overtake the enemy.

Where so much gallantry was displayed, it would be invidious for me to particularize; but the conduct of Colonel W. T. Shaw, Second brigade, Third division, Sixteenth army corps; Colonel Benedict, Nineteenth army corps, who fell mortally wounded at the head of his noble brigade while cheering them on to the fight; Lieutenant-Colonel James Newbold, of the Fourteenth Iowa, Sixteenth army corps; Colonel Mix, of the — New-York cavalry, Nineteenth army corps, both of whom sacrificed their lives in defence of their country's honor; Colonel Lynch, Second brigade, Sixteenth army corps; Colonel Moore, First brigade, First division, Sixteenth army corps; Colonel Hill, — brigade, First division, Sixteenth army corps, all deserve the highest praise. In fact, though the results were very unfavorable to our cause, yet in the battle of Pleasant Hill we can rest assured the stain of cowardice cannot blot the record of that bloody battle.

All of the troops seemed inspired with a degree of courage which nothing but the total annihilation of our men could subdue or extinguish. It is impossible to state who was in chief command on Saturday, Generals Banks and Franklin being both upon the field; but had it not been for the masterly manner in which General A. J. Smith

deployed and personally led his troops, aided by the gallant Mower, who has reaped many substantial victories, we should have to record the extinction of the Nineteenth army corps and the Department of the Gulf.

This battle of Pleasant Hill is probably the first time on record where the rebels have manifested any desire to meet our soldiers in an open-field fight, and particularly where they have been the attacking party. This rebel phenomenon is easily explained. After the easy victory of Friday, Kirby Smith supposed it would not be a very difficult matter to completely exterminate the balance of the little army, against whose front he hurled his overwhelmingly superior numbers. Deluded with this belief, he at once sent to Shreveport for the balance of his forces, principally Missouri and Arkansas troops, fresh from their camps.

Upon their arrival at our front, Kirby Smith and Dick Taylor both harangued the new levies, exhorting them to strike together a steady blow, and the "Yankees" would surely be driven from the soil of Louisiana. They boasted with great bombast upon the capture of eighteen pieces of artillery from us, and nearly two hundred army wagons filled with Government stores, including considerable whiskey, which also fell into their hands. Pointing with exultation to the spoils and trophies which his men had secured, he filled the fresh troops with a degree of hopeful buoyancy, which afterward proved fatal; for while flushed with success, they were entirely ignorant of the arrival of General A. J. Smith's fresh troops; and this explains the recklessness and apparent indifference with which they assailed us, fling in their men to the very jaws of death.

This information I derived from wounded prisoners, nearly all of whom corroborate the statement. They deny that General Pop Price was there, although letters have been found by our troops which would seem to indicate that he was on the field during the battle.

General Banks, while encouraging his troops in the midst of a galling fire, had his coat pierced with a bullet. General Franklin manoeuvred his troops with great skill, and while leading his men on Friday, he had two fine horses shot from under him, while a Minié ball grazed his boot.

The First division of the Nineteenth army corps did nobly on Friday, coming up to the rescue of the remnant of the shattered Thirteenth army corps, with deafening cheers. An officer on General Ransom's staff was riding rapidly in front of our lines with an important order, when a solid shot struck his horse's head, severing it from his body in much less time than it takes to tell it. Battery L, Fifth regulars, was captured by the rebels, and retaken a few minutes after by our men.

Colonel Lynch performed a gallant little exploit, which came near costing him his life. Gathering up a small squad of men after the battle was nearly over, he pushed on two miles from our lines, and captured three caissons filled

with ammunition. While attempting to jump his horse over a deep ditch, a bullet whistled past his ear, and turning to see whence it proceeded, he saw a wounded rebel just preparing to fire again from the ditch where he lay stretched in a pool of blood. Before the relentless rebel had time to accomplish his base purpose, the Colonel drew his revolver, and that insatiate rebel passed to the dominions of Jeff Davis & Co. very rapidly.

Colonel W. T. Shaw, commanding the Second brigade, Third division, Sixteenth army corps, deserves great credit for the able manner in which he suppresses rebel cavalry charges. Colonel Sweitzer, of the — Texas cavalry, undertook to break Colonel Shaw's lines by a charge. Orders were given to "reserve your fire, boys, until he gets within thirty yards, and then give it to him." As the cavalry dashed on at a gallop, each infantryman had selected his victim, and waiting till the three or four hundred were within about forty yards, the Fourteenth Iowa emptied nearly every saddle as quickly as though the order had been given to dismount.

Out of this rebel cavalry regiment not more than ten men escaped, and the whole movement was done with that terrible death alacrity which the science of war teaches, and the awful reality of which the eye alone can describe to the soul. One of the wretches was badly wounded, and falling from his horse, his feet caught in the stirrup, frightening the horse, which dashed off at a fearful speed, dragging the unfortunate rebel after him until his head was entirely severed from his body, his brains being dashed upon the ground.

On Sunday morning, at daybreak, I took occasion to visit the scene of Saturday's bloody conflict, and a more ghastly spectacle I have not witnessed. Over the field and upon the Shreveport road were scattered dead horses, broken muskets, and cartridge-boxes stained with blood, while all around, as far as the eye could reach, were mingled the inanimate forms of patriot and traitor, side by side. Here were a great many rebels badly wounded, unable to move, dying for want of water, and not a drop within two miles, and no one to get it for them.

Their groans and piteous appeals for "Water! water! water!" were heart-rending, and sent a shudder to the most stony heart. Such horrid expressions as dwelt upon each deathlike countenance can neither be described nor imagined. Here was a brave loyal sergeant, his trusty rifle grasped in his hand, while each eyeball glared from its glazed socket with fierce excitement. The dead were everywhere, and in every possible position which could render the scene more appalling.

I saw one sweet face, that of a young patriot, and upon his icy features there lingered a heavenly smile, speaking of calmness and resignation. The youth was probably not more than nineteen, with a full blue eye beaming, even in death, with meekness. The morning wind lifted his auburn locks from off his marble face, ex-

posing to view a noble forehead, which was bathed with the heavy dew of Saturday night. I dismounted for a moment, hoping to be able to find some trace of the hero's name, but the chivalry had stripped his body of every article of value. The fatal ball had pierced his heart.

Not twenty feet from this dreary picture lay prostrate the mutilated body of an old man, apparently forty-five years of age. His cap lay by the side of his head in a pool of blood, while his long flowing gray beard was dyed with his blood. A shell had fearfully lacerated his right leg, while his belt was pierced in two places, both balls entering the abdominal region. In front of the long belt of woods which skirted the open field, and from which the rebels emerged so boldly, was a deep ditch, and at this point the slaughter among the rebels was terrific. In many places the enemy's dead were piled up in groups, intermixed with our dead. I saw two or three of our men whose bodies had been brutally violated by the exasperated foe, too horrible for mention.

It is universally supposed, and I am not prepared to deny its correctness, that we inflicted a heavier loss of life upon the enemy on Saturday. Admitting that the undiminished valor of our troops forced the enemy to retreat, leaving us in full possession of the battle-field, did we carefully bury our dead, and gather up the thousands of rifles that were thrown upon the field? No; we stole off stealthily before daylight Sunday morning, General A. J. Smith's forces covering our retreat, with five hundred cavalry as a rearguard, under the command of Colonel Lucas. The entire army reached Grand Ecore, on Red River, on Monday and Tuesday, April eleventh and twelfth.

Our loss will probably not exceed three thousand five hundred in killed, wounded, and missing, although some officers assert it will reach four thousand. I append herewith a partial list of casualties as collected by your correspondents with the Red River expedition. Quite a number of our wounded were left in houses at Pleasant Hill, in charge of two of our surgeons.

BRIGADE REPORT OF COLONEL LYNCH.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, GRAND ECORE, LA.,
April 13, 1864.

Captain J. B. Sample, A. A. G. First and Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following relative to the part taken by my brigade in the battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on the ninth day of April, 1864.

In accordance with orders received, we marched from Grand Ecore, La., on the morning of the seventh. After proceeding some fifteen miles on the Shreveport road, we went into camp for the night. On the morning of the eighth we were detained somewhat in waiting for the Second and Third brigades to pass. We started at eight o'clock A.M., and arrived near Pleasant Hill at dark, having marched twenty-one miles that day. During the afternoon heavy cannonading was

heard in our front, denoting an engagement between our advance (the Thirteenth and Nineteenth corps) and the enemy. At two o'clock A.M., of the ninth, we were in line of battle awaiting the approach of the enemy, who had defeated the Thirteenth and Nineteenth corps. We remained on our arms until ten A.M., when we moved forward about one mile, and formed in the following order in the east centre of the field, namely, the Eighty-ninth Indiana infantry in front, the Ninth Indiana battery in its rear, and the Fifty-eighth and One Hundred and Nineteenth Illinois infantry in rear of the battery. We remained in this position till twelve M., when the Fifty-eighth and One Hundred and Nineteenth Illinois infantry were moved by the left flank to a point about three hundred yards to the left, and formed on a ridge in the woods facing outward. From this point the Fifty-eighth Illinois was moved about half a mile to the front and left of the original position. Here this regiment was halted, and a breastwork of fallen timber thrown up, behind which the men took shelter. After these arrangements were made, skirmishers were thrown out from this regiment and the One Hundred and Nineteenth Illinois. The Eighty-ninth Indiana was then moved a short distance to the left to support the Third Indiana battery on the right, and the First Vermont battery on the left. The Ninth Indiana battery was placed in position on the right of the Third Indiana battery and about two hundred yards therefrom, there being a New-York regiment between. In this position we remained till four P.M., when musketry in our front admonished us that the fight had begun. Soon the enemy advanced from the woods, driving before them a brigade of Eastern troops which had occupied a position in the ravine or ditch on the opposite side of the field. Pursuing this brigade, and flushed with victory, the rebels continued to advance with yells, that carried terror to many a stout heart. Still pressing on, they drove our troops back, and even had possession of one of our batteries, (battery L, First United States artillery,) when, on a sudden, the Fifty-eighth Illinois infantry, which had been advanced to the left and front, appeared in the edge of the woods, on the enemy's right flank. The order was given to charge, and with unearthly yells and lightning-like rapidity they were on the enemy. Fierce was the struggle, and nobly did the brave Fifty-eighth do their work, driving the before victorious enemy before them. They halted not until they drove the rebels into the ditch in front. Here we captured about four hundred prisoners, whom I sent to the rear in charge of an officer, with instructions to report them to Brigadier-General Mower, but who delivered them to a staff-officer belonging. I have since understood, to the Nineteenth army corps. The Fifty-eighth Illinois claim to have captured more prisoners than they have men in the regiment. Certain it is that their furious attack completely turned the flank of the enemy, and decided in a great measure the fate of the day. At this point the battle was

most fierce; first success seemed to favor one, and then the other. Twice were our boys driven back between the guns of the abandoned battery L, First United States artillery, and as often did they rally and repulse the enemy. At last the enemy were driven into the woods in confusion, and three pieces of artillery captured by the Fifty-eighth Illinois. During the fight a portion of the Fifty-eighth was aided by other troops of our corps and army. At the time of the driving back of the Eastern brigade, the Eighty-ninth Indiana was advanced, delivering volley after volley. They continued to move forward, inclining toward the right. Reaching the woods, they drove the rebels in confusion before them into the very depths thereof. In the advance of the Eighty-ninth regiment, they drove away a rebel brigade which had driven in disorder through the Ninth Indiana battery an entire Maine regiment and portion of a New-York regiment. The Eighty-ninth certainly saved the Ninth battery from capture. During the fight here many prisoners were captured by this regiment, among them several officers. The conduct of the officers and men of the Eighty-ninth was most gallant; nobly did they stand up to their work. At the time of the attack by the Fifty-eighth Illinois on the enemy's flank, the One Hundred and Nineteenth Illinois changed front obliquely to the rear, and advanced on the enemy, keeping the left of the field. They drove before them a Texas regiment, the colors of which they captured. This regiment, although less exposed than either the Eighty-ninth Indiana or Fifty-eighth Illinois, still did the work assigned to them with the greatest promptitude and courage. After driving the enemy far into the woods, the Eighty-ninth Indiana was withdrawn to the edge of the field, and formed into a new line, where it remained until it was joined by the other regiments of the brigade, at about half-past six P.M. The Fifty-eighth Illinois, after entering the woods, became separated, a portion following the colors and the remainder accompanying myself. After coming into the woods, I found the men in the greatest confusion; but knowing that our situation was most precarious, I ordered all to push forward. With a rush, the men obeyed, the color-bearers to the front. Closely we pressed the rebels, driving them to the left through the woods, and up the road for a distance of over three miles. Never did a man flinch, though the enemy outnumbered us six to one—the number of colors with us probably deceiving them as to our real strength. In the pursuit, so close were we to the rebels that our men seized them by the collars, bayoneting some and capturing others while in the very act of firing their pieces. Six caissons and a large number of very fine horses were taken by us during this charge. Having pursued the enemy three miles, I found him forming beyond an open field in considerable force. Hastily forming my broken column, I found myself opposed to about three thousand rebels, while my force did not exceed as many hundred. I directed the men to open fire, which

was done at once, causing the rebels to break in confusion. Being so far from any support, I found it necessary to rejoin our main force, and at once ordered a return, in which we were unmolested. I can only account for the unprecedented success of my little corps by the complete defeat of the rebels sustained on the open field, and in the woods near the field. It being quite dark, and being burdened with our wounded, which we brought with us, I was compelled to leave the caissons, though I at the time supposed we were to bring them off in the morning.

Having moved back to the open field, we joined the other regiments of the brigade, and after obtaining a supply of ammunition, moved out with the brigade about a mile upon the road over which we had driven the rebels, there formed line of battle, and remained during the night. At this time the Fifty-eighth Illinois regiment was detached, and moved to their original position behind their fortifications, upon the left of the open field.

The Ninth Indiana battery at the beginning of the engagement, although in the finest position on the field, was completely masked by battery L, First United States artillery, consequently could not be used till late in the engagement, at which time it made some very fine shots, dismounting one of the enemy's guns, and totally silencing the remaining guns of the battery.

The officers and men of the First brigade have fully indicated their great superiority over the rebel hosts to which they were opposed in the battle of Pleasant Hill. Feeling satisfied that if my brigade had been together, greater would have been the results, I still feel a pride in knowing that to the First brigade, Third division, Sixteenth army corps, belongs the credit of giving the enemy the first check, of turning his flank, of driving him further, and of holding longer the grounds captured, than any troops on the field.

Captain George R. Brown, of the Ninth Indiana battery, has proved himself a capable, cool, and gallant officer. Captain John Tobin, company K, Fifty-eighth Illinois, fell, shot through the heart, while gallantly leading his men in the charge. Captain F. S. Zeek, company C, Eighty-ninth Indiana, fell severely wounded in both feet, while bravely leading his men across the field. In this connection, I would respectfully state that quite a number of the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth New-York, with their colors, were with me on the three-mile charge through the woods, and acquitted themselves with honor. Again thanking the brave officers and men whom I have the honor to command, I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. F. LYNCH,
Colonel Commanding.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL, BALDWIN'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTY-THIRD REGIMENT O. V. I., }
GRAND ECORE, LA., April 13, 1864.

*Captain Oscar Mohr, A. A. General, Detachment
Thirteenth A. C. :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to submit the fol-

lowing report of the Eighty-third regiment O. V. I., under my command, from the time it left Natchitoches until the close of the battle of Sabine Cross-Roads :

My regiment, together with the balance of the Fourth division, by order of Colonel W. J. Landrum, commanding, left Natchitoches at half-past six o'clock A.M., on Wednesday, the sixth instant, marched some fifteen miles on the Pleasant Hills road, and encamped for the night.

On the morning of the seventh, the division moved soon after six o'clock, and reached Pleasant Hills at half-past one o'clock, a march of nineteen miles, but by reason of a heavy rain the teams did not arrive until seven o'clock in the evening.

Friday, eighth instant, the division was ordered to march at half-past five o'clock, but my regiment was detailed as a guard for the ammunition train, and did not leave till more than an hour later. At noon the rear of the train had not advanced more than six or seven miles, on account of the heavy skirmishing in front, when Captain Dickey, Assistant Adjutant-General, brought an order from General Ransom for me to assemble my regiment, which was disposed as guard through the train, and move to the front as fast as possible to support my division. I immediately started with the rear-guard, assembled the regiment as I passed the train, and moved as rapidly as possible past troops and through the train, which was also moving forward to the front, a distance of eight or ten miles, and then moved to the right of the road diagonally toward the woods, and formed in line of battle at a point designated by Major Lieber of General Banks's staff. General Ransom then ordered bayonets to be fixed, and conducted the regiment forward into the woods to support a battery, and ordered a company thrown out to protect our right flank. Soon after, by order of Colonel Vance, an officer and twenty-five men were advanced as skirmishers.

It was about three o'clock when an order was received from General Ransom to pile up the knapsacks, advance through the woods and take a position at the edge of the field on the right of the Ninety-sixth Ohio, which was already in position. The enemy was advancing through the field in line of battle, and the regiment opened fire the moment it had gained the position designated, which was on the right of the line of battle. The enemy outflanked our line, and was closing in upon the right, when Captain — delivered to me an order from General Ransom to move the regiment by the left flank from its position on the right to the support of the centre, which was heavily pressed. I explained to him that we were outflanked upon the right, and that it was necessary for me to change the front of my regiment diagonally to the line of battle, and to hold my position to protect the right flank. But he assured me that the last order was peremptory, and must be obeyed. I therefore immediately moved my regiment by the left flank, in good order, to the position to

which I was guided by Captain —. In the mean time the intervening line of troops had been withdrawn, and the troops I was ordered to support had fallen back to the crest of the hill, to which position, by order of General Ransom, the regiment also fell back, having lost during the movement several men; also Captain C. A. Burns, who was instantly killed by a musket-shot in the head. At this point, Colonel Brown, as ranking officer after the fall of Colonel Vance, took command of the brigade; and General Cameron, in place of General Ransom, who fell severely wounded just as the regiment reached the top of the ridge, took command of the detachment of the Thirteenth corps. After holding the position for some time, the regiment, together with the whole line, was forced to fall back over the crest of the ridge, where it was supplied with ammunition. My regiment and the Ninety-sixth Ohio, under the immediate command of Colonel Brown, commanding the brigade, then changed front perpendicular to the line of battle, and moved out about three hundred yards to the right of the right flank, to oppose a flank movement of the enemy, and threw forward skirmishers, who had advanced but a few yards when they were engaged with the enemy, who were concealed by the dense undergrowth. Nearly the same time the enemy, who had been lying concealed in line of battle, arose and opened fire upon our line, the left flank of which was not more than fifty yards distant. The line whose right we had advanced to protect in the mean time had fallen back, and the two regiments exposed to the fire of the enemy in front, in rear, and on the left, to avoid being surrounded, fell back, with considerable loss, including Captain Waldo, missing, and Captain Cummins, wounded in the arm and side. From the fact that the regiment was nearly surrounded, I hope that many of the missing will prove to be uninjured. After falling back, a line was immediately formed, but was soon broken by retreating cavalry. The same attempt was repeated, but with little success, until a portion of the wagon-train, which choked up the only road not occupied by the enemy, and the line of the Nineteenth corps, which had formed in line of battle about one and a half miles from where my regiment first engaged the enemy, were passed. This was about six o'clock. In rear of the Nineteenth corps a line was formed of men from my own and other regiments, and moved to the left and remained in position until about eight o'clock, when the regiment assembled at division headquarters, and at ten o'clock P.M., by order of General Cameron, moved toward Pleasant Hills.

The loss of the regiment in killed, wounded, and missing is three officers and twenty-six men. To the coolness and fearlessness of the officers, and the bravery and strict execution of orders of the men, is due the comparatively small loss sustained by the regiment.

I have the honor to be, Captain, your obedient servant,

W. H. BALDWIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding.

PRIVATE LETTER FROM THE EIGHTY-THIRD OHIO.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTY-THIRD REGIMENT O. V. I., }
GRAND ECORE, LA., April 17, 1864.

A boat is to leave in a short time, and I will write until the last moment. I have been writing to the friends of killed and wounded. Captain Waldo is wounded in the left arm and left hip. I have written to his father. He is at Mansfield, in the enemy's hospital, doing well.

The battle was shockingly managed. It was no doubt a surprise upon the General commanding. He endeavored to charge the enemy with a baggage-train, but it didn't work. It was some eighteen miles from Pleasant Hills, where we encamped the night before, that a portion of our division, after skirmishing all day, (our brigade marched out at three o'clock A.M.) were brought to a stand by the enemy. The Eighty-third, some ten miles back, guarding an ammunition-train, was sent for and arrived at a rapid march, partly upon the double-quick, at about two o'clock, and after two or three changes of position became hotly engaged at three o'clock. Our line was stretched just as long as possible. The enemy outflanked us on both flanks, and massed in front. When we engaged the enemy there were nine thousand, perhaps, of our division engaged; not a man in reserve. The Third division came up and went in as it arrived; but we were opposed by some twenty thousand troops, according to the best information we can get, and they were reinforced by five thousand during the engagement. Our little force fought the enemy in a regular pitched battle from three to six o'clock, after skirmishing all day, under every disadvantage. There was but one road, leading into an open field and passable wood. This wood and field were surrounded by ravines and tangled swamp, so that there was no ingress or egress but by the one road, and that road was choked up by wagons. There is a great deal of bitter feeling against our leaders. It is very much like "Grand Coteau," where one brigade of our corps was left to be gobbled up by the enemy. Generals Banks and Franklin did not believe that there was any force but a few skirmishers in our front, and by their incredulity lost the day.

The Nineteenth corps came up to within one and a half miles of the field, and formed a line in a favorable place. They that night checked the enemy, but we all fell back to Pleasant Hills, eighteen miles, where we met General A. J. Smith. Upon meeting the fragment of the old Tenth, (now the Fourth,) he wept. He told General Banks, I am informed, that he had sacrificed the best fighting division in the army. The enemy followed us up and got a severe punishing at the hands of General Smith. General Banks said to him: "General Smith, you have saved my army." Smith's reply was characteristic—"By God! I know it, sir." When told that reinforcements were coming, Smith said he was very sorry. Before being asked the reason, he said: "The fellow has more men now than he knows how to use."

Our prisoners say that the slaughter of the confederates on the first day was enormous; that they lost many times the killed and wounded that we did. They were pretty crazy with Louisiana rum and whisky, and while they rushed forward fearlessly, their aim was not so steady as our men's. Still, they had sharpshooters, who were cool enough. Our loss of officers was three times as great as usual, according to the number of men. Three out of the four brigade commanders were probably killed, and General Ransom, commanding detachment of corps, was severely wounded. We have but one general and three colonels remaining in the corps—that part of it with us, either fifteen or sixteen regiments.

The Eighty-third did finely. When it left the right to move to the left, although the enemy were close to us, and one captain and several men fell, still the regiment marched off coolly and in perfect order, at right shoulder shift arms, ranks well closed up.

The gunboats have had some flurries since the transports got down here, and the pickets are assailed occasionally; but there is little danger of an attack here, although it has been expected, and we have been ready for it all the time.

Troops at arms at three o'clock, and occasional orders that we shall be engaged in fifteen minutes, or that they are closing in on the right or left.

Our hospital teams and supplies are away to the rear. We are in line of battle in the woods, a slashing in front of us, (trees cut down,) and a part of the line extending from the river above to the river below has rifle-pits, breast-works, and batteries. We can whip forty thousand here, but they will not attack us in a place of our own choosing.

The river is falling fast, and I expect every hour an order to get out of here. H. W.

"MISSOURI REPUBLICAN" ACCOUNT.

GRAND ECORE, April 13, 1864.

The grand expedition up Red River, which promised such beneficial results, has met with an unexpected and disastrous check.

On the sixth of April the Union army, under command of Major-General Franklin, moved from Natchitoches (pronounced Nackitosh) toward Shreveport. Natchitoches is four miles from Red River, the nearest point on the river being Grand Ecore, the place from which this letter is dated. The road from Natchitoches is through a dense forest of pine woods, the surface of the country being broken and hilly. There are but few plantations opened, and nothing upon which to subsist an army. On Thursday night, the seventh, the army camped at Pleasant Hill, a small town in the pine woods, about thirty miles north-east of Natchitoches, on the road to Shreveport. The wagon-road leaves the river to the right some fifteen or twenty miles, rendering the coöperation of the gunboats impossible. Before encamping at Pleasant Hill, there was a sharp cavalry skirmish about two miles beyond that place, resulting in no import-

ant advantage to either side. The cavalry encamped about seven miles in advance of the main army. Next morning (Friday, the eighth) the army started toward Mansfield, a distance of seventeen miles from Pleasant Hill. About noon, while the enemy was in line of march, arrived at the front, at a small bayou, where a bridge was being built. General Banks at once assumed command of the army in the field. There was almost constant skirmishing all the way from Pleasant Hill to the place where the battle afterward occurred. When General Banks arrived at the bayou, the Nineteenth army corps were several miles in the rear, the Thirteenth army corps were crossing the newly constructed bridge, and General Lee's cavalry, about five thousand men, some three miles in advance, together with Nim's celebrated battery, the Chicago Mercantile battery, First Indiana, and battery G, of the regular army. The Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, under command of General Ransom, were hurried forward as a support to the cavalry. About three o'clock P.M., when within two miles of Mansfield, the advance army, consisting of cavalry, artillery, and Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, above mentioned, while marching through a dense pine forest, there being thick undergrowth of pines on either side of the road, were attacked by the rebels in great force, on both flanks and in the front. The engagement soon became general; the rebels suddenly opening with artillery, and musketry, charging our surprised and panic-stricken columns with terrific yells, evincing a daring and determination worthy of a better cause. General Banks and General Franklin hurried to the front, and were in the thickest of the fight. The artillery was speedily put in position at the extreme front, and for a while did excellent service. Finding the front rather too dangerous for Major-Generals, Banks and Franklin returned to the rear of the wagon-train, just in time to save themselves from capture, as the rebels pressed upon both sides of our army with crushing effect. A ball passed through General Banks's hat. Every thing was soon in the wildest confusion; the wagon-train being in the rear, and in the narrow road, attempted to turn round to fall back, and completely blocked up the way, cutting off the advance both from a way of retreat, and from reinforcements. The rebels had formed in the shape of an isosceles triangle, leaving the base open, and at the apex planting their artillery. Our advance marched directly into the triangle, having the two wings of the rebel forces on either side of them. These wings were speedily connected, compelling our forces to retreat or surrender. The batteries above mentioned, consisting of twenty pieces in all, were now captured, together with nearly all the officers and men. The Chicago Mercantile battery was captured entire, and I am informed that all her officers and men fell into the hands of the enemy. The Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, two thousand eight hundred men, under General Ransom, and General Lee's cavalry, about three

thousand strong, and the batteries above mentioned, were the forces in advance of the wagon-train. These forces fought desperately for a while, but gave way under superior numbers of the rebels, and retreated in great precipitation. The scene of this retreat beggars all description. General Franklin said of it, that "Bull Run was not a circumstance in comparison." General Ransom was wounded in the knee, but rode off the field before he was compelled, by loss of blood, to dismount. Captain Dickey, of General Ransom's staff, was shot through the head and killed instantly. His body was left on the field. The position of the wagon-train in the narrow road, was the great blunder of the affair. The rear was completely blocked up, rendering the retreat very difficult, and in fact, almost impossible. Cavalry horses were dashing at full speed through the roads, endangering infantry and other pedestrians more than rebel musketry, the retreat having become so precipitate that all attempts to make a stand, for a while seemed impossible.

The immense baggage and supply train of General Lee's cavalry, consisting of two hundred and sixty-nine wagons, nearly all fell into the hands of the enemy, together with the mules attached thereto.

The Third division, Thirteenth army corps, mustering about eighteen thousand men, under command of General Cameron, were sent forward, and endeavored to make a stand. But the effort was futile. The rebels pressed so hard upon General Cameron that he could not resist them. After suffering terribly, he fell in with the retreating column. The Thirteenth army corps, numbering, in all, four thousand six hundred men when the fight began, sustained a loss in proportion to the number engaged, which is perhaps without a parallel in the history of this terrible war. The One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois, commanded by Major Reed, attached to the Fourth division, could only find fifty-eight men after the battle. So precipitate was the retreat of the Fourth division of this corps, that the men only brought off six hundred and forty stand of small-arms, hundreds of them throwing away their guns to facilitate their movements. At least one half of the Thirteenth corps were killed, wounded, or captured. General Lee's cavalry lost heavily, but some time must elapse before correct estimates can be obtained.

The retreating column fell back some four or five miles, when the Nineteenth army corps, under General Ewing, came up and succeeded in making a stand. The rebels charged upon General Ewing's forces, but were checked and repulsed with considerable loss. Night came on, and thus ended the battle of Mansfield.

The stand was made by the Nineteenth army corps, which remained on the field until midnight, when it fell back to Pleasant Hill, a distance of about twelve miles, arriving there about daylight Saturday morning. General Lee's cavalry and the Thirteenth army corps continued

their precipitate retreat from the battle-field to Pleasant Hill.

Saturday morning General Banks ordered a retreat of the whole army to Grand Ecore. The wagon-trains and the heavy artillery, guarded by the negro regiments, took the advance, leaving Pleasant Hill early in the morning. It required nearly all day to get the immense train in motion, the advance being at least fifteen miles distant before the rear got fairly started.

About five o'clock P.M., just as the wagon-train of General Banks's army had all got in motion, the rebels attacked our army in great force. Our forces were posted so as to effectually cover our retreat; the right resting about half a mile north-west of the town of Pleasant Hill, the centre about a half-mile to the west, and the left still further west, about a half-mile in the woods. The Sixteenth army corps, commanded by General A. J. Smith, occupied the right up to the centre, and the Nineteenth army corps, under General Franklin, the left up to the centre. The reserves were posted about a half-mile in the rear. The forces supporting the Sixteenth army corps were the Forty-ninth Illinois, commanded by Major Thomas W. Morgan; One Hundred and Seventy-eighth New-York, commanded by Colonel Waler; Eighty-ninth Indiana, commanded by Colonel Murray, and the Fifty-eighth Illinois. I have no list of the regiments supporting the Nineteenth army corps. The rebels under Kirby Smith attacked our whole front in great force, and after a half-hour of terrible fighting, with musketry and field artillery, our forces fell back on the reserve line, a distance of about a half-mile. The enemy pursued with great rapidity, fighting all the way, and doing considerable damage. For a time all seemed lost, but the presence of the Western troops inspired confidence in the whole army. When the rebels approached the line of the reserve forces, our army was brought into excellent position, and the fighting again became terrific. The Western boys threw their hats in the air, and raised a yell which was heard above the roar of artillery and the rattle of musketry. That tremendous yell was more terrible to the rebels than the thundering peals of cannon. One of the prisoners afterward remarked, that when they heard that shout, the word passed round: "There are the Western boys—we will catch h—l now." In a short time their column began to waver. General A. J. Smith ordered a charge along the whole line. The order was quickly obeyed. Another shout was raised from our boys. General Mower advanced to the front, and led the charge in person, riding through the thickest of the fight, cheering his men on. The rebels could stand no longer. They broke and ran in great confusion, throwing away their guns, and giving up the day. They were hotly pursued by our forces, who pressed them closely, and inflicted terrible blows upon them. The repulse of the rebels was crushing, and attended with immense loss. Whole columns were mowed down, under the galling fire from the Western

army. They were driven about two miles into the woods, losing about one thousand men, who were captured, besides a large number of killed and wounded.

During the battle, the Forty-ninth Illinois, (Colonel W. R. Morrison's old regiment,) under command of Major Morgan, charged upon a rebel battery with determined bravery, and captured two pieces of artillery and a large number of prisoners. Adjutant Deneen, of the One Hundred and Seventeenth Illinois, reported this fact to General Banks. The General replied: "Present my compliments to Major Morgan and his regiment, and tell him that I will ever remember them for their gallantry."

The rebel prisoners claim to have had twenty-five thousand men engaged on Saturday, but I doubt whether half that number were present. The rebel Generals Parsons and Mouton are reported killed.

Our army remained on the field until daylight Sunday morning, when the retreat to Grand Ecore was commenced.

The rebel killed and wounded were left on the field. Our wounded were taken to houses in Pleasant Hill, and there were placed in ambulances and wagons and brought on to Grand Ecore, except about twenty-five, who were badly wounded, and left at Pleasant Hill in care of two surgeons. Our dead were left on the field, but it is reported that they were afterward buried by the cavalry.

Our killed and wounded during the second day's battle, will, perhaps, amount to one thousand five hundred. That of the rebels is at least double that amount. The Sixteenth and Nineteenth army corps were the only forces engaged in this fight on our side.

In our retreat to Grand Ecore, a distance of thirty-five miles from Pleasant Hill, we were not molested in the least. By Monday evening, (the eleventh,) the whole army was at Grand Ecore, on Red River.

There is great dissatisfaction expressed on all sides, at the generalship displayed by General Banks. He has lost the confidence of the entire army. The privates are ridiculing him. Officers are not loudly but deeply cursing him, and civilians are unanimous in condemnation of the Commanding General. The Friday's battle was brought on contrary to General Franklin's plans. And both General Franklin and General Ransom protested against having the cavalry so far in advance of the main army. General Banks hurried on, supposing that there was no danger, but the sad defeat at Mansfield is the result. After General Banks left Grand Ecore, he wrote back to General Grover, at Alexandria, saying: "We hope to meet the enemy this side of Shreveport." His hope has been more than realized. The troops are calling for General Sherman. They say if Sherman had been in command, he would now be in Shreveport, instead of at Grand Ecore. General Banks has been engineering his department more to further his presidential aspirations than any thing else. But if the Baltimore Con-

vention were composed of the army of the Gulf, his chances would be hopeless. He would not get enough votes to save him from that unimportant list put down as "scattering." Personally, General Banks is a perfect gentleman. I have no prejudice against him, for he has invariably treated me with kindness and consideration. But the truth must be told. As a military man, he is, as the vernacular has it, "played out."

General A. J. Smith protested against the retreat from Pleasant Hill. He wanted to pursue the rebels on Sunday on his own hook instead of falling back, but General Banks was firm, and ordered all the forces to return. General Smith is very popular with the army, and every time he makes his appearance he is cheered with great enthusiasm, and considered one of the ablest generals of the army.

It is difficult to determine at this time what will be the result of this expedition. It will take some time to reorganize before an advance can be resumed. If the river continues to fall, navigation above Alexandria will be difficult, if not impossible. In that event, Alexandria will necessarily become the base of operations instead of Grand Ecore, or some point above. The transports and gunboats are all above Grand Ecore, but are expected down here to-morrow. The rebels are very troublesome on the river above Grand Ecore. They succeeded in planting a battery between our fleet and this place. The gunboats shelled the woods all day yesterday, and perhaps dislodged them. The transports are almost constantly fired on from both sides of the river. Seventeen miles below here, the rebels have appeared on the east side of the river. Yesterday, the Ohio Belle, loaded with soldiers and quartermaster's stores, in charge of Chief Clerk, Mr. O'Neil, of St. Louis, was fired into at that point, and two soldiers were badly wounded. To-day, the fine passenger steamer, Mittie Stephens, loaded with troops, was fired into at the same place, sixty shots taking effect. Six persons were wounded and one killed.

To-day General Banks's army began crossing over to the east side of Red River, opposite Grand Ecore. Whether the whole army will cross over or not, I am unable to say. It is rumored that only Smith's army (Sixteenth army corps) is crossing, and that he is going overland to Natchez or Vicksburgh. But this wants confirmation, although it is generally understood that General Grant has sent an order for Smith's return to Vicksburgh. I do not see how General Banks can spare the Sixteenth army corps at this time. All the forces have been ordered here from Alexandria, except one regiment, and a few companies of home-guards. General Grover, commanding the post at Alexandria, has been ordered here, and is now expected. Fears are entertained that the rebels may attack Alexandria for the purpose of destroying the large amount of army supplies at that place.

Admiral Porter has arrived here from above with two or three of his iron-clads. The fleet of transports above here are in great danger at this

time, and the most serious apprehensions are entertained for its safety. The transports had gone as high up as Springfield Landing, expecting to meet the land forces at that place. The rebels are swarming along the river, and will sink every boat if they can.

"PHILADELPHIA PRESS" NARRATIVE.

GRAND ECORE, LA., April 10, 1864.

The object of General Banks's spring campaign is political as well as military. The importance of the South-West may be properly estimated when we consider our relations with Mexico, and the embarrassments occasioned by the French interference with that republic. The occupation of Brownsville, on the Rio Grande, by General Banks, last year, did much toward checking the designs of the French Emperor. An American army was placed on the frontier of the new-made dependency, and any diplomacy between Davis and Napoleon was thus shattered and silenced. That occupation was merely a check. To make it a checkmate, the capture of Shreveport was necessary. This town occupies a point in the extreme north-western part of Louisiana, near the boundary line of Arkansas and Texas. At the head of steamboat navigation on the Red River, in the midst of the largest and richest cotton district in the trans-Mississippi department, the rebel capital of Louisiana, the headquarters of Kirby Smith, and the dépôt of supplies for the rebel army, Shreveport is as important to this department as Chattanooga or Richmond. If purely military considerations had controlled, it is probable that the armies of this department would have been devoted to an expedition against Mobile, or a coöperating movement with the army of General Sherman. But the Government desired Shreveport and the undisturbed possession of the Mississippi, and General Banks was charged with the duty of taking it. His army consisted of a part of the Nineteenth army corps, which he formerly commanded in person; a portion of the Thirteenth army corps, under General Ransom; and a portion of the Sixteenth army corps, under the command of General Smith. The Nineteenth corps is composed mainly of Eastern troops, and came with General Banks when he assumed command of this department. It is now under the command of General William B. Faulkner, formerly of the army of the Potomac, who is next in authority to General Banks. The divisions commanded by General Smith were recently in Grant's army, and in the corps commanded by General Hurlbut. They were sent to aid in the movement upon Shreveport, and began their operations by capturing Fort De Russy, and thus opening the Red River. General Smith occupied Alexandria, the parish-town of Rapides, situated on the Red River, and one of the most beautiful towns in the State. Alexandria was thus made the base of operations against Shreveport, and General Banks, proceeding thence in person, assumed command of the army.

After concentrating at Alexandria, the army

marched to Natchitoches, an old Indian and French settlement on the banks of what is called, by a strange perversion of words, the "old Red River." Natchitoches is as old as Philadelphia, and so queer and quaint, that I would be tempted to write you a letter about it, if the events of this busy time were not so urgent. About four miles from Natchitoches, on the river, there is another settlement of dingy houses called Grand Ecore. The river here, in one of its angry, whimsical moments, seems to have abandoned one bank and left it a low, wide, shelving plain, and so violently intruded upon the other bank that it is now a high, ragged bluff, with the sides in a condition of decay, as every rain-storm slices off layer after layer of earth. This is what is called Grand Ecore, and when our army occupied Natchitoches, General Banks came hither and made it his headquarters. Admiral Porter, with his gunboats, accompanied him, and it is now the headquarters of the army and navy. The rebels seem to have contemplated holding Grand Ecore, for on the bluffs around the settlement the remains of works intended for large guns and as rifle-pits, may be seen. These were built last summer when General Banks made a feint upon Shreveport by way of diverting the attention of the enemy from his attack upon Port Hudson. No attempt was made to fortify it when the present movement began on Sunday, April third. General Banks arrived here, and went into camp in a beautiful meadow ground, skirted by pine woods, about two hundred yards from shore, and near a small shallow stream, with pine trees growing in it, which the inhabitants call a lake. The headquarters of General Franklin were at Natchitoches.

That army consisted of about twenty thousand men, and was thus commanded: The cavalry by General Lee, formerly of Grant's army—said to be a favorite of the Lieutenant-General, and with the reputation of being an efficient and active officer. The artillery was under Brigadier-General Richard Arnold, a captain of the Second artillery, in the regular army, and chief of the service in this department. General Franklin was second in command of the forces. He had one division of his army corps with him, that commanded by General Emory. The division of General Green was left at Alexandria to hold the post. General Smith's force consisted of two divisions. General Ransom's force also consisted of two divisions. On this calculation I make the estimate that the army around Grand Ecore, under General Banks, on the morning of the Sunday he assumed command, numbered altogether twenty thousand men. With this army he began his march. The country through which he was to move was most disadvantageous for an invading army. The topography of Virginia has been assigned as a reason for every defeat of the army of the Potomac; but Virginia is a garden and a meadow, when compared with the low, flat pine countries that extend from Opelousas, far in the South, to Fort Smith in the North, and cover hundreds of thousands of square

miles. There are few plantations and fewer settlements. These are merely built in clearings, of pine logs, thatched and plastered with mud. I have ridden for fifty miles into the heart of this pine country, and from the beginning to the end of the journey there was nothing but a dense, impenetrable, interminable forest, traversed by a few narrow roads, with no sign of life or civilization beyond occasional log houses and half-cleared plantations—the bark being stripped from the trees, that they might rot and die in a few months, and thus save their lazy owners the trouble of cutting them down. Into this country General Banks was compelled to march. He found, in the beginning, that two arms of his service would be almost worthless. So long as he marched, his cavalry might picket the woods and skirmish along the advance; but in action they would be as helpless as so many wagon-trains. His artillery would be of no use unless he should manage to get the enemy into an open clearing, which was as improbable as it would be to get troops with works to fight in front of them. The country was little more than a great masked battery. It was an unproductive, barren country, and it became necessary for permanent military operations to carry along every thing that an army could use. Such a thing as subsisting an army in a country like this could only be achieved when men and horses can be induced to live on pine trees and resin. General Banks had very much the same difficulties to meet that Lord Raglan found in the Crimea. In one respect they were greater. For, while our commander was compelled to march his army as a movable column, he was also compelled to keep open a long and dangerous line of communication. I make these explanations now in order that you may more particularly understand the nature of our recent operations, and give General Banks the credit that I feel to be due to him and to the army under his command.

About thirty-four miles from Grand Ecore there is a clearing of more than usual size, and upon it there are built more than the ordinary number of houses, and showing more than the common degree of enterprise and taste. This clearing forms a plateau, and as it rises as high perhaps as fifty feet, the people have taken advantage of the fact, and called it "Pleasant Hill." Against this point it was determined to march. We knew that the rebel army was in that direction, and it was not at all unlikely that they would make a stand and show us battle. The army marched accordingly—Lee leading the advance, moving slowly with his cavalry, and followed as rapidly as possible by the infantry divisions of General Ransom. By Thursday, April seventh, the whole army was in motion, and the advance was nearing Pleasant Hill. General Banks broke camp, and with his staff and a small escort rode to the front. Before him were two thirds of his army; behind him, the remainder, under General Smith, and composed of many of the bravest veterans in Grant's army, was marching rapidly. We had not ridden more than ten miles when the rain

began to fall. It continued to fall, and for the remainder of the day we had a storm of unusual fury. This delayed the march so much that it was dark before the General reached the encampment of General Franklin, on Pleasant Hill. The rain was then pouring in torrents, and the shelter of a tent and a cup of coffee became luxuries that even a Sybarite would have craved. Early in the day, on Thursday, our cavalry had passed beyond Pleasant Hill, and about two miles above, near a ravine, they had met the rear-guard of the enemy. A sharp skirmish ensued. The fighting became so earnest at last, that General Lee began to doubt the ability of his cavalry to force a passage, and sent to General Franklin for a brigade of infantry, as a reinforcement. The enemy were driven, however, before the infantry arrived, with severe loss, the cavalry being compelled to dismount, and fight through the woods. In this skirmish we lost about fifty men, killed, wounded, and missing.

This skirmish convinced us that the enemy in front were in more than usual force. We learned from prisoners that Lieutenant-General E. Kirby Smith, of the rebel army, was in command, that his trains had fallen back on the road to Mansfield, and that his army was retreating with more than usual disorder. It, of course, suggested itself that our pursuit should be rapid, and, if we showed proper enterprise, we might capture Mansfield and the whole train of the rebel army. An order was given that the army should march early in the morning, and shortly after dawn the whole force was on the advance, General Banks and staff following. The advance was pushed with energy. Our army skirmished all the way, and once or twice the enemy made a demonstration of force. Our troops quietly drove them, and we moved on. The roads began to be in a horrible condition, and frequently we were compelled to halt and repair them, building bridges, removing stumps, and widening the paths. At about eleven in the morning General Banks reached General Franklin, at a point about ten miles from Pleasant Hill. The cavalry had passed on, the train following. One division of his infantry had crossed, the Fourth division of the Thirteenth army corps, under the immediate command of Brigadier-General Ransom. His men were engaged in building a bridge over a bayou that embarrassed the march, and his trains were about to cross. He reported to General Banks that every thing was going on finely; that his force was pressing the enemy, who was slowly falling back, and that as he could not hope to march much further, he had thought it best to make his headquarters at a neighboring log hut, and had accordingly halted his trains. General Banks directed his own trains to be halted there, and, after resting awhile and holding a conference with General Franklin, remounted and rode to the front.

This was shortly after noon. A brief ride brought the General to the advance. He found the cavalry slowly pushing on, and the enemy disputing their march. It was a tedious process.

The quietly retiring foe—the quietly advancing cavalry—the soldiers dismounted, and, creeping from tree to tree, occasionally interchanging shots—and sometimes so many at a time that it sounded like the badly-fired volleys by which some of our militia escorts at home pay the last honors to a dead comrade. Still, we pushed on, making progress, but very slow progress indeed, until we reached a point that seemed to be about five miles from the bayou, and the clearing beyond, where General Franklin had established his headquarters. At this point another clearing had been made for a plantation. It was roughly divided into fields for cotton and cane, and an old saw-mill near by seemed to indicate that the owner had a larger share of enterprise than is generally given to the chivalrous lords of these majestic pines. The irregular firing was at an end, for here the enemy ceased to creep, and seemed disposed to make a stand. Evidently we were marching too rapidly, and if they desired to save their trains they must fight for them. General Banks saw this, and ordered the infantry to the front to support the cavalry and make a spirited assault. In the mean time, in the event of the enemy being stronger than was expected, or too strongly posted, aids were sent to the rear to hurry forward the advance of Ransom's other division, commanded by General Cameron, as well as to General Franklin, directing him to advance with Emory's division of the Nineteenth army corps. We placed our artillery in position, and began to shell the woods where the enemy were posted. They made a feeble reply, but were evidently in strength. Our dismounted cavalry formed the first line of battle. The Fourth division formed in their rear, the line crossing the road, and extending its flanks into the woods. It was now about four o'clock, and it became evident, from the manner in which our cavalry attack was received, that the enemy was stronger than was anticipated. The events that I have been describing transpired very slowly, and the afternoon seemed to be wearing lazily away. But after four o'clock events began to grow and thicken with a bewildering fury that makes it difficult for a mere spectator like your correspondent to remember precisely what was done, and how it was done. The attack of our cavalry was weak and spiritless. The firing lasted for a few minutes, the discharges of musketry became incessant, the long, thin line of clay-colored rebels began to emerge slowly from the woods, firing constantly, but always advancing at a pace that seemed like an uncertain, shuffling run. Their fire was too strong for our cavalry, and it fell back with precipitation—too much precipitation it proved; for before Ransom had his line properly formed, he was compelled to meet the onset of the whole rebel force. The retreating cavalry had partly demoralized his men, for in the heat of action, and being where they could not see the field, they could not understand why this multitude of flushed and frightened men should thus be running from the scene of battle. Many who wanted nothing but a cheerful look or nod

to make them brave men, turned around without having seen a rebel, and ran likewise, so that before the battle had really opened the road presented the strange sight of hundreds of armed and unarmed men hastening to the rear, some the pictures of fright, others of abject fear, and carrying exaggerated stories to all who troubled them for information.

Four o'clock had passed, and the long shadows of the evening were darkening the pine woods. Ransom's division fought with intrepid bravery, all things considered—the sudden attack, the panic-stricken cavalry, and the number of the enemy—with a bravery that cannot be too highly commended. The rebels, however, saw their advantage, and pressed it. In the beginning of the fight General Ransom was struck in the knee, and carried from the field. This dispirited the men, for they all loved the young commander, and rejoiced to speak his praise. The fight became furious, and for a few minutes there was doubt, and gloom, and anxiety among the Federal commanders. Aid after aid galloped down the road to bring up the Third division of the Thirtieth corps, commanded by General Cameron. It was evident Ransom's men could not stand the attack. It was doubted if even Cameron's men would be more successful. But other troops were behind—Emory and his splendid division—and we knew that the day was ours if time only permitted us to make a proper disposition of our forces. Ransom's column finally broke, but not until Cameron's was formed in the rear to renew the battle. Through a long hour—an hour that seemed to be an age to all who stood under those pine trees on that Friday afternoon—the fight raged. The enemy had a temporary advantage, and they pressed it with an energy that seemed to be appalling. They must have suffered terribly, for our guns poured into their lines one constant fire. Our men fought them with unavailing valor, for all the disadvantages were on their side.

If I have succeeded in making plain my account of this fight, the reader will understand that our forces were in an open space—a pine wood clearing—that our line of advance was one single, narrow road, and that, having made the attack ourselves, we found the enemy superior, and were compelled to make a defensive fight. There were other troubles. The country was so formed that artillery was almost useless. We could not place a battery without exposing it in a manner that suggested madness, and yet we had the guns and were compelled to fight them. A further disadvantage was to be found in the long trains that followed the different divisions. The cavalry had the advance; immediately behind came the baggage-wagons, moving in a slow, cumbersome manner, and retarding the movements of the infantry. This made it impossible for us to have our divisions in supporting distance, and when the time came for that support, it could not be rendered. General Banks perceived this at once, but it was too late to remedy it, and he was compelled to fight the battle in

the best manner possible. Ransom's division had been engaged and routed. Cameron's division was in the thickest of the fight. General Franklin had arrived on the field, and a division of his magnificent corps, under General Emory, was pushing along rapidly. General Banks personally directed the fight. Every thing that man could do he did. Occupying a position so exposed that nearly every horse ridden by his staff was wounded, and many killed, he constantly disregarded the entreaties of those around, who begged that he would retire to some less exposed position. General Stone, his chief of staff, with his sad, earnest face, that seemed to wear an unusual expression, was constantly at the front, and by his reckless bravery did much to encourage the men. And so the fight raged. The enemy were pushing a temporary advantage. Our army was merely forming into position to make a sure battle.

Then came one of those unaccountable events that no genius or courage can control. I find it impossible to describe a scene so sudden and bewildering, although I was present, partly an actor, partly a spectator, and saw plainly every thing that took place. The battle was progressing vigorously. The musketry-firing was loud and continuous, and having recovered from the danger experienced by Ransom's division, we felt secure of the position. I was slowly riding along the edge of a wood, conversing with a friend who had just ridden up about the events and prospects of the day. We had drawn into the side of the wood to allow an ammunition-wagon to pass, and although many were observed going to the rear, some on foot and some on horseback, we regarded it as an occurrence familiar to every battle, and it occasioned nothing but a passing remark.

I noticed that most of those thus wildly riding to the rear were negroes, hangers-on and serving-men, for now that we have gone so deeply into this slaveholding country every non-commissioned officer has a servant, and every servant a mule. These people were the first to show any panic, but their scamper along the road only gave amusement to the soldiers, who pelted them with stones, and whipped their flying animals with sticks to increase their speed. Suddenly there was a rush, a shout, the crashing of trees, the breaking down of rails, the rush and scamper of men. It was as sudden as though a thunder-bolt had fallen among us and set the pines on fire. What caused it, or when it commenced, no one knew. I turned to my companion to inquire the reason of this extraordinary proceeding, but before he had the chance to reply, we found ourselves swallowed up, as it were, in a hissing, seething, bubbling whirlpool of agitated men. We could not avoid the current; we could not stem it, and if we hoped to live in that mad company, we must ride with the rest of them. Our line of battle had given away. General Banks took off his hat and implored his men to remain; his staff-officers did the same, but it was of no avail. Then the General drew his sabre and en-

deavored to rally his men, but they would not listen. Behind him the rebels were shouting and advancing. Their musket-balls filled the air with that strange file-rasping sound that war has made familiar to our fighting men. The teams were abandoned by the drivers, the traces cut, and the animals ridden off by the frightened men. Bareheaded riders rode with agony in their faces, and for at least ten minutes it seemed as if we were going to destruction together. It was my fortune to see the first battle of Bull Run, and to be among those who made that celebrated midnight retreat toward Washington. The retreat of the Fourth division was as much a rout as that of the first Federal army, with the exception that fewer men were engaged, and our men fought here with a valor that was not shown on that serious, sad, mock-heroic day in July. We rode nearly two miles in this mad-cap way, until on the edge of a ravine, which might formerly have been a bayou, we found Emory's division drawn up in line. Our retreating men fell beyond this line, and Emory prepared to meet the rebels. They came with a rush, and, as the shades of night crept over the tree-tops, they encountered our men. Emory fired three rounds, and the rebels retreated. This ended the fight, leaving the Federals masters. Night, and the paralyzing effect of the stampede upon our army, made pursuit impossible. The enemy fell back, taking with them some of the wagons that were left, and a number of the guns that were abandoned.

Although its results might seem to be more unfortunate than the real events of the day would justify us in believing, this battle convinced us of the strength of the rebels in our front, and their determination to resist our advance. It became necessary to fight a battle, and, as we could not do so on ground so disadvantageous, General Banks ordered the army to occupy Pleasant Hills, the position in our rear, that had been held by General Franklin on the morning of the fight. The division of General Emory remained on the field, picketing the front. The headquarter trains were removed back to Pleasant Hill, and the divisions of General Smith were formed in line of battle, in which position they remained the whole night. The divisions of Ransom and Cameron, which had suffered so much in the engagement, were withdrawn from the field. When this had been done, Emory slowly withdrew his line to a point about two miles beyond Pleasant Hill. General Banks made his headquarters on the left of the elevation, and shortly before daybreak he arrived in camp, accompanied by his staff. The tents were pitched, and a hasty cup of coffee served for breakfast.

Having described as faithfully as possible the events of this bloody day, it now becomes my duty to describe one of the most brilliant and successful battles of the war. The first day's engagement was an accident. Nothing but the discipline of the troops, and the presence of mind displayed by the Commanding General, prevented

it from becoming a disaster. On the second day we retrieved and redeemed all that had been lost. Pleasant Hill, as I have said before, is a clearing in the midst of these vast pine woods, about thirty-five miles from the Red River, on the road that leads from Natchitoches. It forms a plateau that rises to a noticeable elevation above the country around. It was probably intended as a settlement of more than usual importance, for I noticed an unfinished seminary, a church, a saw-mill, many fine houses, and one or two that would have done credit to our Northern towns. The land was in a high state of cultivation, and every acre seemed to be traversed by ridges of ploughed soil. On the elevation where the unfinished seminary stands, a complete view of the whole field could be obtained, and with a glass, the features and the rank of men at the other could be readily seen. Here we determined to make a stand. The day was as bright and clear and fresh as a May day in the North, and the air was so bracing that the officers found their great-coats grateful. The morning passed on. The plateau had the appearance of a parade-ground on a holiday. For any one man to see all that was to be seen, or to understand the different movements of the armed and uniformed men before him, would be impossible. Regiments marching to the right, and regiments marching to the left, batteries being moved and shifted, cavalry squads moving in single file through the brush, now and then an aid galloping madly, or an orderly at full speed, driving his spurs, and holding an order or despatch between his teeth, bugles sounding the different cavalry calls, and drums repeating the orders of the captains, all passed and repassed, and controlled the vision, making very much the impression that a spectator in the theatre receives as he looks upon a melodrama. In an inclosure near the roadside was a small cluster of gentlemen to whom all this phantasmagoria had the meaning of life, and death, and power, and fame. General Banks, with his light-blue overcoat buttoned closely around his chin, was strolling up and down, occasionally conversing with a member of his staff, or returning the salute of a passing subaltern. Near him was General William B. Franklin, his face as rough and rugged as when he rode through the storms of the Peninsula, the ideal of a bold, daring, imperturbable soldier. There are few braver men than this Charles O'Malley of major-generals. He had two horses shot under him the day before. His face was very calm that morning, and occasionally he pulls his whiskers nervously, as though he scented the battle afar off, and was impatient to be in the midst of the fray. General Charles P. Stone, the chief of staff, a quiet, retiring man, who is regarded, by the few that know him, as one of the finest soldiers of the time, was sitting on a rail smoking cigarettes, and apparently more interested in the puffs of smoke that curled around him, than in the noise and bustle that filled the air. There was General Smith, with his bushy, grayish beard, and his eager eye, as it

looks through spectacles, giving him the appearance of a schoolmaster. General Arnold, the chief of artillery, with his high boots, and his slouched hat thrown over his head, seemed the busiest of all. The other members of the staff, colonels, and majors, and captains, completed the group; with orderlies in the distance, and servants chiding or soothing their masters' restive horses, and the body-guard dismounted and dozing under the trees. It was rather a tedious party, and group after group formed and melted away, and re-formed and discussed the battle of the evening before, and the latest news and gossip of New-Orleans, and wondered when another mail would come. It might have been a parade; it might have been a fair-day, and these men around us so many plain farmers who came to receive medals for their cattle and swine, and hear the county lawyer deliver the agricultural address. It certainly could not be war, and yet the slow rumbling of gun and caisson, the occasional shell bursting from the cannon, whistling in the air, and exploding in the woods beyond; the sudden musket-shot, and the distant cheer—all gave the picture the deep and deathly tints that made it a battle-piece. It is curious to study the feelings which such a scene produces. This morning scene became so weary and tame that, from very languor and apathy, I began to weave up the bright and real tints of the picture with as many unique fancies as the imagination could suggest, and, finally, turning over on a pine board, which was resting against a fence, and made an inviting bed for a weary man, endeavored to regain a portion of the sleep that the last night had taken away. I had scarcely time for wooing a nap when the General called for his horse and proposed to go to the front. The different generals around him returned to their commands, and, slowly picking our way out of the yard, we rode along the ridge to an elevation near at hand, and from thence surveyed the field.

It was one of those scenes that battles rarely present, but which enables us to see what is really the pomp and glory of war. Below, or rather before us, was the whole army of General Banks. There were three distinct lines of battle, two of which could be seen by the eye, the other being hidden by the woods. The batteries were in position, and each regiment displayed its flag. On our flanks were small detachments of cavalry, who busily scoured the woods to prevent any thing like a surprise, or a movement in our rear. It was now eleven o'clock, and our whole army was prepared for action. The generals had determined to await the attack of the enemy, and finding it impossible to subsist the army in a country without water or forage, concluded to move the trains back to Grand Ecore, there concentrate our army, and await news from the coöperating column of General Steele, which is known to be moving through Arkansas on Shreveport. Accordingly, before our lines were formed, the trains were ordered to move, and before noon we had a clear field, and were ready for the attack. In order to look his army face to face, and

satisfy himself that the dispositions were proper, General Banks rode to the front with his staff, and thence along the whole line, saying kind words to officers and men, and wearing that bright, winning smile so peculiar to him, and which seemed to give new confidence to the men whose lives were on their country's altar. Noon came and passed; but beyond the slow shelling of the woods, and a stray shot from some impetuous picket, there was no sign of an engagement. Our men remained in line all day, and passed the hours by their guns; some lying down, some sleeping and dozing, others reading and eating the remnants of yesterday's ration; but all ready for the signal that would bring on the action. The day remained bright, and warm, and clear, and it began to be thought that it would close without an action, and that the enemy had withdrawn with their booty. Those in the front knew better. The rebels were there, making their dispositions and preparing for the onset. In the mean time the General and staff returned to the ridge near the brick house, and partook of some refreshment, satisfied that the day was ours, and determined to await events.

On our left centre, far in the advance, was a battery of four guns, belonging to a New-York regiment. It occupied an exposed position, and it had been suggested by some of the staff-officers that there was danger of its capture. This battery had been making itself an object of interest to the rebels, for every ten minutes it sent a shot into their midst. About half-past four in the afternoon, a sharp volley of musketry was heard, and all eyes turned toward this battery, for over it circles of smoke were ascending, and around it men were engaged in battle. The rebel line rushed from the woods and charged the battery. The contest was sharp. The smoke obscured the sight, and for a few minutes we could only guess how the struggle was going. Finally our line was seen to retreat, but we had no fear. We knew that the men composing that line were men of the Nineteenth corps. We had seen their valor on the day before, and, although there, before our eyes, they were falling back, we felt assured it was with a purpose. So it proved. The temporary retreat was a feint, intended to draw the rebels from the woods. They came, rushed upon the battery, and surrounded it. This success brought another line of clay-colored rebels, and they cheered as though they had gained a victory. The time had come. The enemy was before us. Emory's division rallied; and one of Smith's divisions, which had been lying on the ground, arose, and sent volley after volley into the enemy's midst. This was something different from fighting an exposed division in pine woods, in the midst of baggage-trains, and so the poor rebels found. Again and again they rallied, but only to fall back again and again, and finally to retreat and scamper through the woods. The battery which tempted them from their covert was retaken, and its shot and shell went plunging through their retreating column. It seemed as though death was reaping a mysteri-

ous harvest, and to the right and left the sheaves were falling.

The battle was extended along the whole line; it was nothing but charge and rally, to charge and rally again. In every point our men gained the day. The lines of Smith's division stood like the stone walls that Virginian *patois* has contributed to our military language, and every effort of the enemy to force them was futile. Thus it continued for an hour; and in describing the scene at the battery, I find that I have given in detail all that can be remembered of this brief and glorious fight. One other movement was noticeable. The rebels, toward the end of the engagement, tried to flank our left by sending a column over the ridge, upon which the unfinished seminary stood. The effort was more disastrous than the attempt upon the battery. They were driven back with fearful slaughter, routed from the field, leaving many hundreds of prisoners in our hands. Thus ended the engagement, and our forces were victorious.

Night was over all, and the stars began to shine. Our wounded were removed, and, unmolested, General Banks accomplished his movement toward Grand Ecore.

Our losses in the two days' battle in killed, wounded, and missing, are estimated at two thousand. Colonel Benedict, commanding a brigade, was the only general officer killed. We learn that General Mouton, commanding a part of the rebel army, was also slain.

J. R. YOUNG.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

CAMP OF THE EIGHTY-THIRD U. S. I., }
GRAND ECORE, LA., April 12. }

The past week has been an eventful one in the military history of this department. Doubtless, exaggerated reports of rebel success and the demoralization of the Federal troops have reached you, and it is with a view to counteract the influence of such reports that I propose to give you as brief a description of recent events as is consistent with a proper understanding of them. Let me premise by assuring your readers that the troops are in the best of spirits, and fully confident of their ability to carry the campaign to a successful close, provided they have leaders upon whose judgment they can place reliance.

On Wednesday, the sixth instant, our whole force, with the exception of General A. J. Smith's immediate command, left Natchitoches, and pursued their way through the "Piny" woods, in the direction of Shreveport, one hundred miles distant. On the evening of the seventh, we reached Pleasant Hill, a small village, thirty-five miles from Natchitoches, our cavalry advance skirmishing nearly all the way through the woods. They had a severe one on that morning, two miles beyond Pleasant Hill, in which the Eighty-seventh Illinois (mounted infantry) lost quite heavily.

On the morning of the eighth, we resumed our march, the Fourth division (to which the Eighty-third has been re-transferred, since I last wrote

you) leading the infantry force. A severe skirmish occurred at an old saw-mill, ten miles beyond Pleasant Hill, in which Lieutenant-Colonel Webb, of the Seventy-seventh Illinois, was killed; but the enemy kept falling back, and were pursued by the cavalry and our division, about eight miles further, to Sabine Cross-Roads, three miles this side of Mansfield. Here the enemy was met in force, and a check made to our progress.

The Eighty-third was six miles in the rear, as guard for the ammunition-train, and the remainder of the force had gone into camp near the saw-mill before mentioned. Orders were immediately sent back for the Eighty-third and the Third division of the Thirteenth corps, to come up "double-quick." The fatal error of that day consisted in having the forces divided, and the advance so far from support. A general engagement was not apprehended, but the mistake was, nevertheless, an inexcusable one, and the parties who are censurable, should meet with a severe punishment. Who they are, I am unable to say, but there is a very general want of confidence felt in the head of the department, who, although he proved himself on that day not devoid of courage, is not generally looked upon as possessing great military ability. Certainly, there never was a more forcible illustration of the old Indian chief's theory of the bundle of sticks, which, taken together, it was impossible to break, but when taken singly, the feat was easily accomplished. But I anticipate. The Eighty-third reached the division, before the engagement became general, and took up a position on the extreme right. Soon after its arrival, the enemy who were posted upon a small, crescent-shaped elevation, which commanded the road, opened fire, and the conflict soon became terrific. The rebels were in very heavy force, and closed in upon both our flanks, charging with desperate fury upon them, and it becoming evident that the position could not be maintained, a retreat was ordered, which was accomplished with heavy loss, until the broken ranks met the Third division coming to their assistance. Orders were now sent for the Nineteenth corps to come up, but they were eight miles in the rear, and it was feared they would not reach us in time to be of any avail. The Third division formed in line and checked the progress of the enemy, and the battle raged furiously once more, but their overwhelming numbers soon crushed the gallant little division, and drove them in all directions.

The Nineteenth corps was now most anxiously looked for, and they soon came up in gallant style, and formed in line three miles to the rear of the first line of battle, and in the face of the flying squadrons of the cavalry division and Thirteenth corps.

On came the rebels, charging furiously upon the new line, which, when they were within one hundred and fifty yards of it, opened fire upon them along its whole length, slaughtering them dreadfully, and bringing them to a stand, thus saving the remainder of the Thirteenth corps and the wagon-train from capture. Another error of

this fatal day was bringing the train so close to the field of battle, by which the road was blockaded, and the artillery prevented from escaping.

The Nim's battery, of six pieces, Chicago Mercantile battery, of the same number, two pieces of the First Indiana battery, and two mountain howitzers belonging to the cavalry division, were lost, also the cavalry division's wagon-train and twenty-two loads of ammunition.

It was now nearly dark, and the fighting continued with some slight intermissions, until night brought it to a close. Estimates of losses are so various and contradicting, that a reliable report cannot be given until the official report is made.

The Second brigade, Fourth division, lost, in killed, wounded, and missing, about five hundred and fifty men, as near as can be ascertained. General Ransom, commanding the Thirteenth corps, was wounded above the knee, but is doing well. Colonel J. W. Vance, of the Ninety-sixth Ohio volunteer infantry, commanding Second brigade, Fourth division, was severely wounded and taken prisoner, as was also Colonel Emerson, of the Sixty-seventh Indiana, commanding First brigade of the same division.

The loss of the Eighty-third was three officers and twenty-eight enlisted men killed, wounded, and missing. I append a list of names: Captain Cornelius A. Burns, company F, was instantly killed by a musket-ball through the head. Captain J. P. Cummins, company I, was severely wounded in the left arm and side, but is doing well; and Captain Lawrence Waldo, company B, is missing. The officers and men all behaved nobly, but Captain Waldo particularly distinguished himself by his coolness and bravery, and it is deeply regretted that he is among the missing; but hopes are entertained that he is still living.

As soon as the scattered fragments could be collected together, an order was issued to return to Pleasant Hill, which was reached at sunrise of the ninth, the Nineteenth corps covering the retreat, and forming in line a mile beyond it. The enemy followed us closely, and picket-skirmishing continued all the forenoon.

Here we met General A. J. Smith, with his force, coming to our rescue, and he was exceedingly wroth at the manner in which his old command (Fourth division) had been handled and entrapped. The management of affairs was virtually placed in his hands, and about eleven o'clock A.M., the train was moved to the rear, the lines formed, and the artillery placed in position on the southern and eastern sides of an open field of perhaps three hundred acres in extent. General Smith divided his command and the cavalry force, placing a portion of each on the wings in the woods some distance to the rear, but within supporting distance of the batteries.

The shattered fragment of the Thirteenth corps was ordered to follow the train as a guard, and the Nineteenth was placed in front, with directions to fall back in good order before the enemy's advance.

Battery L, of the First United States artillery, was placed somewhat in the advance as a bait

for the rebels, and the horses, caissons, and limbers were removed.

The Nineteenth commenced falling back, and on came the rebels. Upon reaching the woods, the Nineteenth halted and formed a junction with Smith's troops and the cavalry on each wing, and the new line thus made formed two sides of a square, with battery L in the angle, and was invisible to the enemy.

The bait took, and the enemy, seeing the apparently unprotected battery, rushed forward *en masse* to capture it, which they were permitted to do, when the Federal forces opened upon them, subjecting them to a terrible cross-fire which mowed them down in immense numbers, literally covering the ground with the slain, and threw them into the utmost confusion.

The lines now closed in and drove them flying across the open field and through the woods beyond, killing and capturing a large number, and also retaking most of the artillery captured from us on the previous day. It was a most brilliant victory, and could it have been followed up, would doubtless have resulted in the dispersion of the enemy and capture of Shreveport, but the check we had received necessitated a retrograde movement to this place as a base of supplies, it being evident that we could not effect a junction with our fleet at or near that place before they gave out. The movement was accordingly made, and we returned in good order, arriving at noon yesterday. The fleet is expected to join us here, and in the mean time, we are receiving reinforcements and making preparations for another onward movement.

The snake which was spoken of in my last has shown a considerable degree of vitality, and doubtless, like the tail of the reptile to which this portion of the Southern Confederacy may be likened, will continue to do so until the sun of secession has set in clouds; but I still adhere to the opinion that it would have died of itself, provided the vital point of the rebellion east of the Mississippi was effectually crushed, and it would have been much better to have let it had its own way, than to endeavor to kill it in such a bungling manner. But since the attempt has been made, it is now better to carry it out, and all are anxious and willing to see it done.

The loss of confidence in the military capacity of some of the generals, is counteracted by that felt in the abilities of General A. J. Smith, both as a counsellor and practical military man. He proved himself the man for the occasion, and his success on the ninth is the general theme of conversation. May our next attempt be more fortunate!

G. W. C.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

A correspondent of the *Lacon Illinois Gazette*, belonging to the Seventy-seventh Illinois regiment, furnished the facts relative to the following battles on Red River, in which his regiment was reduced from four hundred to one hundred and fifty-three men:

We marched from Natchitoches on the sixth

instant. On the evening of the seventh, we reached a small village called Pleasant Hill, the road winding through heavy pine timber. While at Pleasant Hill, General Lee, who commands the cavalry of the expedition, sent word back that he had had quite a skirmish with the enemy, losing thirty-five in killed and wounded, and that he had driven them eight miles, where they made a stand, from which he was unable to dislodge them with his cavalry, and asking for infantry. General Ransom objected, saying: "Remain in camp here until General Smith comes up, and then move on them in force." It was evident to him that the enemy would make a successful stand, but Generals Banks and Franklin thought differently, and ordered Colonel Landrum, who commanded the Fourth division of the Thirteenth army corps, to take the First brigade of his division and start at three in the morning, and assist General Lee in dislodging the enemy.

At three o'clock, General Lee started, meeting the enemy some eight miles from Pleasant Hill, routing him and following him in line of battle for about eight miles further, skirmishing with him the entire distance. Here we lost the gallant and brave Lieutenant-Colonel Webb, of the Seventy-seventh Illinois, who was shot dead while leading his men on the enemy's rear-guard. Eight miles from Pleasant Hill, and four from Mansfield, we came to a large plantation which was undulating and surrounded by heavy timber, but on the further side the belt was narrow and opened into another plantation of smaller size. Before we entered the first plantation, the Second brigade came up to the assistance of the First, and the Nineteenth regiment was thrown forward as skirmishers, and Nim's Massachusetts battery posted on an eminence, from which they shelled the opposite woods something like a mile distant.

The enemy soon left his position, although it was a very good one. We advanced the Fourth division to the timber on the opposite side of the field, and sent back for the Third division, General Cameron commanding, and for the Chicago Mercantile battery and First Indiana battery, both under charge of Captain White, Chief of Artillery detachment Thirteenth army corps. After gaining the opposite side of the field, we halted, and the fatigued men of the Fourth division lay down to take some rest, as they had marched sixteen miles, one half the time in line of battle and through the woods. Nim's battery was then put in position on the Shreveport road. Near the left of the road all was quiet, skirmishing having ceased, excepting once in a while a shot either from rebel or Federal. Here Generals Franklin and Banks came on the field. General Stone, of Ball's Bluff notoriety, (who, by the way, is on General Banks's staff,) had been in the front all the morning. General Lee was also present with his cavalry. General Ransom came up and was ordered to advance his line. Before doing so, he told General Banks it would bring on an engagement, which he thought it prudent to avoid at that time, but advised

withdrawing the troops, going into camp, and sending for Smith, getting all our troops together, and then advance on the enemy and whip him soundly. But Franklin and Banks overruled him. Ransom formed his line. While this was taking place, a lieutenant of the Second Illinois cavalry came to Generals Stone and Lee and reported the enemy massing his force on our right and preparing to attack us, which they soon did with a vengeance; but just before the attack, General Banks ordered General Ransom to move his forces to the right. General Ransom then exclaimed: "That beats us." Too true! for the move on the right was only a feint; but with the practised eye of an old soldier, he detected the movement, but obeyed the order of his superior officer. Nim's Second Massachusetts battery was at the extreme front, (and here let me say there was no better battery in the United States service,) supported by the Twenty-second Wisconsin regiment. On the left of that regiment was a portion of Lee's cavalry; on the right of Nim's battery was the Sixty-seventh Indiana; next, the Seventy-seventh and the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois; next, the Nineteenth Kentucky, Forty-eighth Ohio, and the Third division, which came in just as the enemy and our skirmishers met. We drove their skirmishers back on their main body, which was advancing four deep in three lines, one after the other, at a "right shoulder shift arms" in the form of a half-circle massed in the centre. Our main lines soon met. The Nineteenth Kentucky and the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois were first engaged, then Nim's battery, the Sixty-seventh Indiana, and the Seventy-seventh Illinois, and then the whole line, including the Chicago Mercantile and the First Indiana batteries. The enemy soon pressed back our cavalry, which was on the flanks, and came at double-quick on the infantry. The cavalry giving way exposed the flank of the infantry, both right and left, but they held their front manfully until they were compelled to fall back or be captured. They then fell back, slowly at first, dropping by hundreds on the wayside, bleeding and exhausted. But what at first was an orderly retreat soon became almost a rout. Nim's battery worked manfully—the veteran battery, the hero of seventeen engagements, always successful, but this time doomed to defeat—they double-charged their guns with canister, and adding a bag of bullets, mowed the enemy down, only to have their places filled again by the advancing hordes. But the battery support were forced back, and the enemy made a dash and took the guns. The cavalry by this time were in a panic, our infantry were driven out of the woods to the Chicago Mercantile battery, where they made a desperate effort to check the enemy. The battery, in connection with the First Indiana, did good work, but all to no purpose, as far as checking the enemy was concerned. The troops fell back to the woods on this side of the field, the enemy in close pursuit. Now all will ask: "Where was the Nineteenth army corps?" Let me tell you; back in the woods, some six

miles distant, by order of General Franklin. They were sent for, as were the Ninety-sixth and Eighty-third Ohio, of the Fourth division, who were guarding a train. These two regiments soon came up and went at it desperately. They held the enemy in our front, but their flanks advanced and they were compelled to give way. Now comes the most painful part of this sad affair. General Ransom is wounded in the knee whilst trying to rally his men, and his assistant Adjutant-General killed, shot through the head. Our artillery retreated to the woods, and to the one road leading to the rear, and that was blocked full of wagons containing ammunition and supplies belonging to the cavalry, (all there by order of Generals Banks and Franklin,) so the batteries had to be abandoned. We lost here seventeen pieces of artillery, but the fight did not end yet, for the two regiments at the wood soon gave way, and on they came. Oh! may I never see the like again. Horses, men, wagons, all going to the rear—all saying: "Lost! lost!" At about half an hour before sundown, and after the day was lost, and a large train captured, up came the Nineteenth army corps on the double-quick, having run the entire distance of some five miles. They soon formed in the woods and went at it. The roar of musketry was awful, but they soon checked the enemy, who had, by this time, been severely punished. Here the hard-fought battle of Mansfield ceased.

Now let me sum up our position: In a dense wood, in front of a victorious enemy, at least twenty-five thousand strong, we only six thousand troops to oppose them; many wounded, and over four hundred wagons to be moved, a distance of more than nineteen miles, to Pleasant Hill, by only one road, and that bad, and lined with heavy pine forests on each side. Do you wonder at our feeling dispirited, knowing that the enemy would attack us in the morning? But we fell back, building huge fires all along the road to dispel the darkness, and arrived at Pleasant Hill at about four o'clock A.M., on the ninth instant, where we found General A. J. Smith, with his column, ready to dispute with the enemy for the final mastery of the field. On the ninth, at twelve o'clock M., our wagon-train filed into the road for this place. I came at the same time. General Smith had formed his line of battle, and was skirmishing when I left. The Thirteenth army corps also came here, they being worn out and cut to pieces.

Now let me estimate our losses. First, in the Thirteenth army corps alone, I put it at one thousand, killed and wounded, and one thousand two hundred taken prisoners; and this out of four thousand men. We lost seventeen pieces of artillery, and about seventy-five wagons, loaded with ammunition, supplies, and forage; also sixteen ambulances, and nearly all our wounded. Poor boys! to be wounded and also prisoners—my heart bleeds for them.

On the afternoon of the ninth, General Smith had one of the severest engagements of the war; but he, being something of a general, succeeded

in giving the enemy what they had given us—that is, a whipping. He recaptured sixteen pieces of artillery, but was not able to take them off the field, but destroyed them. He also captured some five hundred prisoners and some of our wagons back, and as I write, fell back to this point, where we will prepare again to meet the enemy, if he should think of following, which I don't think he will; but while writing this, I hear cannonading, and who knows what may come? I will not predict, however. Now let me say I think—and we all think—we might just as well had a victory as a defeat, and, if I mistake not, some high official will get beheaded. I most sincerely hope so. I am opposed to incompetency in any place, more particularly here in the army. General Smith fought his own men and won a victory, and had General Ransom had the same privilege, we would not have been whipped. Of one thing I am certain, our few remaining boys will fight no more under such commanders. I, for one, do not blame them. I may be severe, but can you blame me when I see it is sacrifice after sacrifice? We were always victorious until we came here, and would be so here if we had a Grant to lead us, yes, or a McClelland, who is buried at Pass Cavallo because he ranks Franklin, and the noble, brave, and generous Ransom is sacrificed. May he ventilate this as he well knows how. I think he will, I hope he will report. I send you the inclosed list of killed, wounded, and missing of four companies of the Seventy-seventh Illinois, companies D, C, H, and B. I could fill sheets with incidents of this battle; some would cause mirth, some tears, all would nerve the hearts of the brave to do battle for their brothers and their country. Many of those reported among the missing will certainly be numbered with the dead and wounded. May I never see the like again!

NEW-ORLEANS "ERA" ACCOUNT.

NEW-ORLEANS, April 15.

We are enabled to lay before our readers this morning a full and connected history of the recent great battles and Union victory in Western Louisiana, and one which can be relied upon as truthful. The fighting was terrific, and the casualties very great, but there can be little doubt that the blow has terribly impaired, if not destroyed, the rebel power in this State. It is possible, and even probable, that another engagement will be fought, as we learn, on good authority, that General Banks expressed the intention of giving battle once more as soon as opportunity offered. We gain the subjoined account from eye-witnesses and participants.

Our army broke camp at Natchitoches on the morning of the sixth instant, and marched out on the Shreveport road, the cavalry advancing twenty-one miles and resting for the night at Crump's Hill, the infantry halting three or four miles to the rear, on the banks of a bayou. On the following morning, at daybreak, the cavalry again started, and came upon a body of mounted

rebels before they had marched two miles. Fighting began at once, and the enemy were rapidly driven before our troops. This running style of fight was kept up for fourteen miles, until they had got two miles beyond Pleasant Hill.

Here a force of two thousand five hundred rebel cavalry, commanded by General Green, were found strongly posted on Wilson's plantation. The rebels were deployed along the edge of a dense strip of woods with an open field in front, over which we had to charge in order to reach them. The only Union soldiers that had advanced far enough to take part in the fight, which was inevitable, was the cavalry brigade of Lee's corps, commanded by Colonel Harai Robinson. As he had either to attack or be attacked, he decided to take the initiative, and he led his men in with such a dash and vigor, that at last the enemy was completely whipped and driven from the field. This engagement lasted two hours and a half, and our losses amounted to about forty killed and wounded, the enemy's being at least as many. Colonel Robinson pursued the retreating rebels as far as Bayou du Paul, where he found they had received heavy reinforcements, including four pieces of artillery, and were again in line of battle, waiting attack. As it was nearly dark, and the risk was too great in attacking again with his small force, he placed his men in the most advantageous position available, and awaited the progress of events. Nothing further was accomplished on the first day.

During the night, a brigade of infantry, commanded by Colonel Landrum, came up, and early in the morning of the following day, (Friday, the eighth,) the march was resumed. The rebels were found to be on the alert, and ready for the fray, and fighting opened almost at once.

The disposition of our forces at the beginning of this day's battle was: Colonel Landrum's infantry brigade on the right of the Shreveport road, and Colonel Lucas's cavalry brigade on the left. The skirmishing was fierce, and every foot of ground won from the enemy had to be taken by hard knocks, but at two o'clock in the afternoon, our forces had compelled the rebels to retreat seven miles. Our losses, as well as the enemy's, were very severe during this time. Lieutenant Colonel Webb, of the Seventy-seventh Illinois, shot through the head and instantly killed; and Captain Breese, commanding Sixth Missouri cavalry, severely wounded in the arm, being among the casualties on our side.

The enemy were now met in strong force, under command of General Kirby Smith. That Generals Dick Taylor, Mouton, Green, and Price were also there, was afterward ascertained from prisoners, who also stated that they had under them from eighteen thousand to twenty thousand men, while our force, comparatively, were a mere handful. The rebels occupied a strong position in the vicinity of Sabine Cross-Roads, concealed in the edge of a dense wood, with an open field in front, the Shreveport road passing through their lines. General Ransom arriving on the field with his command, formed his line as well

as circumstances would permit, after reconnoitring and feeling the rebel position. Colonel Emerson's brigade, of the Thirteenth corps, was stationed on the left of the line, with Nim's Massachusetts battery; Colonel Landrum's forces, parts of two brigades, on the right and centre, with Rawles's battery G, Fifth regulars, and a battery of the First Indiana artillery in rear of his right and centre. Colonel Dudley's brigade of cavalry (of Lee's corps) supported the left, and held itself in readiness to repel any attempt to flank; while Lucas protected the right flank. Colonel Robinson, with his brigade, was in rear of the centre, protecting the wagon-train, which was on the Shreveport road.

General Banks and staff rode upon the field by the time this disposition of our forces was effected, and word was sent back to General Franklin to make all speed for the scene of the momentarily expected battle. It was the design of General Banks to remain quiet until the balance of his army came up, and then open the battle himself; but Kirby Smith, knowing his own superiority in numbers, began the conflict before they could arrive.

About five o'clock the firing between the skirmishers became very hot, and in a short time our skirmish-line was driven back upon the main body by an overwhelming force. The whole strength of the enemy was then advanced, and heavy and repeated volleys were discharged and replied to on our right and centre. Soon this portion of our line became heavily engaged, and all our available strength was required to prevent its being crushed by the masses of the enemy. Our left, which was now also hotly fighting, was necessarily much weakened, and it was observed that a strong body of the enemy was massing in a dense piece of woods, preparatory to dashing down and flanking this end of the line. The danger was plain and imminent, but there was no remedy. General Stone ordered General Lee to have Nim's battery withdrawn, although it was doing great execution, in order that it might not become a prize to the enemy, and General Lee sent his aid-de-camp, Colonel J. S. Brisbin, to withdraw the battery. On reaching the point, its removal was found impossible, nearly every one of the horses having been killed. In a few moments more a solid mass of the rebels swept down upon the spot, and four of the guns were taken, the other two being dragged from the field by hand. The havoc made in the ranks of the enemy at this point of the action is represented as appalling, the whole six guns belching forth double charges of grape and canister; and some five or six rounds were fired between the time the rebels left the woods until the artillerymen were forced from their pieces. As the rebels were in mass, the execution such a shower of missiles caused can be easily imagined. The two senior officers of the battery were wounded, Lieutenant Snow mortally, he having since died.

The forces that made this charge were com-

manded by the rebel General Mouton, who fell shot through the body with four balls.

The fighting on all parts of our line was now at short-range, and to use the expression of one of the participants: "We were holding on by the skin of our teeth only." It was known that Franklin's troops had been sent for, and anxious and wistful were the glances cast to the rear. General Cameron with his brigade came up, and going at once into action on the right, where the battle again waxed hottest, created the impression that the veterans of the Nineteenth had arrived, and a glad and exultant shout went up from our wearied and desperately situated little band. This belief was strengthened by the arrival of General Franklin, who dashed boldly into the thickest of the fray, cap in hand and cheering on the men. General Banks, too, seemed ubiquitous, riding wherever the men wavered, and by personal example inciting them to renewed deeds of daring and reckless valor. Colonels Clark and Wilson, with other members of the staff, sabre in hand, mixed with the soldiers on foot and horseback, and cheered and encouraged them to continue the unequal fight.

But human beings could not longer withstand such fierce and overpowering onslaughts as our men were bearing up against, and our line finally gave way at all points, and the men fell back, fiercely contesting the ground they yielded. Unfortunately a sad mishap befell them at this time.

The large and cumbersome wagon-train blocked up the way; the frightened horses dashed through the infantry lines, entangled themselves with the artillery, and created a momentary but unfortunate confusion. This gave the rebels, who were rapidly pressing us, possession of several pieces of artillery.

General Franklin was conspicuous during this part of the day, rallying the men, and two horses were killed under him; Captain Chapman, of his staff, had both feet taken off by a round shot, and the horse of Captain Franklin was killed at the same time.

The enemy followed our men step by step for three and a half miles, but he was advancing to meet a fearful retribution. The Nineteenth army corps had been ordered to stop and form its line of battle—the retreating Union troops passed through this line and formed in the rear. The rebels, thinking they had repulsed our whole army, dashed impetuously on, and through the line, but half visible through the woods before them, was another feeble but desperate stand of a few men.

General Emory commanded this force, consisting of two full brigades, and he ordered the fire to be reserved until the rebels were within short-range, when from both infantry and the artillery posted thickly along his line, a storm of iron and lead was hurled upon the foe that literally mowed them down. The rebels halted in amazement, but still they fought, and bravely. Volley after volley was discharged from each side full into the ranks of their opponents, but neither gave

signs of yielding, and night charitably threw her mantle over the ghastly scene, and enforced a cessation of hostilities.

The two divisions under command of General A. J. Smith, belonging to the Sixteenth and Seventeenth army corps, had reached Pleasant Hill, and were there halted, General Banks determining to withdraw his army to that point, for the sake of the advantageous position which he could there occupy, knowing that the enemy would follow what they supposed to be a demoralized army. In accordance with this plan of operations, all our men were quietly withdrawn from the enemy's front, and the line of march taken up for Pleasant Hill. This conjunction of his forces was satisfactorily effected, and the result confidently awaited. So well was the movement conducted that although the first body started at ten o'clock, and the remainder were not all under way until nearly day, the rebels had not the slightest suspicion of what was going on.

At seven o'clock on Saturday morning, our forces were all at Pleasant Hill, and the rebels were advancing, cavalry in front, endeavoring to discover our position. Colonel O. P. Gooding, with his brigade of Lee's cavalry corps, was sent out on the Shreveport road, to meet the enemy and draw him on. He had gone about a mile when he came upon the rebel advance. Skirmishing immediately ensued, and according to the plan he slowly fell back. The fight was very sharp between these cavalry bodies, and Gooding lost nearly forty men killed and wounded, inflicting, however, as much damage as he received. Among his casualties are Captain Becker and Lieutenant Hall, of the Second New-York veteran cavalry. Lieutenant Hall has since died of his wounds. Colonel Gooding made a narrow escape, a ball passing through and tearing the crown out of his hat, and grazing the skin. The brigade behaved very gallantly, covering General Emory's front until his line was formed.

The battle-field of Pleasant Hill is a large, open field, which had once been cultivated, but is now overgrown with weeds and bushes. The slightly elevated centre of the field, from which the name Pleasant Hill is taken, is nothing more than a long mound, hardly worthy the name of hill. A semicircular belt of timber runs around the field on the Shreveport side. General Emory formed his line of battle on the side facing these woods, General McMillan's brigade being posted on the right, General Dwight's on the centre, and Colonel Benedict's on the left. Taylor's battery L, First regulars, had four guns in rear of the left wing, on the left of the Shreveport road, and two on the road in rear of General Dwight's line. Hibberd's Vermont battery was on the right.

In the rear of Emory, and concealed by the rising ground, were General Smith's tried troops formed in two lines of battle fifty yards apart. All his artillery was in the front line, a piece, section or battery being on the flank of each regiment, the infantry lying between them. The

Thirteenth corps was in reserve in the rear under General Cameron—General Ransom having been wounded the day before. General Smith was Commander-in-Chief of the two lines back of the crest, while General Mower was the immediate commander of the men. The commander of the right brigade in General Smith's first line was Colonel Lynch; the left brigade was Colonel Shaw's. The second line also consisted of two brigades, the right under control of Colonel —, and the left commanded by Colonel Hill. Crawford's Third Indiana battery was posted on the right of the Eighty-ninth Indiana infantry, and the Ninth Indiana battery on the right of the line of battle. The Missouri Iron Sun battery, and others whose names and numbers we could not ascertain, were also in this section of the battle.

The skirmishing was kept up with considerable vigor until about five o'clock in the afternoon, when the rebels had completed their arrangements for the attack. At about this hour General Emory's skirmish-line was driven in on the right by the rebels, who appeared in large force, coming through the timber above mentioned. They soon reached the open ground, and moved on to the attack in three lines of battle. Our batteries and infantry opened with terrible effect, doing great slaughter with grape and canister, while the enemy's artillery, being in the woods and in bad position, did scarcely any damage.

Colonel Benedict's brigade on the left was first engaged, soon followed by Dwight's and McMillan's. This fighting was terrific—old soldiers say it never was surpassed for desperation. Notwithstanding the terrible havoc in their ranks, the enemy pressed fiercely on, slowly pushing the men of the Nineteenth corps back, up the hill, but not breaking their line of battle. A sudden and bold dash of the rebels on the right gave them possession of Taylor's battery, and forced our line still further back.

Now came the grand *coup de main*. The Nineteenth, on arriving at the top of the hill, suddenly filed off over the hill and passed through the lines of General Smith. We must here mention that the rebels were now in but two lines of battle, the first having been almost annihilated by General Emory, what remained being forced back into the second line. But these two lines came on exultant and sure of victory.

The first passed over the knoll, and, all heedless of the long line of cannons and crouching forms of as brave men as ever trod mother earth, pressed on. The second line appeared on the crest, and the death-signal was sounded. Words cannot describe the awful effect of this discharge. Seven thousand rifles, and several batteries of artillery, each gun loaded to the muzzle with grape and canister, were fired simultaneously, and the whole centre of the rebel line was crushed down as a field of ripe wheat through which a tornado had passed. It is estimated that one thousand men were hurried into eternity or frightfully mangled by this one discharge.

No time was given them to recover their good order, but General Smith ordered a charge, and his men dashed rapidly forward, the boys of the Nineteenth joining in. The rebels fought boldly and desperately back to the timber, on reaching which, a large portion broke and fled, fully two thousand throwing aside their arms. In this charge, Taylor's battery was retaken, as were also two of the guns of Nim's battery, the Parrott gun taken from us at Carrion Crow last fall, and one or two others belonging to the rebels, one of which was considerably shattered, beside seven hundred prisoners. A pursuit and desultory fight was kept up for three miles, when our men returned to the field of battle.

And thus ended this fearful and bloody struggle for the control of Western Louisiana.

The accounts from all quarters agree in stating that General Banks, during the entire contest, showed the greatest possible daring and valor, as did General Franklin, and the staffs of each. They will reap their reward in the grateful hearts and prayers of the American people, and in the increased devotion and love of their soldiers.

General Ransom, when wounded, was directing the firing of the Chicago battery, standing among the men, and he had scarcely been removed when the rebels were in possession of the spot on which he fell.

Among the rebels taken were three lieutenant-colonels and six majors.

Colonel Brisbin, of General Lee's staff, had his horse's head blown off while riding across the field by a shell, and would have been taken had not some of the men pulled him out. He succeeded in capturing a rebel horse and leaving the field on its back. Colonel Brisbin lost his trunk, in the baggage train, the sash taken from General Barksdale on the field at Gettysburgh, which had been made a present to him, and General Villipigue's sabre, taken from him in Virginia.

Colonel Robinson, while defending the wagon-train on the first day, was shot in the hip, but refused to leave the field for two hours after. It was supposed he would lose his leg in consequence, but the surgeons now think it can be saved.

CHICAGO "TRIBUNE" ACCOUNT.

GRAND ECORE, LA., April 11, 1864.

The army under General Banks left here on the sixth, *via* Pleasant Hill and Mansfield for Shreveport, with the exception of Smith's forces, consisting of detachments of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth army corps, which did not leave until the seventh. On the evening of the eighth, we camped at Pleasant Hill, thirty-five miles from Grand Ecore. General Lee's cavalry division was advanced to Robinson's Mill, eight miles beyond Pleasant Hill, where it camped for the night. After a short skirmish with the enemy, in which we lost thirty-seven men in killed and wounded, General Lee now sent back requesting a brigade of infantry to be sent forward in the morning to his support, and at three o'clock A.M. on the morning of the eighth, Gen-

eral Ransom, commanding detachment Thirteenth army corps, by order of General Banks, sent the First brigade, Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, under command of Colonel Landrum, of the Nineteenth Kentucky, to report to General Lee at daylight, at Robinson's Mill. The balance of General Ransom's command marched forward on the Mansfield road at half-past five o'clock A.M., and was followed at eight o'clock A.M., by the last division, Nineteenth army corps, commanded by General Emory. General Smith, who was bringing up the rear of the army, was to move up to Pleasant Hill on the same day.

The forces under General Lee, moving in our advance, met the enemy early in the morning and skirmished in line of battle for some seven miles, when the resistance to their march became so obstinate as to hold them in complete check, and General Lee, who was now within five miles of Mansfield, sent back word to General Franklin, advising him of his situation, and General Ransom, who had just reached a small bayou ten miles from Pleasant Hill, was immediately ordered forward by General Franklin with the First brigade, Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, which came up with General Lee at half-past two o'clock. About three o'clock, General Banks and staff reached the extreme front, and found our advance force deployed upon the right and left of the road, skirmishing very heavily with the enemy on the right.

The position of our army at this hour was as follows: In front, and on the ground where a most terrible battle was soon to be fought, was General Lee with Colonels Dudley's and Lucas's cavalry brigades, with Nim's battery of six guns and one section (two guns) of battery G, Fifth United States regulars. United to this force there was now the Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, with the Chicago Mercantile battery, (six guns.) Next, in the rear and completely blocking up the road, was General Lee's train of some two hundred and fifty wagons, to the presence of which the subsequent disaster of the day is largely attributable. Back of these was the Third division, Thirteenth army corps, under General Cameron, moving up to the front as rapidly as possible. Next to the Third division was General Emory with the First division, Nineteenth army corps, seven miles from the extreme front, while General Smith was back of Pleasant Hill, one day's march in our rear. The battle-ground was a large, open, irregular-shaped field, through about one half of which on the right of the road a narrow belt of timber ran, encircling inward as it extended to the right until its base rested around upon the woods in the rear. The road passed through the centre of the field in a north-westerly direction toward Mansfield.

Meandering diagonally through the field and across the road was a small creek or bayou, from the banks of which the ground rose gradually along the line of the road, terminating in a considerable ridge on each side. The ridge at the

entrance to the field on the side of our advance was close up to the woods, and commanded the whole battle-field, while the ridge on the opposite side ran through the open field on the left to the belt of timber dividing the field on the right, along which it sloped gradually until it reached the level of the hollow on the bayou. The outer line of the field beyond the belt of timber on the right was an irregular semicircle, the extremities drawing inward, so as to correspond somewhat to the outline of the dividing wood. The outer line of the field on the left was very nearly at a right angle with the road. The rebel forces, occupying a front of about one mile, were stationed under cover of the woods along the further line of these fields. Their front, therefore, extended from their right flank (our left) in a straight line to the road, and then, following the shape of the field, circled inward until their left flank reached a point that would be intersected by a line drawn across the road at a right angle near the middle of the first field on the right. The main body of the rebels was evidently on the right of the roads. A battery was seen in position near the road, but it was not brought into action.

The Union forces were stationed as follows: On the right and in the belt of timber which separated the first from the second field was Lucas's cavalry brigade, mostly dismounted and deployed as skirmishers, while beyond and supporting this brigade was the Fourth division, Thirteenth army corps, under the command of Colonel Landrum. The Twenty-third Wisconsin, however, which occupied the left flank of this division, was on the left of the road acting as a support to Nim's battery. The Fourth division was composed of the following regiments stationed in line of battle in the following order, commencing at the right, namely: Eighty-second Ohio, Ninety-sixth Ohio, Nineteenth Kentucky, One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois, Forty-eighth Ohio, Sixty-seventh Indiana, Seventy-fifth Indiana, and Twenty-third Wisconsin. Between the Eighty-second and Ninety-sixth Ohio, on the right, two small howitzers were placed.

The field on the left side of the road beyond the Twenty-third Wisconsin, was occupied by Colonel Dudley's brigade of cavalry, the main body being deployed in line with a small force in reserve near the centre of the field. Nim's battery, six pieces, was stationed on our extreme front, just at the point of the belts of timber on the right. One section was on the right of the road and trained so as to fire through the woods into the field beyond. One piece was in the road and three on the left. To the left of this battery there were two small howitzers. The Chicago Mercantile battery was stationed not far from the centre of the first field, on the right and near a cluster of loghouses, where General Banks had made his headquarters. The section of battery G was further to the left and rear, and trained so as to fire to the right. I have given the position of our forces precisely, as I noted it down in my memorandum-book in pass-

ing over the entire ground during the skirmishing before the main attack on our line. About four o'clock, P.M., the Fourth division was moved forward through the belt of timber, and took position in line of battle behind the fence that inclosed the field beyond.

At half-past four, General Ransom and staff passed on foot along the outer infantry line; our boys were firing very briskly across the field into the woods where the enemy was posted, but as the fire was of little or no effect, and only wasting the ammunition, the General directed it to be withheld until the rebels came out into the field. For half or three-quarters of an hour, every thing remained quiet along the lines. When all at once we were startled by a heavy and continuous discharge of musketry on the right, and on riding rapidly to that side we beheld the rebel forces marching steadily in close ranks across the open field to the attack; while at the same moment a heavy column was moving across the road upon our left, where our only protection was in the cavalry brigade under Colonel Dudley, aided by Nim's battery, the two howitzers, and one small regiment of infantry (the Twenty-third Wisconsin.) Most gallantly now did the old Fourth division sustain its well-earned reputation, and the sad roll of the killed and wounded will fully attest the firmness and obstinacy with which our brave boys resisted the rebel advance, stimulated and encouraged by the conduct of their officers, and awakened to a perfect enthusiasm by the presence of their corps commander, General Ransom, who, utterly regardless of all danger, rushed into the thickest of the fight, rallying the line where it showed any signs of wavering, and disposing his forces so as to protect the weakest points. Every regiment coolly but rapidly poured its destructive fire upon the advancing foe, opening at every discharge great gaps in the rebel ranks, and strewing the field with an almost continuous line of killed and wounded. Under this terrific and well-directed fire, the rebel line was checked, broken, and driven back, the only considerable body remaining together being a mass of some three hundred or four hundred directly opposite the Thirteenth Illinois, which was badly cut up, but held its position without breaking.

Before we had time to rejoice over the repulse of the rebels on this line, the evidences of a much stronger and infinitely more dangerous attack were observed on our left, where the enemy in great force was charging rapidly over the field to the left of the road. At the very first indication of this movement on our left flank, an effort was made to withdraw the Eighty-third Ohio from our extreme right for the purpose of supporting the left, and the entire division endeavored to fall back, and form a new line under the protection of the woods on the ridge to our rear. It was about this time that General Ransom, while engaged in a successful effort to get the Mercantile battery back upon the ridge, where it would have been saved but for the complete blockade of the road by the baggage-train,

fell from his horse, shot through the left knee, and was carried to the rear just in time to prevent his capture. This is the fourth time that General Ransom has been wounded while fighting bravely for his country. With a courage that shrinks at no danger, he unites a clear and cool judgment on the battle-field that is rarely found in men of the largest experience, and though he could not have saved us from the disaster of this day, had he remained unhurt, still we all felt how seriously we had been weakened by his fall, and both officers and men unite in awarding to him the highest praise for his conduct as a man and a general on the field.

The effort to retire the Fourth division and form a new line in the rear was defeated by the rapid movements of the enemy, who rushed in overwhelming force across the road, captured Nim's battery, drove Dudley's cavalry in utter confusion from the field, and turning the left flank of the infantry, broke the entire line and precipitated the fragments into the woods in every possible direction of escape. The scene that followed baffles all description. Over the field and into the dense and tangled thicket the routed troops fled in disordered masses, followed by the exultant foe, yelling like demons and pouring volley after volley into the fugitive ranks. The effort to arrest or drive back the panic-stricken crowd was like flinging straws back at a hurricane. Appeals, commands, threats, curses or prayers, were alike of no avail. Literally oblivious to anything but the danger behind, men on foot and men on horseback, promiscuously intermingled with negroes on foot and negroes on mules, charged into the forest and through the thicket in a manner that would have utterly routed the foe if the tide had only set the other way. Amidst this rushing storm the Commanding General remained cool and collected.

About a half a mile from the field, the Third division, Thirteenth army corps, under General Cameron, came up and formed in line of battle, and here two guns of the Mercantile battery were put in position and opened with good effect upon the enemy. For a short time it seemed as if a successful rally would be made at this point, but the effort was in vain. The entire strength of the Third division on the field was only one thousand six hundred men, and after a short and courageous resistance, the line gave way. A check, however, had been given to the panic, and many of the troops formed into squads and continued the retreat in better order. Efficient aid was also rendered by Colonel Robinson, commanding a cavalry brigade detailed to guard the trains, who, hearing the rapidly approaching firing, hastened with a large portion of his command to the front, and wheeling into line in perfect order, delivered a most destructive volley into the rebels who were swarming in the road, and then fell back in good order. For full a mile from the place where Cameron's division had met us, the retreat was continued, the rebels following closely upon our heels, and keeping up a continuous fire, when all at once, as we emerged

into a more open piece of woods, we came upon Emory's division, of the Nineteenth army corps, forming in magnificent order in line of battle across the road.

Opening their ranks to permit the retreating forces to pass through, each regiment of this fine division closed up on the double-quick, quietly awaited the approach of the rebels, and within less than five minutes on they came, screaming and firing as they advanced, but still in good order and with closed ranks. All at once, from that firm line of gallant soldiers that now stood so bravely between us and our pursuing foes, there came forth a course of reverberating thunders that rolled from flank to flank in one continuous peal, sending a storm of leaden hail into the rebel ranks that swept them back in dismay, and left the ground covered with their killed and wounded. In vain the rebels strove to rally against this terrific fire. At every effort they were repulsed, and after a short contest they fell back, evidently most terribly punished. It was now quite dark, and each party bivouacked on the field. A sad and fearful day it had been to us. The Third and Fourth divisions, Fourteenth army corps, were completely broken to pieces. Out of two thousand six hundred men in action, the Fourth division had lost one thousand one hundred and twenty-five men killed, wounded, and missing; and the Third division, out of one thousand six hundred men, had lost three hundred and fifty. Every brigade commander of these two divisions was either killed or wounded and a prisoner. Dudley's and Duncan's brigades of Lee's cavalry were scattered in every direction, and seventy of the cavalry baggage-wagons, with all of General Cameron's ambulances filled with our wounded, were captured.

The Chicago Mercantile battery was gone, Captain White wounded and a prisoner, with twenty-two men of the battery missing. Nim's battery, the First Indiana, and two guns from battery G, Fifth United States regulars, had fallen into the hands of the enemy, with the four howitzers stationed on the right and left of our infantry line, in all, eighteen field-guns and four howitzers, with caissons and equipments complete. Colonel Webb, of the Seventeenth Illinois, fell early in the day while skirmishing with the advance. Major Reed, commanding the One Hundred and Twentieth Illinois, was killed on the right, and Captain Dickey, (a son of Colonel T. L. Dickey,) on General Ransom's staff, was shot while carrying an order to the Nineteenth Kentucky, in the woods on the right. As you will doubtless receive a list of killed and wounded as soon, if not sooner, than this letter, I will not name any others here. The loss on the side of the rebels must have been very severe. They suffered severely while crossing the field on our right, and still more from the fire of Emory's division. So much will of course be said and written in regard to the causes that led to the disaster of this day, that I feel justified in making a few suggestions upon this point.

First, the forces under General Lee were de-

coyed into an advance too far beyond the main body of the army, considering the resistance which he was encountering, which very clearly indicated an enemy in heavy force; and, second, the placing of a long baggage-train between the advance and the infantry column, in a country where the nature of the woods rendered it almost impossible to pass it without delay, was a very dangerous experiment. But for the presence of this train, Cameron's division might have reached the front in time to have taken position on our left, and then, if we had not been strong enough in the first encounter to repulse the enemy, we could have protected our line from that fatal flank movement, saved our batteries by forming a new line on the ridge in the rear, holding the rebels in check until Emory arrived, when we would have been strong enough to assume the offensive with a fair prospect of success.

Although this letter was only intended to cover a description of the battle on the eighth at the Sabine Cross-Roads, still the history of this day is so intimately connected with the events that immediately followed that I will, as briefly as possible, narrate them. During the night of the eighth our entire force fell back in safety to Pleasant Hill, fifteen miles from the battle-field. General Cameron and Colonel Landrum collected together the main body of their scattered troops, and the cavalry brigades were also got into camp. General Smith had reached Pleasant Hill on the night of the battle, and on the morning of the ninth all the baggage-trains were placed in the rear, and Smith's and Emory's forces united were placed in fine position ready to receive the enemy.

About half-past two o'clock the rebels made their appearance, and commenced skirmishing and shelling our lines, and at half-past five they attacked us in position in full force in the open field, and after a severe contest were repulsed with great loss. Our men, charging over the field, driving the enemy into the woods and taking six hundred or seven hundred prisoners, besides recapturing two of the guns (belonging to Nim's battery) lost on the previous day. This was on Saturday. On Sunday and Monday the entire Union army retreated in good order to Grand Ecore, thirty-five miles, without any molestation, the rebels being evidently unable to follow us after their defeat at Pleasant Hill. The retrograde movement was doubtless the best that could be made under the circumstances, the loss of the cavalry train, and the necessity for obtaining additional supplies rendering a forward movement very difficult and hazardous. The Union army is still strong enough to fight its way through to Shreveport, unless weakened by the withdrawal of Smith's force, in which event the Red River expedition must be abandoned for the present.

A. W. M.

NEW-YORK "HERALD" NARRATIVE.

GRAND ECORE, LA., April 11, 1864.

Early on the morning of Wednesday, April sixth, General Banks's column, having rested for

two days at Natchitoches, marched on the Shreveport road, General Lee with his cavalry leading the column. At night the head of the infantry column rested at Bayou du Paul, seventeen miles from Natchitoches, and the cavalry rested at Crump's Hill, twenty-one miles from Natchitoches. During the day, the cavalry skirmished with the enemy, who fell back slowly before our advance firing continually.

At daylight on the morning of the seventh the army was in motion. The cavalry found the enemy in considerable force, but drove him before them with some loss until two miles beyond Pleasant Hill, where the rebels were drawn up in line, and strongly posted in the edge of a wood with open fields in front. The force consisted of some two thousand five hundred cavalry, under the rebel General Green, and occupied the crest of a hill on the farm of Dr. Wilson.

General A. L. Lee ordered Colonel Robinson, commanding the Third brigade of Union cavalry, to advance and feel the enemy severely. The Eighty-seventh Illinois mounted infantry was accordingly sent forward on foot, and soon became heavily engaged with the enemy. Seeing them hard pressed, Colonel Robinson ordered forward the First Louisiana cavalry to support the Eighty-seventh, and the action now became general. The Sixth Missouri howitzer-battery was put into position, and opened on the enemy with shot and shell; but despite the storm of bullets hurled against them the rebels pushed steadily forward at all points, and our left flank was in great danger of being turned.

General Lee, at this stage of the action, arrived on the ground, and at once ordered Colonel Lucas, commanding First cavalry brigade, up to the support of Colonel Robinson. Colonel Lucas deployed his line and moved forward in fine style, the men going into action with a shout. The contest now raged with renewed fury, and the pluck displayed on both sides was remarkable. Our troops slowly gained ground despite the stubborn resistance they met at every step, and drove the enemy into the timber. The rebels attempted a charge, but were repulsed with great gallantry by our troops.

It was now discovered that our ammunition was giving out, and that the enemy was massing on the right of our line, which he soon after attacked with great vigor, compelling our force to slowly retire some hundred yards. The action now became lively, and the loss of the day was seriously apprehended; but Colonel Robinson, sabre in hand, cheered on the men, and the gallant fellows, many of them without a shot in their guns, rushed forward and drove the enemy into the woods and off the field. The day was won, but with severe loss in both officers and men. Captain Moss, of the First Louisiana cavalry, and Lieutenants Graham and Meader, of the Eighty-seventh Illinois mounted infantry, together with several privates, were wounded, and six or seven privates were killed.

Colonel Lucas, with his First cavalry brigade, closely followed by Colonel Robinson, with his

Third cavalry brigade, pursued the enemy several miles, as far as Carroll's saw-mill, where he found them drawn up on a wooded hill, with four guns in position. Heavy infantry and artillery firing continued until nightfall, when, in the dusk of the evening, a heavy rebel force charged on the Eighty-seventh, coming up to within ten feet of their line and firing rapidly. The gallant Eighty-seventh held their position, and, when the enemy were close upon them, delivered a volley and charged upon their assailants, driving them back in confusion. This ended the fighting for the day.

On the morning of the eighth, at an early hour, the cavalry, supported by Colonel Emerson's brigade of infantry, from Landrum's division of the Thirteenth corps, moved forward, and almost immediately discovered masses of the enemy in front. Colonel Lucas deployed his cavalry brigade on the left of the road, and Colonel Emerson's brigade was deployed on the right. Rawles's battery, (G,) Fifth United States artillery, was put into position in the road, and opened on the rebels, who were posted in a thick pine woods, with open fields in front. The day was beautiful, and the sun shone warm and bright from an unclouded sky as our lines moved forward to the music of the booming cannon and the brisk rattle of musketry. Fighting continued throughout the forenoon, during which time the enemy had been pushed back through dense pine woods a distance of six miles.

From almost every hill-top the rebels hurled their shot at our advancing columns, but doing little harm. In one of these many skirmishes Lieutenant-Colonel Webb, commanding the Seventy-seventh Illinois volunteers, was shot through the head and almost instantly killed. Lieutenant Jones, Sixteenth Indiana mounted infantry, was also killed, and Captain Merklein, Fourteenth New-York cavalry, slightly, and Captain Breese, commanding Sixth Missouri cavalry, severely wounded.

At midday the enemy was found in position in strong force at Sabine Cross-Roads, and heavy skirmishing began, which was kept up until two o'clock, when the calm that usually precedes the storm occurred. About this time General Ransom came up with another brigade of Landrum's division. General Banks in the mean time had arrived on the field, and at once sent couriers for General Franklin, who was some miles in the rear, to hasten forward with all possible despatch. Generals Stone, Lee, and Ransom rode to the front and carefully reconnoitred the enemy. He was in his favorite position, on high ground in a thick wood, with open fields in the form of a semicircle running around his front.

At half-past two o'clock all was quiet, and except an occasional shot from pickets here and there along the line there was no indication of the dreadful scene to be enacted. To look up at the clear blue sky and down at the green earth smiling in the sunlight, one would have thought it impossible that before the sun in the

heavens went down, the turf beneath our feet would be made slippery with human gore, and strewn with the dead and dying. The day was fine. The infantry lay stretched on the ground, the troopers lounged lazily in their saddles, and the cannoneers sat upon their guns, enjoying the warm sunshine, while groups of officers gathered around their leaders and discussed the campaign, passing many a careless joke.

At three o'clock masses of the enemy were reported to be moving toward our right, and skirmishing became lively. At half-past three o'clock the enemy were restless along the whole front, and seemed meditating mischief. Anxiety now began to be felt for the arrival of General Franklin, and the right of our line was reinforced by taking troops from the left and centre. One brigade of Landrum's held the left, another the right and centre. Rawles's United States battery, with the First Indiana and the Chicago Mercantile battery, was posted on the right and centre, and Nim's celebrated battery on the left, supported by the Twenty-third Wisconsin infantry. The cavalry brigade of Colonel Lucas was ordered to act upon the right flank, the cavalry brigade of Colonel Dudley was ordered to act upon the left flank of our line, and the cavalry brigade of Colonel Robinson to remain opposite the centre, in rear, on the road, and to guard wagon-trains.

At four o'clock, or a little before, the enemy was reported to be advancing, and Colonel Wilson, of General Banks's staff; Colonel Brisbin, of General Lee's staff; Major Cowan and other staff-officers, were sent to ascertain the truth of the report. These officers soon returned, and reported the whole rebel line to be in motion and rapidly advancing. Our troops in silence awaited the attack; and soon it came, the right being brought into action first. High and dreadful swelled the conflict. The enemy, pressing forward at all points, met a terrible resistance. Volley after volley was poured into their ranks, sweeping down hundreds, only to give place to new hundreds, who pressed forward to supply the places of the fallen.

Our troops stood firm; but the rebels, who outnumbered us more than two to one, began after an hour's hard fighting slowly to gain ground, and our thinned and bleeding ranks were pressed back by overwhelming numbers into the woods. The rebels now began to show a heavy force on our left, which was the real point of attack, their movement toward our right having been a *ruse* to induce us to weaken our left by sending troops to the right, in which they had succeeded.

It was plain to all that no human bravery or skill could long withstand the odds against which our troops were fighting, and that unless Franklin speedily arrived we would be forced to retire. General Franklin, with his staff, did come up, but his division, under command of General Emory, was yet in the rear. Our thinned and wearied ranks stood up nobly against the masses.

and murderous fire of the rebels, and cheer after cheer went up, mingled with the almost incessant roll of musketry and roar of cannon.

The forces of the brave General Ransom had been cut up dreadfully, and he himself borne wounded and bleeding from the field; but still they held their position, fighting gallantly. General Cameron's division of the Thirteenth army corps arrived, and hastened to the support of Colonel Landrum's division; but, like bees from a hive, the rebels swarmed upon it, and it was fast melting away under the storm of bullets that was continually rained upon it. Blücher at Waterloo was not more anxiously looked for than was Emory (of Franklin's corps) upon that field. But he came not. We had now engaged less than eight thousand men fighting a force of over twenty thousand men in their chosen position.

Emory was reported to be within two miles with his division and rapidly coming up. The officers encouraged their men to hold the field until his arrival, and bravely indeed did they struggle against the masses that constantly pressed them upon both flanks and in front; but, borne down by numbers, their shattered ranks were pushed over the field and into the woods beyond. The enemy had now driven back our left, and were within sixty yards of Nim's battery, which was firing double charges of grape and canister, sweeping down the rebels in piles at every discharge. General Lee, seeing that Nim's battery, if it were not speedily removed, would be captured, by direction of General Stone ordered Colonel Brisbin to have it taken from the field. The order came too late. Not horses enough were left alive to haul the pieces from the field. The cannoneers lay thick about the guns, and dead and wounded rebels in windrows before them. Two of the guns were dragged off by hand, and Lieutenant Snow was shot down while spiking a third. Four of the guns of this battery could not be got off, and fell into the hands of the enemy.

In the mean time our right was fiercely engaged, and our centre was being pressed back, and finally the right also gave way. Six guns of the Mercantile battery, two guns of Rawles's G battery, Fifth United States artillery, two mountain howitzers of the Sixth Missouri howitzer-battery, four guns of the First Indiana battery, and six guns of Nim's battery were left on the field.

Our forces now retired upon Emory's division, of the Nineteenth army corps, which was rapidly coming up, with bands playing the most patriotic national airs. It immediately went into line of battle in the woods, on the crest of a hill, and received the enemy handsomely, driving him back with great slaughter. Here the conflict ended for the day, it being now quite dark. General Emory, his division and his brigade commanders, Generals Dwight and McMillan and Colonel Benedict, especially distinguished themselves in the closing action, and to that division of the Nineteenth army corps belongs the glory of saving the day.

General Franklin was in the thickest of the battle, and was loudly cheered as he rode, cap in hand, over the field.

General Ransom, while endeavoring to get the guns of the First Indiana battery off the field, received a ball in the knee, and was carried to the rear. He stood by these guns, sabre in hand, until shot down and borne from the field. He will recover, and after a few months be able to return to duty.

Colonel Webb, early in the day, while leading a line of skirmishers in the woods, was shot through the head by a rebel sharp-shooter and died almost instantly.

Colonel Robinson, of the Third cavalry brigade, while defending the train and leading his troops against the enemy, was severely wounded in the thigh. He did not leave the saddle until three hours after.

Colonel Brisbin, of General Lee's staff, was leading a line of rallied men against the enemy, when a shell from the rebel batteries blew off his horse's head, and the animal falling on his leg, held him to the earth. For a time he was in danger of being captured, but was finally extricated and made his escape on a rebel horse which was passing along riderless.

Generals Lee and Cameron displayed great gallantry throughout the action, riding wherever the shot fell thickest, and by their example cheering the men to deeds of heroism.

Among the bravest of the brave was General Banks, who rode through the storm of lead as coolly as if at a holiday review, encouraging the men to stand up to the work of death. The men are full of admiration for their gallant General, and anxious to fight under one who so nobly shares with them the danger as well as the glory.

Many instances of personal bravery might be recorded unsurpassed by any thing in the annals of history; but there is not time to enumerate them now. One sergeant of artillery, however, deserves especial mention. This brave fellow would not leave his gun, though the horses were shot down, the enemy close upon him and the piece hopelessly lost. Still he stood by his gun till pierced through the temple by a ball, and he fell dead across the limber.

General Emory and a portion of his staff were at one time cut off from his command and surrounded by the enemy; but a way was opened for their escape.

Our troops fought well, and only yielded the field when cut to pieces and overpowered by numbers. The generals and their staff-officers deserve much credit. General Banks's staff was in the thickest of the fray, and Colonels Clark and Wilson, sabre in hand, rallied the men and cheered them on.

General Cameron's Third division, of the Thirteenth army corps, lost fifty killed, one hundred and fifty wounded, and two hundred missing. Colonel Landrum's Fourth division, of the same corps, lost twenty-five killed, seventy-five wound-

ed, and one thousand missing. The Forty-sixth Indiana regiment lost one hundred and thirty of its three hundred men.

Four brigade commanders were killed and wounded in the battle of Sabine Cross-Roads.

The Nineteenth Kentucky repelled five distinct charges before the enemy was enabled to break through its lines.

A color-bearer in General Cameron's division found himself surrounded by the enemy who quite peremptorily ordered him to halt. He did not halt, but rushed forward impetuously amid the shower of bullets and saved his colors.

Nim's battery, when the time was approaching that it could hold out but little longer, loaded each piece with a case of grape and canister, spherical case shell, and a sack of bullets containing about three hundred. This hurled death and destruction into the ranks of the enemy, who wavered and fell back at every discharge of these fated guns. The battery lost twenty-one officers and privates, sixty-four horses, and eighteen mules.

Captain Crosby, of General Banks's staff, had his hand injured by the jam between the trains and a hurrying cavalryman.

The capture of General Lee's headquarters train was attended with much inconvenience to the General and his staff, as well as to the correspondents who moved with him. Major Cowan's mess lost an elegant rosewood mess-chest, and other less valuable mess-chests were in the wagons. Not a solitary article of clothing was left except what the officers had on, and clean shirts and paper collars were in greater demand than the supply could furnish. Quartermaster Hoge lost all his funds and vouchers, and officers who had deposited their greenbacks in his safe for security, had the satisfaction of aiding in the contribution of six or seven thousand dollars to helping along the illy paid rebel soldiers. All the Adjutant-General's official papers fell into the hands of the enemy, who must possess pretty accurate knowledge respecting the cavalry division.

Rebel soldiers who have been taken prisoners, report that one of their number got two thousand dollars in greenbacks, and that the blankets and hard-tack were very acceptable. Mr. Bonwill, the artist of *Leslie's Illustrated*, lost, among his private papers, numerous sketches that had been accumulating for a long period, and which he prized very highly. The *Herald* correspondent lost a silver bugle, recently taken from a captured rebel bugler, which he intended to send to Mr. Bennett as a trophy. The *Tribune* correspondent, Mr. Wells, lost his good clothes and other "fixings." Colonel Brisbin, of General Lee's staff, lost some five hundred dollars' worth of clothing and money, together with the sash worn by the rebel General Barksdale, which was captured at Gettysburgh, and a valuable sword also captured near Gettysburgh.

It is ascertained that our dead who were left on the field between Pleasant Hill and Sabine Cross-Roads, were buried by the enemy, and

that the wounded were conveyed to Mansfield the night after the battle, where they were carefully attended.

Colonel Emerson commanding a brigade of Landrum's division, was wounded.

Lieutenant-Colonel Kreh, Eighty-seventh Illinois mounted infantry, when the confusion in our retiring lines was the greatest, reported to General Lee for duty with three men, whom he had rallied.

Rufus Pullitt, color-bearer of the Sixteenth Indiana mounted infantry, was killed.

Lieutenant Stone, Commissary of the First cavalry brigade, is missing and supposed to be a prisoner.

All the cavalry headquarters train was captured or destroyed by the rebels except two ambulances, and all the wagons of Colonel Dudley's Fourth brigade-train except one.

George G. Kendrick, color-bearer One Hundred and Seventy-third New-York, was wounded under his colors.

General Lee was hit with a spent ball, from which he suffered no inconvenience.

Four ammunition-wagons belonging to the cavalry command were captured. The train would all have been saved had not a heavily-loaded wagon broken down and obstructed the road.

Lieutenant Higby of the Signal corps, Acting-Aid-de-Camp to General Ransom, had his horse shot under him.

Captain Dicker, General Ransom's Assistant-Adjutant-General, was killed.

Captain Wasson, Inspector-General of Lucas's cavalry brigade, had his stirrup and boot struck by the same ball that killed Lieutenant-Colonel Webber, of the Seventy-seventh Illinois.

Lieutenant Miller, Aid to Colonel Lucas, was wounded in the arm, and taken prisoner, Captain Payman, Chief Signal Officer of General Franklin's command, was severely wounded while riding by the side of the General.

Captain A. M. Chapman, Judge-Advocate on General Franklin's staff, had both feet shot off.

Lieutenant David Lyon, of General Franklin's staff, was wounded slightly.

Dr. Wood, of the Sixth Missouri cavalry, lost one thousand dollars in money, and Captain Wasson, Inspector-General in Lucas's cavalry brigade, lost two hundred dollars by the capture of the trains.

A squadron of the Corning light cavalry, under Captain Davis, had a warm position on the right, and lost heavily there. The men displayed most creditable bravery and pluck.

Our defeat on the eighth instant is attributable to the cavalry division proceeding too far in advance of the main column; the panic and loss of guns, to the large cavalry-train, which completely blocked the only road by which the army could fall back.

The troops engaged, were the First, Third, and Fourth cavalry divisions, supported by Ransom's detachment of the Thirteenth army corps.

Estimated loss, one thousand five hundred killed, wounded, missing, and prisoners.

After the close of the battle of Friday, a council of war was called by General Banks, and it was decided to withdraw the army to Pleasant Hill, that place affording a better position to give battle to the enemy, who, it was expected, would renew the attack early in the morning. It was also known that General A. J. Smith's command had reached Pleasant Hill, and General Banks was anxious to unite the forces of Smith with his own.

The withdrawal of the force commenced at ten o'clock, and before daylight the rear of the army was well on the road. The enemy, in the night, had pressed his pickets down on our front, but he failed to discover the movement of our troops, the withdrawal being conducted with the greatest silence and expedition. It was not until morning that he was made aware that our army had left his immediate front, when he followed after with his main force, sending forward his cavalry in hot haste to find our whereabouts. But they failed to come up with our forces until they had reached Pleasant Hill. General Emory's division brought up the rear, and arrived at Pleasant Hill about seven o'clock in the morning.

Colonel Gooding, commanding the Fifth brigade of the cavalry division, as soon as General Emory had arrived at Pleasant Hill, was sent out on the Shreveport road to find the enemy.

He had not proceeded up the road more than a mile when he met the advance of the rebels coming down. Finding the enemy approaching in strong force, Colonel Gooding skirmished with him until General Emory had completed the formation of his line of battle, when the cavalry retired in good order, the enemy keeping up a hot fire on them as they fell back, killing and wounding some forty men belonging to the Second New-York veteran cavalry, Eighteenth New-York cavalry, and Third Rhode Island cavalry. Two officers were wounded, Captain G. W. Beecher and Lieutenant Hall, the latter of whom has since died.

The battle-field was a large common just on the outside of the town of Pleasant Hill, on the Shreveport road. The ground was open and rolling, and ascended both from the side of the town and from the side on which the enemy was expected, a belt of timber extending almost entirely around the field.

General Emory's division was drawn up in line of battle on the side of the hill, his right resting across the Shreveport road. General McMillen's brigade formed the extreme right of the line, and his right rested near the woods, which extended along the whole base of the hill, and through which it was expected the enemy would advance. General Dwight's brigade was formed on the left of General McMillen's on the right of the road, the left resting on the road. Colonel Benedict's brigade formed on the left of General Dwight, the right resting on the road a little in the rear of General Dwight, forming an echelon to his brigade. Two pieces of Taylor's battery were placed in the rear of Dwight's left, on the road, and the remaining four pieces were got into posi-

tion on an eminence on the left of the road and in rear of Benedict's left. Hibbard's Vermont battery was in the rear of the division.

General A. J. Smith's division of the Sixteenth army corps, under command of General Mower, were massed in two lines of battle, with artillery, in rear of Emory's division. The right of the first line rested on the road, and was composed of two brigades, the First brigade on the right, commanded by Colonel Lynch, the Second brigade on the left, commanded by Colonel Shaw. The Third Indiana battery (Crawford's) was posted in the first line of battle, on the right of the Eighty-ninth Indiana. The Ninth Indiana battery (Brown's) was in position on the right of the First brigade. The Missouri battery occupied ground on the right of the Eighty-ninth Indiana.

Other batteries were on the field, but neither the positions they occupied nor the names of their commanders were learned. All, however, did good service. General Smith's second line of battle was fifty yards in rear of the first, and was composed of two brigades, one on the right of the line, and that on the left commanded by Colonel Hill.

General Mower commanded the Second brigade, and was temporarily in command of the whole force, while General Smith commanded the corps as a separate command.

This disposition being made, our army waited the approach of the enemy, but as the day wore away, many began to believe that no attack would be made.

It was now five o'clock, and but two hours of daylight remained in which to fight the battle. The skirmishing, which had continued all day, at this hour became lively, and at ten minutes past five, General Emory sent word to General Franklin that the skirmishers were being driven in and the enemy marching down upon him in three lines of battle.

At twenty minutes past five, the enemy appeared on the plain at the edge of the woods, and the battle commenced, our batteries opening upon him with case shell as he marched at a double-quick across the field to the attack.

Our left, Colonel Benedict's brigade, came into action first, and soon after our right and centre were engaged. The battle now raged fiercely, the air was full of lead and iron, and the roar of musketry and artillery incessant. The carnage on both sides was fearful, the men fighting almost hand to hand, and with great desperation.

Nothing could exceed the determined bravery of our troops; but it was evident Emory's division was fighting the whole army. Pressed at all points by overwhelming numbers, our line fell back up the hill to the Sixteenth corps, which was concealed just behind the crest.

Taylor's battery for a time fell into the hands of the enemy.

General Smith made all preparations to receive the advancing foe, and as the human tide came rolling up the hill, he looked quietly on until the enemy were almost up to the muzzles of his guns,

when a sheet of flame flashed along his lines, and, with the crash of ten thousand thunders, musket-balls, mingled with grape and canister, swept the plain like a besom of destruction. Hundreds fell dead and dying before that awful fire.

Scarcely had the seething lead left the guns when the word "Charge!" was given, and seven thousand brave men precipitated themselves upon the shattered ranks of the enemy. Emory's division, which had only yielded to superior numbers, and remained unbroken, now rushed forward and joined the Sixteenth corps, driving the rebels rapidly down the hill to the woods, where they broke and fled in the greatest confusion and dismay.

Colonel Benedict, while gallantly leading his brigade in the charge, fell dead, pierced by five balls.

The battle was fought and the victory won. Our troops followed up the rebels until night put an end to the pursuit.

In the last charge we recaptured Taylor's battery, which had been lost in the earlier part of the action, and retook two guns of Nim's battery, which had been lost in the battle of the preceding day.

The ten-pound Parrott gun which the rebels captured last fall at Carrion Crow was also retaken.

Five hundred prisoners, all the dead and wounded, three battle-standards, and a large number of small-arms, fell into our hands.

Our victorious army slept upon the battle-field, which was one of the bloodiest of the war.

Early the next morning our line of march was taken up to Grand Ecore, to obtain rest and rations, the army being too much fatigued by the three days' fighting and severe marching it had undergone to attempt pursuit of the enemy.

This battle was one of the best appointed and delivered of the war. It reflects much credit upon the head of the army of the Gulf, and is equally honorable to all who were engaged in it.

General Banks was present from the beginning to the close of the engagement, and rode over the field through showers of bullets, personally directing the movements of the troops. General Banks's staff ably assisted him, freely sharing the danger with their chief, and behaving throughout the action with the greatest gallantry.

General Franklin and staff were in the hottest of the fire. Of the soldiers who so bravely fought the battle and achieved a splendid victory, it need only be said, that the men of Maine, Missouri, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New-York, Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana, sustained their reputation, standing shoulder to shoulder with the loyal Louisiana troops; and well may their States be proud to claim them as sons of their soil. The heroes of Vicksburgh and Port Hudson may now add the name of Pleasant Hill to the list of their glorious victories.

The cavalry division, except a part of Colonel Lucas's brigade, was not in the action on Satur-

dry, the main body having been sent to convoy the wagon-trains to Grand Ecore.

No part of the Thirteenth army corps was in the battle.

In the battle of Friday, the rebel General Mouton was killed by the unerring rifles of the Nineteenth Kentucky. He received four balls in his body.

The rebel General Kirby Smith is reported to have commanded the troops in the battle at Pleasant Hill.

The entire losses of the campaign thus far may be summed up as follows: Twenty pieces of artillery. One thousand five hundred men in General Ransom's corps. Six hundred men in General Emory's division. Five hundred men in General Smith's Sixteenth army corps. Four hundred men in the cavalry division. One hundred and thirty cavalry, division, and brigade wagons. One thousand two hundred horses and mules, including the great number that died on the march across the Teche from disease.

Our gains thus far are the capture of Fort De Russy, Alexandria, Grand Ecore, and Natchitoches, the opening of Red River, the capture by the gunboats of three thousand bales of prize-cotton, one half of which goes to the Government, and the bringing of other considerable quantities of cotton to our markets. Besides this, we have captured at Fort De Russy, Henderson's Hill, Pleasant Hill, Mansfield, and elsewhere, two thousand three hundred prisoners, including three lieutenant-colonels, six majors, and thirty line-officers at Pleasant Hill, twenty-five pieces of artillery, any quantity of small-arms there and at other points, four hundred bushels of meal, thirty barrels of beef, and a dépôt commissariat at Pleasant Hill.

Besides, under the administration of Provost-Marshal Neafie, of the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth New-York volunteers, Alexandria has returned to its allegiance; eight hundred citizens have taken the oath of fealty to the Government of the United States, and eight hundred have enlisted there into the military service of our Government.

The material for at least two full colored regiments has thus far been garnered in, and the rebels have been deprived of the service of five thousand able-bodied negroes, male and female, who have abandoned their happy homes and cast their fortunes with the Yankees.

Forage nearly enough to supply the immediate needs of the army, and beef, cattle, and horses have fallen into the hands of our advancing army.

When Shreveport is taken and occupied, and the rebel State government is driven therefrom to seek another temporary resting-place, the chief object of the present campaign will be accomplished.

Colonel Gooding, of the Fifth cavalry brigade, which went to the front to "entertain" the enemy on Saturday morning until General Emory's line could be formed, was shot at by a rebel rifle-

man, who sent a ball into the Colonel's hat, perforating the crown and lifting it from his head. An orderly dismounted and handed the Colonel his hat, who was saluted by three rousing cheers from the men of his command who observed his coolness and gallantry.

Captain Becker, of the Second New-York veterans, was shot through the neck Saturday morning, but vaulted into his saddle after his wound was dressed, and remained with his command during the entire day.

The rebels made seven distinct charges on General Dwight's line, which held the extreme right; the One Hundred and Fourteenth, One Hundred and Sixteenth, and One Hundred and Fifty-third New-York volunteers maintained their ground manfully, and repulsed the enemy most gloriously.

The Eighty-ninth Indiana regiment recaptured two batteries.

The Thirty-fifth Iowa repelled three charges.

The Colonel of the Thirty-third Missouri was wounded.

The rebel General Scurry, commanding McCulloch's old Texas brigade, was slightly wounded; Major Muller, Seventeenth Texas rebel infantry, was killed.

Lieutenant-Colonel Gregg, one of the captured rebels, reports that Kirby Smith commanded the rebel forces in person, numbering twenty thousand the first day, and twenty-five thousand the second.

General Banks having fallen back to Grand Ecore, thirty-five miles from Pleasant Hill, fifty-five miles from Mansfield, and ninety-five miles from Shreveport, will advance again as soon as he is reinforced and adequate supplies are received. The loss of artillery is a trivial matter, as nearly the whole fighting, owing to the nature of the heavily wooded country, must be done by infantry.

Admiral Porter's fleet will coöperate as far as possible. The extent of its coöperation depends on the depth of water in Red River.

Other battles must soon follow, and glorious victories will be won over the trans-Mississippi rebels.

The enemy appears to have moved his whole forces near here to crush out the Union army. According to the reports of prisoners, Kirby Smith, Dick Taylor, Green, Magruder, and Price are all in the field against General Banks and his commanders.

The rebel loss in the battles of Sabine Cross-Roads and Pleasant Hill was three to our one. The lack of water between Pleasant Hill and Mansfield rendered it prudent to fall back to Grand Ecore, where new supplies will be issued sufficient for a long and uninterrupted forward march.

GRAND ECORE, LA., April 14, 1864.

A detachment of the Third cavalry brigade, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kieb, of the Eighty-seventh Illinois mounted infantry, made a reconnoissance yesterday to the Double bridge, twenty miles on the road toward Pleas-

ant Hill. Eight miles out, a small party of the enemy, fifteen or twenty in number, were seen, who fled precipitately. From the bridge, scouting-parties were sent out, who touched their pickets, but discovered no indications of the enemy in force. One of these scouting-parties, led by Lieutenant E. V. Hitch, Assistant Adjutant-General of the brigade, was fired at by the rebel pickets. Lieutenant Hitch received a slight wound in his arm, and leaves for New-Orleans to-day.

Our troops are in excellent spirits and anxious for another advance. They can whip the enemy in any stand-up fight, unless a much superior force is encountered, of which there is no fear whatever.

The repulse of our advance-guard at Sabine Cross-Roads, is freely discussed, as well as the victories which afterward followed. When Emory's division came up, the enemy was pressed hard, and his losses must have been terrible, as that division, though fighting almost alone, punished the rebels severely and forced them back with immense slaughter. Our losses in the early part of the action that day, must have been equalled by the enemy's loss at its close, though the capture of our artillery and trains was a point gained over us.

In the succeeding day's fight at Pleasant Hill, the enemy must have lost three to our one. The battle-field, which we occupied that night, was strewn with their dead and wounded, who also dotted the roads by which our victorious army pursued them, until night rendered longer pursuit impossible.

In the continued prosecution of the campaign there are difficulties to encounter which General Banks and his army hope to overcome. The Red River, navigable usually over the falls above Alexandria, is lower now than ever before at this season of the year, and it is possible that the safety of the gunboats and monitors above Alexandria will render the abandonment of military occupation impracticable. Light-draught transports can pass the falls for some weeks yet, and the army cannot be cut off from its supplies. Still the supplies will not come forward so rapidly as if the waters of the Red River were of the ordinary depth at this time of the year. Should the river fail to be navigable, and an advance, therefore, be rendered impracticable, the certainty of holding and occupying Alexandria and Natchitoches remains, and so far the forward movement is a success.

Between Pleasant Hill and Mansfield, a distance of twenty miles, there is a deficiency of water, without which an army cannot be subsisted or marched. It is therefore quite desirable that the movement from one to the other of these points shall be rapid.

Rebel citizens and rebel prisoners have all agreed in the statement that the enemy were determined to dispute this road, and that they expected to fight against us there because it was remote from the river, and where we could not receive the coöperation of the gunboats.

The latest advices from General Steele were

that he was within either sixty miles or one day's march of Shreveport, with fifteen thousand men.

Admiral Porter, with two monitors and his flag-ship, went up the river from Grand Ecore a week since, it is presumed to operate against the rebel seat of government in Louisiana.

REBEL ADDRESSES AND ORDERS

The following is General Taylor's address to his army:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT WESTERN LOUISIANA,
MANSFIELD, LA., April 11, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —

Soldiers of the Army of Western Louisiana:

At last have your patience and devotion been rewarded. Condemned for many days to retreat before an overwhelming force, as soon as your reinforcements reached you, you turned upon the foe. No language but that of simple narrative should recount your deeds. On the eighth of April you fought the battle of Mansfield. Never in war was a more complete victory won. Attacking the enemy with the utmost alacrity when the order was given, the result was not for a moment doubtful.

The enemy was driven from every position, his artillery captured, his men routed. In vain were fresh troops brought up. Your magnificent line, like a resistless wave, swept every thing before it. Night alone stopped your advance. Twenty-one pieces of artillery, two thousand five hundred prisoners, many stands of colors, two hundred and fifty wagons, attest your success over the Thirteenth and Nineteenth army corps. On the ninth instant you took up the pursuit and pressed it with vigor. For twelve miles, prisoners, scattered arms, burning wagons, proved how well the previous day's work had been done by the soldiers of Texas and Louisiana.

The gallant divisions from Missouri and Arkansas, unfortunately absent on the eighth instant, marched forty-five miles in two days, to share the glories of Pleasant Hill. This was emphatically the soldier's victory. In spite of the strength of the enemy's position, held by fresh troops of the Sixteenth corps, your valor and devotion triumphed over all. Darkness closed one of the hottest fights of the war. The morning of the tenth instant dawned upon a flying foe, with our cavalry in pursuit, capturing prisoners at every step. These glorious victories were most dearly won. A list of the heroic dead would sadden the sternest heart. A visit to the hospitals would move the sympathy of the most unfeeling. The memory of our dead will live as long as noble deeds are cherished on earth. The consciousness of duty well performed will alleviate the sufferings of the wounded. Soldiers from a thousand homes, thanks will ascend to the God of battles for your victories. Tender wives and fond mothers will repose in safety behind the breastworks of your valor. No fears will be felt that the hated foe will desecrate their homes by his presence. This is your reward; but much remains to be done. Strict discipline,

prompt obedience to orders, cheerful endurance of privations, will alone insure our independence.

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT WESTERN LOUISIANA, }
MANSFIELD, LA., April 13, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —

SOLDIERS: A chief has fallen. A warrior of warriors has gone to his home. On the twelfth instant fell Thomas Green. After braving death a thousand times, the destroyer found him, where he was wont to be, in the front line of battle. His spirit has flown to the happy home of heroes, where the kindred spirit of Alfred Mouton awaited it. Throughout broad Texas, throughout desolated Louisiana, mourning will sadden every hearth. Great is the loss to family and friends; much greater is the loss to this army and to me. For many weary months these two have served me. Amidst the storm of battle, by the lonely camp-fire, at the solitary outpost, my heart has learned to love them. Their families shall be as mine; their friends my friends. To have been their beloved friend and trusted commander is the highest earthly honor I can ever attain.

Soldiers! the fall of these heroes shall not be in vain. Inspired by their examples, this army will achieve great things. Moistened by the blood of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, and Blair's Landing, the tree of national independence will grow apace, and soon overshadow the land, so that all may repose in peace under its grateful shade. The memory of our glorious dead is a rich legacy to future generations, and their names will be remembered as the chosen heroes of the chivalric Southern race.

The colors of the cavalry corps of this army will be draped for thirty days in memory of their late heroic commander.

R. TAYLOR,
Major-General Commanding.

Doc. 132.

COLONEL GALLUP'S EXPEDITION INTO WESTERN VIRGINIA.

CAMP LOUISA, LAWRENCE Co., KY., Feb. 20, 1864.

On the twelfth instant our District Commander, Colonel Gallup, with his usual sympathy for suffering Unionists, sent a scout over into Western Virginia to rid the citizens of the unscrupulous Colonel Ferguson, who, with his plundering band, had pillaged the country until even the women and children were brought to starvation. This impudent rebel, knowing that Virginia was not in this district, and therefore not under the protection of our gallant Colonel, sent him word that he would quarter there until March, but would not molest our troops provided we would let him alone. Colonel Gallup treated the message with that silent contempt it deserved. His silence was taken for acquiescence by the other party. So the wily old fox was allowed to play around until he met with an unpleasant surprise in the capture of himself and command. This hap-

pened in the following manner: At dark on the evening of the twelfth, a portion of these troops left camp under the lead of the District Commander, and marched all night in an easterly course. At dawn next morning the force was divided into two detachments. Colonel Gallup, at the head of one, pursued a trail which led toward Wayne Court-House, ordering his senior Captain, J. C. Collins, with the other, to scout through the hills in the opposite direction, and follow any track which he supposed would bring him in collision with the enemy. This enterprising young officer, whose quickness of perception is equalled by his celerity of action, is as sharp-scented on a rebel trail as the hound in chase of a hare. He was attended by Captain William Bartrum, who is as quiet and unassuming as he is faithful and resolute, and the trusty Lieutenant Osborne. These officers at the head of companies B, G, and H, soon succeeded in discovering among the dead leaves signs of marching cavalry, which led some eight miles further into the uninhabited hills, to a famous rebel rendezvous known as the Rock House. This is a concealed recess, sheltered by an orchard and overhanging rock in the side of a steep cliff which bounds it on the west. On the northern and eastern sides the surface slopes to the edge of the cave, where there is an almost perpendicular offset of some fifteen or twenty feet. In this place, and in the ravine a few steps below, the rebels were busy chopping wood, cooking rations, and guarding prisoners. When our forces reached the summit of the hill, Captain Collins ordered the strictest silence, deployed his men in skirmishing line, directing them, when they had silently surrounded the cave, to give a shout as the signal of attack. As soon as the signal was given, Captain Bartrum stepped to the edge of the precipice and demanded an unconditional surrender. The astonished rebels instantly sprang toward their guns, whereupon our boys opened on their ranks a scathing fire, which soon brought them to terms. The fight lasted about four minutes, with mortal effect, twelve men being killed, and four others wounded—three of them mortally. Not one of the attacking party was harmed. The only sad feature in the affair was the killing of three Union prisoners who were in the hands of the rebels—Captain Pinckard, Assistant Quartermaster, of General Scammon's staff, from Alton, Illinois; Lieutenant Griswold, of the Thirtieth Virginia; and a private whose name has escaped me. Fifty prisoners were taken, sixteen Union prisoners released, eighty stand of arms captured, with all their ammunition, horses, and subsistence. Colonel Ferguson was captured apart from the command by Stephen Wheeler, a private of company G. In the battle of Rock House such accurate and fatal shooting was done, that of sixteen wounded men, only two are now living, and one must die; the counties of Wayne and Logan are cleared by it of the plundering guerrillas who had been infesting them. The results of this success are more important than that of Middle Creek, inasmuch as

a larger number were killed and captured here than in that engagement—this work gratuitously done by the generous and efficient Colonel Gallup. His command has captured over one thousand prisoners in this valley, and he is still pushing the work vigorously along.

Lieutenant Preston, of the Thirtieth, who was sent up Sandy on a scout a short time since, returned on the twenty-second with eleven prisoners. Reuben Patrick, a contract scout, brought in a rebel captain and ten privates the same day. Lieutenant Brown, of company G, Fourteenth, with twenty-five men, left on the eighteenth for Cat's Fork, to break up a thieving band which had been disturbing that quarter. He returned the following day, having killed one and captured two of the marauders. Captain Charles A. Wood, of Louisville, of the Fourteenth, is having fine success in recruiting veterans in this brigade. Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, of Frankfort, is now in command of the Fourteenth. In camp he is jolly, genial, and generous, and his military qualities are best estimated by those who have seen his commanding coolness in the excitement of battle, and his unshrinking intrepidity when exposed to a heavy fire. The regiment is proud of him, and may well be of such a "noble Roman." Major Yates, Medical Director of this district, informed the writer to-day that he had seen a deserter from the rebels whom he knew to be reliable. This man brings news that John Morgan is collecting a force of twenty thousand cavalry at Abingdon, Virginia, preparatory to a raid into this State.

Doc. 133.

GENERAL CUSTER'S EXPEDITION TOWARD CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

CULPEPER COURT-HOUSE, VA.
Wednesday Morning, March 2, 1864. }

GENERAL CUSTER's reconnoitring expedition returned to camp last night after having completed, when the time employed and the numerical force engaged is considered, one of the most daring raids of the war.

In my despatch of Monday I mentioned the fact that the expedition, which consisted of detachments from the First, Second, and Fifth United States, Sixth Ohio, Sixth Pennsylvania, First New-York, and First New-Jersey cavalry, in all, one thousand five hundred men, passed through Madison Court-House early that morning. One section of Captain French's battery, commanded by Lieutenant Porter, accompanied the cavalry.

The troops were in light marching order, and moved rapidly toward Stannardsville, distant south-west from Madison twelve miles, crossing the Rapidan at Banks's Mills Ford. At Stannardsville the enemy's pickets were discovered, who retired precipitately before our advance. Meeting with no opposition, General Custer pushed forward to the Rivanna River, crossing at Berner's Bridge, a long wooden structure spanning the river at a point distant three or four

miles from Charlottesville, which place he had received orders to reach if possible. The rebel pickets on the opposite bank withdrew over the hills as our force crossed, and soon after the enemy opened with artillery, without, however, doing any injury to our men, who were sheltered by the hills on the other side of the river.

Owing to the peculiar topography of the country, which was wooded and hilly, the exact location of the enemy was not at first discovered, and a squadron of the First regulars was deployed up the river on our right to reconnoitre the enemy's position, while a squadron of the Fifth regulars, under command of Captain Ash, was sent down the river on our left for a similar purpose. Discovering an artillery camp some distance down the river, Captain Ash, with his squadron, consisting of only sixty men, immediately charged it, destroying the huts, blowing up six caissons, and burning two battery-forges, together with a quantity of harness belonging to the battery.

Captain Ash's gallantry, and the bravery of his men in accomplishing this feat in the face of a rebel cavalry brigade (Wickham's) drawn up in the woods not over three hundred yards distant, are universally mentioned in terms of the highest commendation. The enemy seemed entirely at fault as to our strength, and for some time made no direct advance. Flanking columns of infantry were afterward seen, however, moving on our right and left, and General Custer, having ascertained to his satisfaction that Wickham's brigade of cavalry, together with a considerable force of infantry, were in his immediate front, seeing the hopelessness of advancing further in that direction, determined to recross the river. While on the other side of the river, five trains of cars were distinctly heard at Charlottesville, undoubtedly bringing up reinforcements. On crossing to the north bank of the river, the bridge, together with a large flouring-mill, was burned by order of General Custer.

The utter impracticability of reaching Charlottesville with his insignificant force being apparent, General Custer retired his column up the Stannardsville road, halting soon after dusk to feed the horses, jaded by their march of over forty miles. Several faint charges were made on our rear-guard by a small pursuing party, but no casualties were sustained by our men.

Owing to the hilly nature of the country and the bad condition of the roads, it was found necessary to halt for the night eight miles south of Stannardsville, in order to recuperate the exhausted artillery-horses.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stedman, of the Sixth Ohio, commanding the detachment of five hundred men from General Gregg's division, being in advance of the main body and ignorant of the fact that the column had halted, continued the march toward Madison Court-House, arriving there some time during the night. Orderlies were despatched by General Custer to Colonel Stedman, directing him to return, but owing to the darkness of the night and the distance Colonel Stedman had ad-

vanced beyond the main column, they were unable to intercept him.

By this, General Custer was left with only one thousand men, nearly twenty miles from any infantry support, and in extreme danger of being intercepted and cut off by a vastly superior force of the enemy. Understanding the peril of this isolated condition, General Custer was prepared for any emergency which might arise. Should he be intercepted and find himself unable to retire by the road he went out, he was prepared to strike to the northward into the Luray Valley, returning through one of the gaps of the Blue Ridge. The skilful manner in which he subsequently completely outgeneraled the enemy, rendered this route unnecessary.

Early yesterday morning the column began its march toward Madison Court-House, being but slightly harassed by the enemy, who seemed to be manœuvring not for the specific purpose of fighting, but with the intention of surrounding and capturing General Custer's whole party. A short distance below Banks's Mills, the point at which General Custer intended to recross the Rapidan, is Burton's Ford, from which is a road running north-west, and striking the Stannardsville road two miles from the river. At the junction of these roads, on an eminence, a large force of rebel cavalry was discovered posted. They were immediately charged and driven back in confusion on the Burton's Ford road, while our artillery, which was soon placed in position on the hill formerly occupied by them, poured in a well-directed fire upon them, the first shell killing three of the enemy.

In the first charge, thirty rebel prisoners were taken, who stated that the whole of Wickham's brigade, commanded by Stuart in person, was in our front, the major portion being at Banks's Mills Ford awaiting Custer's approach. Without a moment's hesitation, General Custer conceived and executed a plan for his extrication from his perilous situation. Ordering another charge upon the enemy on the Burton's Ford road, and leading it in person, as he is wont to do, he again drove back the rebels still further toward the Ford, until their allies at Banks's Mills, comprehending the danger of their friends' position, and believing Custer determined to cross at Burton's Ford, came down the river to their support. It was then that Custer's tactics became apparent to the astonished enemy.

Facing his battle-lines by the flank, his whole force was almost instantly moving down the road with the speed of the wind toward the Stannardsville road, which striking, he wheeled to the left, and reaching Banks's Mills Ford, recrossed the river, thus completely eluding the mass of the enemy, who seemed confident of "gobbling" his whole command. The tactical ability displayed by General Custer, is spoken of in the most complimentary terms.

There can now be no impropriety in disclosing the object of the late movement. It is doubtless generally known that the reconnoissance by Custer, supported by infantry, was a simple diver-

sion in favor of Kilpatrick, who has not yet returned from his raid in the direction of Richmond. That the attention of the enemy has, to a considerable degree, been drawn to the left wing of Lee's army by Custer's demonstration, is confirmed by rebel prisoners, who report their officers to have been in a great state of trepidation, believing a monster raid in progress on their left. Confirmation is also had in the fact that a large number of troops were concentrated around Charlottesville to resist our advance.

Among our captures are sixty prisoners and a number of valuable horses. Three flouring-mills, six caissons, two forges, a complete set of artillery-harness, and eight wagons loaded with commissary stores, were destroyed during the raid. Captain Paine, of the Topographical Engineers, accompanied the expedition for the purpose of making observations, and gained very important and valuable information appertaining to his department. We lost none in killed, and but ten or twelve wounded. We lost none in prisoners.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND RHODE-ISLAND VOLUNTEERS, }
BRANDY STATION, March 8, 1864.

On Friday evening, the twenty-sixth ultimo, our entire corps, the Sixth, together with the Third division of the Third, received orders to be prepared to move early on Saturday morning with five days' rations and forty rounds of ammunition. All baggage, stores and tents were to be left, and the weak and sick were to remain as camp-guards. Already our pickets had been relieved by the First division of the Third corps, and the extra rations issued. We at once concluded that this was no false alarm. Saturday morning came, as bright and beautiful as ever winter saw. The roads were in splendid condition, the men in good trim, and all was propitious. Off we started at the appointed time, moving by way of Culpeper in the direction of Madison. James City, a point ten miles west of Culpeper, and sixteen miles from camp, was reached by half-past four P.M., and here we bivouacked for the night. The grassy plains and groves of pine around were fired, and the bands played their liveliest airs. The Sabbath dawned with promise, and the sun smiled propitiously as we moved forward to Robertson's River, which was reached by the advance at eleven A.M. Here the cavalry pickets of the enemy were met, but hastily betook themselves to the sunny side of the Rapid Ann. The Jersey brigade was pushed forward to Madison Court-House, two miles beyond the river, and our brigade thrown across to occupy the heights. The Second Rhode Island was put on picket. As upon the previous night, and all that day, large fires were built over extended tracts of country, and the bands, both at Madison and on the river, entertained the rebels resident thereabouts with national and other patriotic airs, played with full chorus and evident intention to be heard. That night at twelve, General Custer, with two brigades of cavalry and two pieces of artillery, started for Charlottesville

by way of Barboursville. Charlottesville is thirty-three miles south-west of Madison. On the way a detached encampment of infantry and artillery was surprised, the camp was destroyed and seven caissons blown up. At a point about four miles north of Charlottesville a superior rebel force, consisting of one entire division of infantry, Stuart's and Fitz-Hugh Lee's cavalry, and twenty pieces of artillery was met, which permanently stopped further progress southward.

After a brief engagement General Custer retreated on the Stannardsville road. Finding himself cut off at Stannardsville by a cavalry force sent out by the enemy for that purpose, only one means of escape offered, which was to cut his way out. This was immediately resolved upon and speedily and brilliantly executed, with the loss of five wounded. About twenty prisoners were here captured, and were brought in, the entire command reaching the infantry lines at Madison about four P.M. on Tuesday. The infantry were all immediately withdrawn to the north side of Robertson's River, and the south side left to the possession of the rebel cavalry who followed closely in small numbers without attempting to molest our rear. We started home again Wednesday morning, reaching our old camp at half-past four P.M. Hundreds of contrabands returned along with us, men, women and children, on horseback, in all conceivable sorts of vehicles, drawn by oxen, horses, or mules, as could be obtained for the purpose, or on foot where no conveyance offered. These were "go in norf by de grace of God," having "been in de souf long enough now."

The ostensible purpose of the expedition was the destruction of military stores, of which Charlottesville is an extensive dépôt and the cutting of the railroads concentrating at that point. It succeeded only in destroying the camp and caissons, of which we spoke above, one large turnpike bridge, several flouring-mills with several hundred barrels of flour, and a few other manufactories of various kinds. But while this was the ostensible purpose, the whole character and manner of the move indicates that it was but a feint to draw attention and forces in this direction while other and more important movements are made elsewhere.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1864.

General Custer, with one thousand five hundred picked men, in light marching order, left Culpeper Court-House about two o'clock on Sunday afternoon.

The Sixth and Third corps marched from their winter quarters earlier in the day. The former halted at Madison Court-House, and threw out a strong cordon of pickets, while the latter bivouacked in the neighborhood of James City, and held the line of Robertson's road. About two A.M., on Monday, the raiders left their resting place near James City, and took the road for Charlottesville.

The men had been picked from Merritt's and

Gregg's divisions, and were well mounted. When they marched up the steep banks of the Rivanna River their coming was unknown, and altogether unexpected. Before us, the correspondent says, was a large cavalry camp, the huts arranged with mathematical precision and soldierly regularity.

On one side the horses were quietly standing; on the other six pieces of artillery were parked, with all the appurtenances neatly arranged, and in close proximity to the caissons. The Fifth regular regiment of General Merritt's old brigade led the van. Captain Ash, with one squadron, dashed among the comfortable-looking huts with reckless precipitancy, and scattered the inmates in all directions.

He ordered the men to destroy all they could, and they obeyed the instructions to the very letter. As neither axes nor rat-tailed files could be found in his command, it was impossible to spike the guns or chop the gun-carriages to pieces, so they contented themselves with blowing up the caissons and destroying the camp. In the mean time the enemy were rallying with the rapidity and zeal of Gauls, at the call of their chief.

Several pieces of artillery were belching forth their destructive notes at the audacious invaders, and the main body of Custer's command coming up, the enemy were driven a short distance, to give us a foothold on the crest of the same hill with themselves. Between our troops and the town the enemy were gathering in great force. Every thing warned us to get away as speedily as possible, lest it might be our lot to get surrounded.

They had telegraphed from Charlottesville to Orange Court-House that uninvited visitors were there, and aid was needed to expel them from the neighborhood. The answer to these despatches came toward evening, in the shape of five car-loads of infantry. There was nothing left us now but speedy retreat. Our horses were wheeled about, and toward sunset the Rivanna was crossed, the bridge burned, and all the mills that could be found in the neighborhood destroyed. In returning, the advance was given to Colonel Stedman, who commands a battalion of five hundred men chosen from General Gregg's division.

The night was dark and the rain, that continued to fall, was mingled with sleet.

Custer, who followed with a thousand men, composing the remnant of his command, got lost in thick gloom. For some time they endeavored to blunder through a deep and muddy ravine, into which they had strayed, but when they thought of two pieces of artillery, all hope of getting through with them was given up. Stedman with his five hundred men continued on their course, which, luckily for them, was correct, and about four o'clock on Tuesday morning they reached our infantry pickets, inside of Madison Court-House. Custer finding it impossible to proceed further, bivouacked that night in the woods, while he baited his horses and refreshed his men.

General Stuart, with two thousand cavalymen of Wickham's and Fitz-Hugh Lee's brigades, was marching toward his rear. The next morning about nine o'clock General Custer marched toward the right road, and having found it and marched upon it a short distance, discovered that Stuart, with his ragged but indefatigable followers, had succeeded in getting into his rear. As they neared Stannardsville, about fifteen miles from the picturesque little village of Madison, the rebel cavalry were seen drawn in line across the road.

This meant hostility, and for some time the officers of our little command were at a loss what to do. The object of their wearisome and dangerous raid was to draw the rebel cavalry away from the Central road to Richmond, and they had no intention of drawing him so far to their rear. All that bothered our troops was the section of Ransom's battery, and that slightly impeded their progress. In general council it was proposed to throw these two Parrott guns into the nearest and deepest ditch; but Custer protesting, declared he would fight his way through. Indeed a charge was led by himself in person. The rebels stood their ground manfully, but our two guns now opened on them, and completed their discomfiture, that was fast causing their lines to waver. They fled hastily, and our men pursued them hotly till they reached another road, which afforded no means of egress.

Three rebels were killed in this charge, and a considerable number wounded. Many prisoners fell into our hands, some of whom succeeded in making their escape.

Colonel Stedman hearing the firing in the direction of Stannardsville, and knowing it must arise from an engagement between Custer and the enemy, started back with his wearied men to the relief of the beleaguered party. They proceeded till the enemy was met and Custer discovered to be safe, when they also returned without damage.

This expedition was highly successful. The diversion created in favor of Kilpatrick could not have been greater. The Third and Sixth corps remained on the open field, exposed to all the inclemency of the weather.

At one time General Sedgwick was at a loss how to proceed. No intelligence had been received from Custer.

His troops had consumed their scanty store of supplies, while the clouds assumed a more gloomy aspect. At last every thing was discovered to be progressing favorably, and the infantry are by this time on the homeward march.

Doc. 184.

GENERAL KILPATRICK'S EXPEDITION.

NEW-YORK "TIMES" NARRATIVE.

WILLIAMSBURG, Friday, March 4.

THAT Brigadier-General Kilpatrick had started on an expedition to the vicinity of Richmond

with a considerable cavalry force and some artillery, is generally known to the reading public. The special and most important object of that expedition is not so generally known, and I am not at liberty here to state it. It is sufficient to say, however, that in every other respect it was a complete success, resulting in the destruction of millions of dollars' worth of public property belonging to or used by the confederate government of the so-called seceded States—property, some of which cannot be replaced at all, and the whole of it valuable to the rebel government as a means of carrying on their infernal schemes against the United States. Miles of railroad-track on the two principal roads over which Lee transports his supplies for the Northern army of Virginia, have been so thoroughly destroyed, that some time must elapse before the roads can be put in running order again; dépôts of commissary, ordnance, and quartermaster's stores were burnt or destroyed; no less than six grist-mills and one saw-mill, principally at work for the rebel army, were burnt; six canal-boats loaded with grain, several locks on the James River Canal, and the almost invaluable coal-pits at Manikin's Bend, were destroyed. It is proper to say what every one with the expedition believes, that had it not been for the false information of a guide, the principal object in starting the expedition would have been accomplished. The man who thus dared to trifle with the welfare of his country, when it became evident that one of the most important objects would prove a failure through his wilful connivance, was immediately hanged upon the spot; thus meeting a fate he so richly deserved.

The command had moved forward to far within the enemy's lines long before any alarm was given to the authorities at Richmond or General Lee, and when it did become known in Richmond, that a force of Union cavalry had crossed the Rapidan, so secret and well-planned had been the expedition by General Pleasanton, and so well executed by General Kilpatrick, they had not the most distant idea of its whereabouts, when, in fact, the command was at that time almost within sight of Richmond, and a few hours later was hurling leaden messengers of death from a battery placed inside the defences of that city into its very suburbs.

The details of this movement, so far as it may be proper, I shall proceed to give nearly in the order in which they transpired. The command left Stevensburgh, Virginia, on Sunday night last, the twenty-eighth ultimo, and crossing Ely's Ford, on the Rapidan—thence by rapid marches to Spottsylvania, Beaver Dam Station, on the Virginia Central Railroad, to the fortifications of Richmond, crossing the Virginia Central Railroad and the Chickahominy River near the Meadows, the White-House Railroad a little east of Tunstall's Station, thence to New-Kent Court-House, and Williamsburgh Court-House, where the command arrived on Thursday last, having been in the saddle nearly all the time from Sunday night, a period of four days, and during the most of

that time the men were supplied from rebel larders and their horses from rebel granaries. Nearly three hundred prisoners were captured, several hundred horses were pressed into the service, and hundreds of negroes availed themselves of this opportunity to come within our lines—thereby depleting the producing class of the rebel Confederacy of just so many able-bodied men.

As before stated, the command left Stevensburgh Sunday evening, and moved toward Ely's Ford. Forty men, under the immediate command of Mr. Hogan—a well-known scout—had the advance. The first of the enemy were met within one mile of the ford—a picket, to give notice should any thing like an enemy approach. This picket, composed of four men, by a little strategy, was gobbled, with their horses and accoutrements, without firing a shot or doing any thing to alarm the reserve on the other side of the river—a force consisting of thirteen men, one captain, one lieutenant, and eleven privates. Hogan and his party gained the opposite bank, and the night being cloudy, succeeded in enveloping the reserve before they discovered his presence, and captured all but three. From these prisoners the important fact was ascertained that nothing whatever was known by the rebel authorities of the movement then on foot for their discomfiture. Colonel Ulric Dahlgren, accompanied by Major Cook, of the Second New-York cavalry, and a small party of picked men, took the advance after crossing the Rapidan, and, as they had a special mission to perform, some account of it will be given elsewhere. The main command moved along with rapidity, taking the road to Spottsylvania Court-House. The night was cloudy, and betokened rain; but the roads were good, and every one was pleasant and hopeful. "Let the storm hold off twenty-four hours, and then I don't care," said a prominent officer of the command. Spottsylvania was reached late at night; no halt was made, however, and the corps moved rapidly forward to Beaver Dam, on the Virginia Central Railroad. Captain Estes and Lieutenant Wilson, with a party of men, dashed so suddenly upon this place that the telegraph operator was a prisoner before he had time to announce the arrival of the Yankees—much to his chagrin, for all the other telegraph lines had been cut, and Jeff Davis, in his anxiety to know what was going on, had been telegraphing that station every hour in the day for information. This place was reached at about five o'clock P.M., Monday, and the work of destruction was at once commenced. Small parties were sent up and down the railroad to tear up the track, burn the culverts and bridges, and destroy the rails by heating and bending them; this was comparatively an easy task, for there were thousands of cords of pine wood—all of which was burned—piled along the track, this being a wood station; a large new brick freight-house, one hundred by twenty-five feet, the telegraph-office, passenger-dépôt, engine-house, water-tank, several cars, and a number of out-buildings, were all set on fire.

While the command was engaged in this work of destruction, a picket reported the approach of a train loaded with troops from the direction of Richmond, and here commenced the first fighting. General Kilpatrick advanced a column to capture the train, if possible, but the enemy had seen the smoke of the burning station, and approached cautiously. They came on, however, to within two miles of the station, and a portion of the troops were disembarked. A small force was advanced to meet them, and in a charge our troops captured two officers and thirty men. The enemy then fled. Several parties were sent out from this point to destroy the railroad at other points, and bridges on important roads. Major Hall, of the Sixth New-York cavalry, with a party, went to destroy the Fredericksburgh and Richmond Railroad bridge, over the South-Anna, at Taylorville, but found the place guarded by the Maryland rebel battalion of rebel infantry, who had two pieces of artillery. This command was absent some time on important service, and did not rejoin the main column until the following day, in front of Richmond. Not returning at the time expected, a detachment under Captain Hull, of the Second New-York, was sent out on a mission, and to find out the whereabouts of Major Hall's party. Hull ran across a superior force and had a brisk skirmish, in which he lost five men, and was forced to retire. Another party under Captain Plum and Lieutenant Lord was also sent off and returned in safety. The main command, just at nightfall, Monday, moved forward and during the night crossed the South-Anna River. Here the advance had a skirmish with an infantry picket near Taylorville, and dispersed them. The men crossed, a brief halt was made to feed, when the column at daylight moved "on to Richmond," before which, and within the second line of defences, a position was taken at half-past ten o'clock the same morning. On the way, Kilby Station, on the Fredericksburgh road, was destroyed, and Lieutenant Whitaker, of General Kilpatrick's staff, blew up a stone bridge near Kilby Station, and the track and culverts were destroyed all along in that vicinity. Lieutenant Boyce, of the Fifth New-York cavalry, with twelve men, cut the track and destroyed the telegraph at Guinea Station.

Tuesday, at half-past ten o'clock A.M., found the command passing the outer earthworks on the Brook turnpike, within three and a half miles of Richmond. The arrival of Yankee troops was entirely unexpected, and the indignation of some very good-looking women, standing in front of houses at the roadside, excited much amusement. The advance captured several men on picket-duty belonging to the citizen soldiery of Richmond, without firing a shot; and while waiting for the main column to come up, citizens were stopped and questioned with the utmost freedom; they, of course, did not know who their questioners were. Here was obtained a copy of the *Examiner* and *Dispatch* fresh from the press that morning, announcing some rumors about a brigade of Yankee cavalry having cross-

ed the Rapidan. What their astonishment must have been one hour later, to hear Kilpatrick's guns may be imagined but not described. Moving forward to within the second line of defences going toward the city, the skirmishers encountered the first shots from near the third line, or what is known as Battery Number Nine. Guns were opened on both sides, and a strong line of skirmishers were thrown out. Captain Bacon, with others, charged the Johnnies, and drove them inside their works, and a desultory firing was kept up until between four and five o'clock in the evening, when, for some reason then unknown, the command of Colonel Dahlgren not appearing, General Kilpatrick decided to fall back. The enemy had burned the bridge across Brook Creek in rear of the command, and the column turned off upon the Meadows Road, crossing the Fredericksburgh and Richmond Railroad, and destroying every thing within reach. At night, the command went into camp at a place six miles from Richmond, and two miles from the Chickahominy; there was a slight fall of rain and sleet, and the men built fires, cooked their chickens and bacon, and had turned in for a few hours' sleep; but as all persons are doomed to disappointment at some time or other, so it was their lot on this occasion. At about half-past ten o'clock, just as the command was fairly asleep, except those on duty, the rebels opened a two-gun battery upon the camp of General Davies's brigade, and immediately after charged the camp of the Seventh Michigan. The men, though taken entirely by surprise, seized their carbines, and under Colonel Litchfield, supported by the First Vermont, Colonel Preston, handsomely repulsed the enemy, who, owing to the camp-fires, had decidedly the advantage over our troops, owing to their occupying a position between the enemy and the camp-fires. After forcing the enemy back, the Commanding General decided to move his command again, so as to be ready for any emergency at daylight. In this affair a number of horses were killed, and a few were stampeded by the shrieking shell rushing through the midnight air. The scene, all things considered, was not a very fascinating one to a man of tender nerves. Several men were wounded, and Colonel Litchfield, who is missing, it is feared is also wounded. The enemy had the exact range of General Davies's headquarters, but he remained at his post during the whole attack, which lasted three quarters of an hour, and was loudly cheered by his command for the noble conduct he displayed on this occasion. The enemy did not seem disposed to follow the rear-guard, and the command moved forward, without interruption, toward the Pamunkey River. The enemy had burned all the boats in this river, so that if it had been desirable to cross, such a movement was entirely impracticable. General Kilpatrick, therefore, decided to move across the White House Railroad, and down the Peninsula. During the day, Captain Mitchell, of the Second New-York, with the bulk of Colonel Dahlgren's command, rejoined the main column, and great

was the rejoicing thereat, for nothing had been heard from it since the previous Sunday night. The enemy, Tuesday night and all day Wednesday and Wednesday night, hovered all about the command, and picket-skirmishing was almost constantly going on in different directions. Wednesday morning, at about nine o'clock, a large force of cavalry came upon the rear of the column. General Kilpatrick was not unprepared for this, and decided to give them battle. The First Vermont, under Lieutenant-Colonel Preston, ably assisted by Captains Grant and Cummings, and the First Maine, bore the brunt of this fight, which lasted something over an hour; while the Sixth Michigan and other regiments of General Davies's brigade were in position to render whatever assistance might be necessary. Only one charge was made, and that was by company A, First Maine, led on by Captain Estes, A. A. G., and Captain Cole, when five of the enemy were captured. The enemy, satisfied no doubt, that they could not scare the command away, silently retired, but when the command moved forward, harassed the rear and flanks. Several times an offer was made, but they refused to accept the offer of battle. On this day (Wednesday) several refugees from Richmond came into camp, and reported the presence of Captain Wilson, of the Second Ohio, who had escaped from the Richmond bastille, near at hand. For some reason, however, best known to himself, he did not join the command. Wednesday, also, Lieutenant Whitaker was sent to destroy Tunstall's Station, on the White-House Railroad, but upon arriving there, much to his astonishment, he found the place in flames. From negroes in the vicinity, he ascertained that a column of Union cavalry from General Butler's department had just left there. This was the first intimation of assistance being so near at hand. Thursday morning, General Kilpatrick moved toward New-Kent Court-House, and on the way met Colonel Spear, in command of a cavalry force, looking after General Kilpatrick's command. The meeting was a gratifying one on both sides. Near New-Kent Court-House, the command came across the first negro troops they had ever seen. Here was a full brigade which had been marched up; and, as the cavalry passed by, cheer after cheer was given by both commands. No brigade ever made a better appearance or a better impression upon those who, for the first time, saw colored troops. A mountain of prejudice was removed in an instant. Between New-Kent to Williamsburgh, the column was more or less annoyed by bushwhackers; ten of these rascals were captured. Of our men, one was killed, several were wounded, and one or two horses were killed.

Colonel Dahlgren, with a picked command, after leaving the main column, went to Frederick Hall, on the Virginia Central Railroad, destroyed that road and the telegraph line, and captured twelve officers who were there on court-martial duty. The James River Canal was then struck eight miles east of Goochland Court-House, and

between there and Wertham Creek an immense amount of property was destroyed. Six grist-mills in full operation, a saw-mill, six canal-boats loaded with grain, several locks of the canal, works at the coal-pits at Manikin's Bend, and the barn of Secretary Seddon, were all destroyed. It was at this point that Colonel Dahlgren discovered that his guide had deceived him, so as to thwart the principal object of the expedition, and he was immediately hanged to the nearest tree. The command then struck the plank-road and moved on to Richmond from a westerly direction, and when within three miles of that city, had a lively skirmish with some rebel infantry. This was late Tuesday afternoon, and about the time General Kilpatrick retired from the Brook turnpike. Could the command have been there three hours earlier, the results of the expedition might have been still more satisfactory than now. Finding the force too large to operate against with any prospect of success, and not knowing the whereabouts or fate of the main column, Colonel Dahlgren decided to fall back, and, if possible, reach that column, destroying property on the way. Colonel Dahlgren and Major Cook, with about one hundred men, went a different route from the main portion of the column, commanded by Captain Mitchell. The latter came in on Wednesday, as stated above; but of the other command nothing is certainly known. A prisoner, however, states that a Colonel with one foot had been captured.

The loss of the whole command, by straggling and in every other way, will not probably exceed one hundred and fifty men, and after three days' rest, the horses and men will be ready for duty again wherever their services may be needed.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., Saturday, March 5, 1864.

By referring to the foregoing account, and taking a look at the map, it will be seen that our forces traversed nine different counties now occupied by the enemy, namely, Spotsylvania, Caroline, Hanover, Goochland, Henrico, Louisa, New-Kent, James City, and York. These counties embrace nearly all of the most aristocratic in the State; peopled before the war mainly by families who boasted of their long line of ancestors, the number of their negroes, their broad acres—in fact, where the feudal lords reigned supreme both over the white trash and the negro in bondage. The condition of this section of the country, which has been under almost uninterrupted rebel sway for three years cannot be otherwise than interesting. In riding through these counties, the stranger is painfully impressed with the Sundaylike stillness that everywhere prevails; at the large number of dilapidated and deserted dwellings, the ruined churches with windows out and doors ajar, the abandoned fields and workshops, the neglected plantations, and the ragged, dejected, and uncouth appearance of the few people who are to be seen at home; the almost entire absence of men and boys, every thing indicating a condition of affairs which nothing but civil war could produce. Our troops

as a general rule, when within the enemy's line, I feel proud in being able to say, conducted themselves as becomes soldiers, only doing that which they are allowed to do by the recognized rules of war by all civilized nations; destroying nothing but what is used as a direct agency in sustaining the bogus Confederacy, and taking so much provisions only, and forage, as may be required for immediate use. No attempt is made to intimidate the inhabitants who are quietly at home attending to their legitimate business, and hence they never think of running away from an invading Yankee column. In no other country, in no other war, in the history of the world, I will venture to say, has there been shown so much confidence of a people in the honor of those whom they look upon as invaders, as the people of the South when visited by the Union troops—the Southern newspaper press to the contrary notwithstanding. Neither men, women nor children run away at our approach, and however much animosity they may manifest openly or indirectly, they seem to realize that they have an honorable foe to deal with.

But your bitter, vindictive secesh is a rare object to find; the persons met with in the recent raid, for the most part, profess to have no interest in the rebellion—it came without their aid, and they have no desire to aid in its continuance any more than they are forced to do by what they feel to be the despotic rule of Jefferson Davis. All the real secesh capable of bearing arms are already in the army, together with many others whose hearts are not in the cause. I had frequent opportunities to converse with both of these classes. One of the most bitter rebels in his talk I ever met with, when captured, commenced a tirade of characteristic Southern braggadocio. He talked of "our best men in the field;" the South "could never be whipped;" "never had been whipped;" "it was a shame that Southern gentlemen were compelled to fight niggers;" and a whole series of the usual twaddle made use of by braggarts of the negro school, leading every one who heard him to suppose that he was a perfect pink of perfection—a pure F. F. V. This man, who is the type of the so-called chivalric sons of the South, was caught bushwhacking; shot at a man after he had surrendered, told half a dozen lies in almost as many minutes, admitted that he never owned a negro in his life, and that his family is both poor and illiterate—the poor white trash which Toombs so picturesquely set off once in the United States Senate. This is no fancy sketch; and, when the fellow was exposed, he very coolly fell back upon the rights of a prisoner of war—that is, in his opinion, a prisoner of war should not be exposed in his arrogance and falsehood. Of such is the Southern army to-day made up. That they will fight well all do know—and that is about all the redeeming quality there is in the race. Their very pride and conceit makes them recklessly brave. This same fellow, after some conversation, volunteered the remark: "If we do come together again, we can whip the whole world."

In the counties visited, there are but a few field-hands left of the black class; and a respectable resident asserts it as his belief that not one fourth as much land will be cultivated this year as there was the last, when the crop was much less than the year before. January and February is the time for preparing the ground for sowing and planting in this part of the State, but it was a rare sight to see a ploughed field on the first of March.

At several points white men were seen working in the field, and occasionally a large ploughed field could be seen; but, as a general rule, however, the farms are running over with weeds, the buildings are out of repair, fences are down, and the Virginia wild hog, heretofore seldom seen, except in pine forests, overruns the land. Particularly is this the case with the manorial estates to be seen as you approach the Pamunkey.

There is an abiding faith both with soldiers and citizens, that the war will end this year in one way or the other. Your sanguine secesh, of course, (who is generally ignorant or stupidly blind to what is going on in the outside world,) is quite confident that the "Southern cause," as he calls it, will triumph; but from what I saw and heard, I do not believe a majority of the people outside of the army would give the turn of a copper to secure the success of that cause. The people generally do not hesitate to say they are heartily tired of the war; and well they may be, for every branch of industry, except that to aid the confederate government, is at a stand-still; families are broken up and scattered, and the whole country is flooded with a species of paper money so nearly worthless as to scarcely be believed. This stuff is thrown about carelessly, and is to be found everywhere stowed away in houses as carelessly as a prudent Yankee house-keeper does rags. For a ten-dollar greenback I was offered at one place a pile of confederate scrip large enough to fill an ordinary saddle-bag. In the use of this money we had some experience. At a little oyster saloon, about six miles from Richmond, General Davies and a party of friends numbering eight in all, partook of a supper which cost eighty-five dollars and forty cents in confederate money, and the proprietor readily took thirty-two dollars confederate and a two dollar greenback for the amount. The fare consisted of eggs, bacon, honey, and bread. I obtained a bill of items from the gentlemanly owner of the place to adorn the books of some Antiquarian Society. A few years hence it will be much more of a curiosity than now.

As to the question of food. Every family seemed to have a little. Halting for an hour at a house, the occupant was asked if he had any corn, to which he gave a most positive negative reply. The proper officer was not satisfied, and, by a little searching, forty or fifty bushels were found stored away in a loft of the house. He denied also having bacon, and said that neither corn nor bacon could be bought for love or money, but "the boys" somehow managed to find quite a little pile of the hog-meat

concealed in an out-of-the-way place; and this was the experience along the whole route in the different counties. At nearly every occupied house was to be found a lot of chickens, and occasionally more or less turkeys, ducks, geese, and drakes, and not unfrequently small grunners were to be seen roaming through the fields at will. It was quite evident that there was no superabundance of food, but a good supply of apple-jack somehow could always be obtained at one hundred and twenty-five dollars per gallon—a price frequently paid. Confederate scrip was floating about so plentifully, that the price of the liquor made but little difference to the purchaser—one hundred and fifty dollars per gallon would have been paid just as willingly.

These people at home pretended that they had no choice as to which troops visited their plantations. The confederates took all they could find in the shape of provisions, and while they hoped to be excused from receiving visits from either, they thought they could be treated no worse by the Yankees. As you move toward the heart of rebeldom, the feeling of animosity is more intense in hatred toward Yankees, and is more openly manifested. Around the outer borders, where the people have more frequently seen Union troops, and know more of what is going on in the outside world, they seem to have enlarged and more liberal ideas; as you approach the centre more bigotry and intolerance, more outspoken hatred is met with. Until a point near Richmond was reached there was but little on the part of the people to indicate that we were moving among a united mass of enemies. On the Brook pike, within a few miles of Richmond, quite a number of very respectable-looking young women came out to the roadside and made use of some taunting expletives—such as no real lady would be guilty of—but judging from the surroundings, I suppose they were considered ladies at home. One of these women was almost frantic with indignation. "I never thought," said she, raising her hands in holy horror, "that you would be mean enough for this." This she repeated frequently as the column moved along. No one offered any disrespectful remark in reply. The boys were simply amused at her eccentric conduct. This course of conduct seemed to exasperate her; to have Yankee soldiers come there was bad enough, but to be laughed at by them seemed to her the very height of the intolerables.

Much has been said of the publicity given to this raid before the movement was commenced or immediately thereafter. It is undoubtedly true that a great many people knew that there was a movement on foot of some kind, but of what kind, or which way it was to go, or its destination, it seems nearly every one was in ignorance. The enemy knew nothing of the matter, and the correspondents in the field and at Washington, from the different publications in the papers, it is quite certain, knew but little more than the rebels. One paper recounts, in fearful terms, how that owing to the indiscretion of some name-

less person, the enemy had met Kilpatrick in superior force at the very inauguration of the movement, and fears were entertained for the safety of the command. This class of correspondents show how much knowledge they had of the affair by still persisting in the statement that Kilpatrick left Stevensburgh on Saturday evening, when without much trouble, they might have known that he did not move until Sunday night. Old sores are always tender, and a newspaper in the habit of being beaten in news is frequently stirred up to commit indiscretions. The truth of the matter is, that, whether any of the newspapers did or did not act prematurely in publishing the movements of General Kilpatrick, the enemy did not take advantage of it. The picket at Ely's Ford knew nothing of it, and the column moved to Beaver Dam on the Central Railroad, before hearing a hostile shot. So skillfully managed, indeed, was the whole affair, that the announcement of General Kilpatrick crossing the Rapidan was made in the Richmond papers on the very day he arrived before that city. The pickets within three and a half miles of Richmond were captured before they were aware that an enemy's force was near them; and wherever the column moved before reaching Richmond, the enemy were taken by surprise and were entirely unprepared to resist the movement.

Captain Armstrong, of the Commanding General's staff, besides his regular duties, had charge of the distributing of the President's Amnesty Proclamation. Printed in small pamphlet form, this production was scattered broadcast everywhere. It was placed in the hands of the people, left in their houses, churches and shops, stowed away in books and in every conceivable nook and corner, so that if any large portion of the people are disposed to suppress the only public document emanating from Mr. Lincoln which has not been reproduced in the Richmond papers, they will hardly be able to accomplish their purpose.

The negroes everywhere, as usual, manifested great delight at seeing a column of Yankees, and acted unreservedly, as though they expected to find them all friends, and aided the expedition in various ways. They could always tell where corn could be found for the horses, and where provisions and horses had been concealed. They frequently gave valuable information as to the location of the enemy's pickets, of the presence of scouts in the neighborhood, and could tell when the last confederate soldier had passed along the road. These services were rendered freely and without hesitation, often without the asking. Their services were brought into requisition in destroying railroads, and in one instance, at least, continued the work of destruction after the troops had left the spot, saying, as the column moved off: "We'll catch up." Nearly all asked permission to come along, and many did so without asking the privilege, seeming to take it as a matter of course they were expected to join the command. There was no large number of negroes in any one place; but there were a few found in

every locality—just enough, the whites said, to raise crops for the local population to consume. Only about one million dollars' worth of this kind of property was brought away. Many of the negroes and negroes gave out on the long marches, and were left on the road. One squad of stout-limbed and stout-hearted women marched for two days with the command, and were finally rewarded by reaching General Butler's lines, where they have some rights that white men are bound to respect under the present régime.

Only a few cattle were seen on the whole march. Every thing large enough for beef has been confiscated for the use of the army. The same may be said of horses. The few to be seen—except here and there an exception—are poor in flesh and in spirit. Not more than three hundred horses were obtained probably throughout the whole command—all having been pressed into the rebel service.

Several prisoners taken in front of Richmond while our cavalry was engaged within the defences of that capital, state positively that General Bragg was on the field during the action, and was furious at the audacity of the Yankees. The panic in Richmond was undoubted. Citizens who left the city at eight o'clock and were taken into custody between ten and eleven o'clock, said that they heard nothing of the approach of our forces. It is believed that they first knew of the presence of a cavalry force by a messenger who went across the fields soon after crossing Brook Creek.

All things considered, no better weather could have been asked for the consummation of the object of this raid. The first night, Sunday, was cloudy; the next day there was no sun, so that the column could not be seen at a distance by the enemy. That night there was a slight fall of rain, refreshing to the horses, and doing the men of the command no particular harm, as it was not very cold. Tuesday night was the only really disagreeable time—just when the camp was sheltered—then there was a fall of rain which gradually turned into sleet, and subsequently snow. The mud was deep, nevertheless the command had to move on through the mud and slush six inches deep to a defensive position some ten miles distant. If it was disagreeable for the men on horseback, let the reader imagine how much more disagreeable it was for a hundred or more dismounted men, whose horses had been shot or stampeded in the night-attack. Bravely did these dismounted troopers plod on through the mud, hour after hour, mile after mile. All the best horses were brought into requisition—a few stray animals were picked up in the morning, so that nearly all of the dismounted were remounted the next day. Wednesday, for the first time, the sun shone forth—never at a more welcome moment—making every one forget the hardships they had undergone, and the perils by which they were then surrounded. The bottoms of the broad Pamunkey never looked more tempting, and the whole command was halted

thereon, and neighboring corn-cribs and farm-houses furnished food for horses and men.

Up to this time, (Wednesday evening,) no one knew of the approach of a force from General Butler's department, and the first intimation of it was when Lieutenant Whitaker, with a small detachment, went out to burn Tunstall Station and destroy the railroad-track, and found that the station was in flames, and that a Union force had preceded. Thursday morning, a few miles south of the railroad, the advance met Colonel West's command. The gratification of the troops at meeting such a force so unexpectedly can only be imagined by those who have been similarly situated.

Near New-Kent Court-House a brigade of colored troops was standing at ease in column by regiments, and certainly no troops ever made a better first impression. Cheers filled the air, given with a cordial good-will by both commands.

The Peninsula seems to be almost entirely abandoned by all its former residents, and given over to bushwhackers and roaming bands of lawless men. North of Williamsburgh, bushmen hang upon the flanks and rear of any column of troops that may pass, to pick up stragglers, secure horses, and not unfrequently, apparently, for the sole purpose of gratifying a morbid spirit of revenge, firing into a column indiscriminately, with no hope of securing any immediate advantage thereby. Occasionally a poor family is found at home, but they manifest no particular feeling either for or against the Union cause. Their sons and brothers capable of bearing arms are in the rebel service, and therefore it is supposed their sympathies are in that direction. The locality between Burnt Ordinary and New-Kent Court-House is particularly obnoxious on account of bushwhackers. On Tuesday last, four colored soldiers of Colonel West's command, were captured in this vicinity, and one was shot through the arm. I have before recorded the experience of General Kilpatrick's command while passing through the district indicated.

The rebels have evidently obtained a supply of railroad-iron from some source within the last year. The writer hereof, while on General Stoneman's raid, in the spring of last year, had his attention particularly called to the condition of the tracks of several roads. It was badly worn and peeled off in many places, so as to be dangerous for cars to be run at any great speed. Since that time these roads have been relaid, at several points, certainly, with a first quality of T rail, and several piles of new rails were destroyed last week by our troops, laid by the road-side for use when necessary. All the cars seen, were next to worthless.

AN ACCOUNT BY A PARTICIPANT.

YORKTOWN, VA., March 7, 1864.

For some time I had noticed indications of a movement, being situated as I am, (acting Quartermaster Sergeant in the Division Ordnance Department,) all ordnance stores being drawn

through this department. Requisitions were made the last of February for a quantity of torpedoes, rat-tail files, turpentine, oakum, and other inflammable articles. For what were they to be used? and in such haste too? for the order was for immediate use. Why, General Kilpatrick was going on a raid again; or, perhaps, (as the Hon. J. M. Howard told us in our little theatre at Stevensburgh,) we were going into Richmond. Acting in the capacity I now do, I had no occasion to go, but love of adventure got the better of the comforts of our snug little office, and I begged the privilege of accompanying the expedition, which was granted, and on Sunday, at five p.m., I was at General Kilpatrick's headquarters, and reported in charge of three six-mule teams, loaded with assorted ammunition. The evening was cold and cheerless, with drizzling rain.

In a short time the cavalry began to draw up under their several commanders. It was here that General Kilpatrick gave Colonel Dahlgren and Major Cook their orders. I heard him say to the Major: "Good-by, Major; do this thing up clean for me, and then ask any thing you like." The Major replied, as he rode off: "You will find it all right, General, depend on me." As his command started, Colonel Dahlgren being a cripple, rode in an ambulance. Their orders were to go to Richmond by the James River, and signal us, (the other commands,) when a rush simultaneously was to be made on the city. But you must have seen by the papers how treachery foiled its accomplishment.

At dark, "Kill" was in the saddle, and the column moved across the Rapidan, at Ely's Ford, where we captured the picket post of a captain and fourteen men. We were now within their lines, and great caution was necessary; but we marched all night, no rest, for we had to get to the rear of Lee's forces. Monday, a.m., we reached Beaver Dam and cut the telegraph. We were now in Spotsylvania County, and created consternation among the inhabitants. On coming to the railroad, parties were detached up and down the line to demolish it, blow up bridges, etc. The air became full of smoke as we neared Beaver Dam Station, which was all in flames, with a train of cars, hundreds of cords of wood, and every thing of value, consigned to the flames.

This day we halted and slept for an hour or so, and then continued our march. The roads were very rough. One of my wagons upset in a creek, and I lost some of my ammunition. All along the route the darkeys flock to us and solicit the privilege of going with us, as they say, to the land of freedom. Every plantation on the road has to pay tribute to the "Yank," according to their stock, which is never very definitely ascertained, for time presses, and we come down on them like "June bugs," cleaning them out of every thing in the line of forage, horses, mules, provision, etc.

Tuesday was rainy, with sleet. We cross the north branch of the Chickahominy and Pamunkey rivers, and pass a large mansion belonging

to a Dr. Bassett, whose darkeys all leave and become contrabands. This is at Ashland, and a sign-post shows us seventeen miles to Richmond. The railroad passes through this place, or rather it did, for we tore up the track for miles and burned the station. We now cross the south branch of the Pamunkey River, on a high bridge. My mules being weary, the General gave orders to destroy some of the load, which I did by throwing twenty-six boxes of ammunition into the river. After our forces had crossed, the bridge was burned.

It was at this place the rebel infantry that had been marching in our rear, caught up; but we drove them back and got across the river safely, destroying the bridge after us. They could follow no further. We burn all the bridges we come to, and tear up the track of the Fredericksburgh Railroad. We take many prisoners out of the houses along the road, mostly cavalry, who say they are disbanded till the fifteenth of March, to recruit their horses.

At three p.m. we are inside the outer fortifications, and only two miles and a half from the city of Richmond. The ball opens from our batteries and the rebels. We pick out a camping ground, and lay down to sleep, almost in range of their guns. I was awakened at eleven p.m., by the boom of cannon very close. I started up to find my train deserted by all except my teamsters. I rushed up to the General's headquarters, but found it vacated, the lights left burning, but no one one to give any orders. I knew no time was to be lost, so hurried my men to get the mules to the wagons, and they did it in hurry, for by this time the grape and canister came pouring in. Had they known my train had been there, they could have gobbled us up. Never did teamsters get ready quicker. But now, where to go to, was the query; we did not know the road our columns had taken, but I chose the one opposite to Richmond, and kept on at double-quick, till we luckily came to our men; we marched till three a.m., and then went into camp and slept till morning.

Wednesday—the snow had fallen in the night, but fast disappeared by the warm sun that came out in the morning. Having well rested and eaten a good breakfast, we start again toward the White-House Landing. Pass the "Old House Hotel," and Post-Office on the "Piping Ford" road. Cross the Chickahominy. We are trying to get to General Butler's lines. The remnant of Major Cook's command overtake us, and we hear of the loss and capture of Colonel Dahlgren, Major Cook, and half their men. This for the time throws a gloom along the lines, which up to the time had been very buoyant. We try to go across the Pamunkey, but the rebels have destroyed the bridge. The General goes with a negro to see a ferry-boat, but finds that it would take too long to get over four thousand men and horses that way. This evening the rebels attacked our outside picket reserve, and captured several of the Seventh Michigan and First Vermont cavalry. We camped for the night without

any thing to mar the rest of our wearied soldiers.

Thursday—a fine morning, we start at eight A.M. Meet Butler's troops coming to our aid. They have eight regiments of colored infantry, two regiments of cavalry, and two batteries. We were glad to see them, (if they were black.) They make good-looking soldiers, and are well drilled. We are now at New-Kent Court-House. Halt for two or three hours, and then take the road to Williamsburgh. We have three men shot this day by bushwhackers. We camp for the night at a place called "Burnt Ordinary," ten miles from Williamsburgh.

Friday—boots and saddles at seven A.M. March to Williamsburgh, arrived at ten; an old city, with very fine old buildings, many covered with ivy. The place is under military rule, and in charge of a Provost-Marshal. I noticed two fine monuments, one, so old I could not decipher the inscription, but was told it was erected to the memory of the first Governor of Virginia; the other a tall marble column, over the remains of Lucien Minor, a law professor and an advocate of temperance; it was erected by the Sons of Temperance of the city of Williamsburgh.

Leaving this place, we come to Fort Magruder. It was here that McClellan had a big fight. The forces at this point are under the command of Colonel Spears. We do not stay here, but march on to Yorktown, where we arrive at four P.M. As we near this place the sight is beautiful. On mounting the hill, the York River comes into sight, leading out into the Chesapeake Bay. The scene is novel to many of our men, and they are struck with admiration as they see the many boats plying on the water. Yonder is a fleet of oyster-boats; here and there are anchored transports; those two grim-looking objects up the river are Uncle Sam's gunboats; moored out in the middle of the stream is an iron-clad; while hundreds of small boats flit about in all directions. While looking with all the eyes I had, bang! goes a gun from the fort. It is the evening gun and tells that the city of Yorktown is closed for the night to all not having the countersign; so I have to defer the pleasure of going there till the morning.

Saturday—a splendid morning, the birds caroling their pleasant notes, the sun very warm, making it perfect spring; the river is resplendent with the many different craft floating, with their white canvass and showy ensigns thrown to the breeze. I mount my horse and take a ride to the Fort. Yorktown is a fort naturally, but the labor of our forces has made it, I think, impregnable. Thirty-six pounders are placed all around it, with their ugly-looking mouths pointing in every direction. Inside are numerous guns of smaller calibre. There are many ladies living here feeling perfectly secure, and well they may.

On the outside of the town are numerous camps, mostly of colored troops. Look at those long rows of cabins, hundreds in number. I ask an old man what troops are stationed there:

"That's Slabtown," said he, "and those are negro huts." So off I ride to see for myself a specimen of old Butler's negro emancipation settlements. The streets are laid out regularly, about four rods wide. Each cabin is about twelve by eighteen feet, and one story high. They are all built of pine slabs, and the roofs are of the same. They each have an alley between, of four feet. Many are whitewashed, and with neat fences round them. The interiors are generally neat and clean. The streets are kept swept, and every thing shows good discipline on the part of the authorities. It was a funny sight to see so many negroes together, for in the town there are between two thousand and three thousand. They are of all shades, from the darkest Ethiopians to the fairest octoroons. Children are seen in great numbers, some as black as ebony, tumbling around without seeming to care or wish for any thing but sporting, in a state of almost nudity, while some are as white as any of our fair daughters of Michigan, with fine curly ringlets dancing around their chubby and pretty faces. These people have nearly all been slaves, and those that were born free say that they were no better till our forces gained possession. They work chiefly for the Government. Some fish and drag for oysters; some work at trades, and are very handy. They have their own stores, post-office, schools, church, in fact every thing that can be desired, and I must say I never saw a more contented set of people anywhere.

I think I have been long enough at Slabtown, and so will go and get some oysters. Well, I've been and got over a bushel, and have not taken an hour. As the tide was out, I picked them up with my hands; they are very plenty. After eating my oysters I went to bed and was aroused by an aid-de-camp of General Kilpatrick's, with orders to have a wagon loaded to go on the boat to Suffolk. I despatched it with three trusty men. I ascertained that a detachment of all the best horses of every command was going on some expedition of "Kill's." He had been down to Fortress Monroe, in the morning, to see General Butler. After they had started I went to bed again and slept till morning.

Sunday—a cold morning. There are a quantity of troops, both black and white, leaving on the transports. After the bustle of their leaving, quiet reigned and every thing bore the appearance of the Sabbath. The negroes dressed in their best clothes, and taking their walks, looked very comfortable.

Monday—a military execution. On going into Yorktown this morning I saw an unusual stir and cleaning up. On inquiry, I found out a man was to be shot, and asking the particulars, was told the unfortunate man's name was Thomas Abrams, a private in the One Hundred and Thirty-ninth New-York volunteers. His crime was aiding the escape of one Boyle, of the New-York Mounted Rifles, from Fort Magruder, who was under sentence of death; also giving the said Boyle information of a proposed movement of

Colonel Spears on Richmond, which he carried to the rebels and frustrated the design.

In a short time the drums beat, and the men marched to an open space on the outside of the Fort, formed in two lines about one hundred yards apart, the batteries forming across the end, leaving it three sides of a hollow square, with the end open toward the river. At eleven o'clock the prisoner was brought from the Fort, in a wagon carrying a coffin. He was accompanied by a minister. As they neared the place of execution, he gazed around, apparently indifferent. The wagon drove into the space and stopped; the minister got out, when the prisoner, though his hands were shackled, jumped over the side nimbly and took his position beside the coffin; the sentence was then read, after which the firing party that had accompanied the wagon, walked up and faced the prisoner, about three rods distant. He then knelt with the minister in prayer for a few minutes. An officer then took a white handkerchief and folded it over his eyes; the prisoner then, by his own wish, took off his coat, leaving his breast bare save a white shirt. After shaking hands with the chaplain and officers, he seated himself comfortably on the coffin, and all withdrew to a short distance. The word was given, "Ready! Aim! Fire!" and the poor wretch threw up his hands, and fell back across the coffin. I rode up to see him; not a move was discernible after the volley; it seemed as if every shot took effect; his shirt was riddled, but not a stain of blood was to be seen. He was a brave man; must have been to meet death so coolly. Pity he had not died in action, that his friends and family might revere his memory!

This is evening, and I am writing this on some boxes of cartridges, by the fire out in the open air, and the wind keeps my candle flickering. The transports have come back and landed the troops on the other side of the river, and we are going to-morrow, report says, back to Stevensburgh, by the way of Port Conway.

CHARLES BROOKE,
Quartermaster Sergeant, in charge Ordnance Train, Kilpatrick's Expedition.

NEW-YORK "TRIBUNE" ACCOUNT.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 5, 1864.

The much talked of raid by General Kilpatrick has ended with failure as to the main result intended to be accomplished, but with success in cutting the railroads between Lee's army and Richmond, and the destruction of much property, stores, etc., and the actual shelling of Richmond.

Starting on Sunday at three A.M., from camp with five thousand cavalry, picked from his own and Generals Merritt's and Gregg's divisions, he proceeded to the Rapidan, crossing at Ely's Ford. From thence the column marched to Spottsylvania Court-House, which place was reached without encountering any of the enemy.

From Spottsylvania Court-House to the end of his daring journey he was more or less harassed by the rebels, and frequently found that his lines had fallen in very unpleasant places. At the

place last named the command was divided into different parties, who were to scour the country as they proceeded toward a common centre—Richmond. Every road was to be carefully scouted, that no concealed foes, even in small numbers, should be left behind, so as to concentrate and worry him.

The expedition was a warlike tour, when all the fun, chickens, turkeys, geese, hogs, corn, oats, hay, horses, mules, negroes, graybacks, whether made of flesh or paper, that could be had, were to be had. They carried with them but two or three feeds each for their horses, and about as many days' rations for the men, the General being determined that for once the celebrated order, Subsidit on the enemy's country, should be faithfully executed.

On Monday, they reached the Virginia Railroad, and tore up the track in four places, destroying whatever property would render the road useless.

At Frederickshall, on the Central Railroad, they came upon a court-martial, peacefully holding its sessions, and captured a colonel, five captains, and two lieutenants.

General Lee had passed over the railroad on his way to his army but an hour before our men reached it. As they passed through the country in the most good-natured way, questioning as to whether any Yanks had been seen there lately, the inhabitants could not believe it was Lincoln's cavalry who were paying them a visit.

The negroes generally were delighted, and many, in the presence of their owners, asked to be allowed to go along. A large number were thus gathered together, who cheerfully trudged along with the cavalry, delighted at gaining their freedom. Occasionally Union families were encountered who gave valuable information, and freely offered what they had to eat and drink.

Leaving Frederickshall on Monday, they pushed on for Richmond—a detachment of five hundred men under Colonel Dahlgren keeping well to the right, in the direction of Louisa Court-House, while General Kilpatrick, with the main body, moved upon Ashland, both parties scouring the country thoroughly, and doing all possible damage.

As the forces neared Richmond the two main parties began concentrating. Colonel Dahlgren was to move down to the right of Richmond, destroying as much of the James River Canal as possible. Then, taking the river road, was to cross, if possible, and enter the city from the south side and attempt the deliverance of the prisoners on Belle Isle.

General Kilpatrick, with the main body, was to attack the city by the Brooks turnpike, simultaneously if possible with the other movement. It was hoped to reach the city on Monday night or early the following morning, when a partial if not a total surprise could be effected.

Two of those fatalities which, more than once during this war, have snatched success from the very grasp of those who by their valor and daring

have richly deserved the victor's crown, interposed to prevent the consummation of one of the best-conceived and most brilliant plans of the whole war.

Colonel Dahlgren had taken a negro to pilot him to Richmond. His detachment had rapidly moved across the country, destroying barns, forage and every thing which could possibly be of service to the enemy. Pushing on so as to reach Richmond as soon as possible, Colonel Dahlgren discovered that his negro guide had betrayed him, and led him toward Goochland instead of to Richmond, and Tuesday midnight found himself miles in just the opposite direction from that which he wished to take. The negro was promptly hanged for his baseness.

Exasperated by this treachery, the men burned the barns and out-buildings of John A. Seddons, the rebel Secretary of War, and it is, perhaps, fortunate that the gentleman himself was not present. Retracing his steps, Colonel Dahlgren marched down the river road, destroying the Dover flour-mills, several flouring establishments and saw-mills. His force also did considerable injury to the James River Canal, burning canal-boats and seriously damaging one or two locks.

They did not reach the immediate vicinity of Richmond till afternoon, when every body was on the alert, Kilpatrick having already made his attack.

Colonel Dahlgren's detachment was divided into several parties for the accomplishment of different objects, keeping together, however. One party attempted to cross the river, but were repulsed. A very sharp fight ensued, and, finding the enemy in superior numbers and confronting them on every road, the force was compelled to fall back.

In attempting to cut their way out, Colonel Dahlgren and Major Cook of the Second New-York, with about one hundred and fifty men, got separated from the rest. The other detachments succeeded in rejoining General Kilpatrick, but nothing has been heard of this one. The people on the road and some of the prisoners aver that a Colonel who had but one leg was captured by the rebels. If so, it is feared he must have been wounded, but strong hopes are entertained that with his usual determination he has cut his way through with at least part of his hundred and fifty men. Meanwhile, General Kilpatrick had advanced down the Brooks turnpike from Ashland, having torn up the rails at that point, destroying the telegraph as he marched. At one of the stations, however, the operator succeeded in sending a despatch to Richmond announcing that the Yankees were coming. He was a prisoner in less than fifteen minutes, but that short time put Richmond on the *qui vive*, and it has since been ascertained that about a dozen field-pieces were put in battery and a new intrenchment thrown up while awaiting his arrival.

The troops reached the outer fortifications early on Tuesday morning, and, as the spires and houses of the city came in view, cheer upon

cheer went up from our men. Riding rapidly toward the city, the outer line of works was entered. The rebels therein surrendered, threw down their arms, many of them surrendering and others taking to their heels.

A fight then ensued for the next line, but the batteries were too much for them, and so, with his battery, General Kilpatrick opened upon them and the city.

There is no doubt that the men would have dashed upon and over any thing that stood in their way, so enthusiastic had they become, but General Kilpatrick acted the wiser part, and as the shrill whistle of the locomotive told of the bringing up of reinforcements from Pickett's brigade, at Bottom's Bridge and vicinity, he reluctantly gave the order to move toward Mechanicsville.

That this was difficult to do, soon became apparent. On every road the enemy's pickets confronted them, and a series of manœuvres took place, in which the enemy were found to be on the alert at every point. Night coming on, Kilpatrick, with his accustomed audacity, halted and made preparations to camp. He had chosen a place, however, too near a rebel camp, and of this fact he was reminded by being shelled out of his position. So the command groped its way on in the darkness and gloom, fighting when pressed too hard, and with the tell-tale whistle of the locomotive now warning them that troops were being hurried back to Bottom's Bridge in the hope of cutting off their retreat.

On Monday, General Butler received orders to send out a force to meet General Kilpatrick and assist him if necessary. This movement was part of General Kilpatrick's plan as proposed. Had he known of or even expected a force at New-Kent Court-House or at Bottom's Bridge, he would not have then turned away from Richmond, but would have treated General Butler's forces to a fight for the same prize.

Two thousand infantry under Colonel Dunkin, Fourth United States colored regiment, eight hundred cavalry under Colonel Spears, Eleventh Pennsylvania cavalry, and Belger's First Rhode Island battery, the whole under command of Colonel West, were ordered to New-Kent Court-House, there to be governed by circumstances as to further movements. The infantry colored troops left on Monday afternoon, and reached New-Kent Court-House about noon the next day, having made an extraordinary night march through rain and mud.

The cavalry left Williamsburgh Monday night and arrived Tuesday morning. About eight o'clock Tuesday afternoon, Colonel Spears took a portion of his cavalry force and proceeded to Tunstall Station, where he destroyed a new steam saw-mill and its machinery, burned a freight-car, and twenty thousand feet of lumber.

On Tuesday night, a portion of Kilpatrick's force was discovered, but not knowing whether they were rebels or not, preparations were made to give them a warm reception. On Wednesday morning, the question was solved, and as the two

columns of cavalry came in on both sides of the colored brigade, drawn up to receive them, the mutual cheers were deafening.

This incident is marked from the fact that heretofore the army of the Potomac, and particularly the cavalry, have entertained a marked dislike to colored troops. After resting awhile they resumed their march down the peninsula. General Davis, who led, had several men shot by guerillas, and General Kilpatrick and his attendants chased a body, capturing a lieutenant and two men.

The force picked up on the way one of the escaped Richmond prisoners, a Colonel Watson or Watkins, of an Ohio regiment. The troops went into camp a few miles from Fort Magruder on Thursday night, and yesterday were to move to Williamsburgh for the purpose of procuring forage and rations, and resting the command.

This raid has been one of the most daring of the war, and but for the two fatalities mentioned would have proved a complete success. The men and horses have borne the hard marching remarkably well, the saddles not being removed during the trip, and but little sleep being given to the men.

The men made themselves quite at home with the inhabitants, and the stock of poultry, hogs, etc., has somewhat decreased. The people generally were given to lying, none of them having anything to eat, either for man or horse. Among other acquisitions large piles of confederate money were secured and squandered with a recklessness befitting their easy acquisition. One party paid eighty-odd dollars for a supper for eight, comprising the best the house afforded.

The ratio with the people was four dollars graybacks for one of greenbacks. A large number of horses also found their way along with the command, and many a soldier has mementoes of Richmond, gathered inside the fortifications. Over five hundred prisoners were taken, but from the nature of the expedition it was impossible to bring them in.

The casualties have not yet been ascertained. Colonel Dahlgren, Major Cook, and Lieutenant-Colonel Litchfield, with about one hundred and fifty men, are missing. The latter is known to have been wounded.

Too much praise cannot be awarded Colonel Dahlgren, nor too much regret felt at his supposed capture. Not fully recovered from the loss of his leg in the charge upon Hagerstown, he volunteered his services to General Kilpatrick, and was assigned to the most important command in the expedition.

The greatest consternation prevailed in Richmond during the fighting, as well it might. The men who have been baffled of their prey—the rebel capital—feel that they would have been gloriously successful if the authorities at Washington had permitted General Butler to coöperate with them, and keep Pickett's infantry employed down the Peninsula.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The following letter was written by a member of the Fourth Pennsylvania cavalry, who participated in the raid:

DETACHMENT FOURTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
YORKTOWN, VA., March 5, 1864.

DEAR CAPTAIN: Before this reaches you, you will have read in the newspapers the full account of "Kilpatrick's great raid;" but, notwithstanding all that, I may be able to give you some facts and incidents which the newspaper reporters have no knowledge of.

On the twenty-seventh ultimo a detail of five hundred men was made from our brigade, proportioned as follows: one hundred of the Fourth Pennsylvania cavalry; one hundred Sixteenth Pennsylvania cavalry, and three hundred of the First Maine cavalry. We reported to General Kilpatrick the same day. We bivouacked near his headquarters, and the next day, a little after dark, we started on our expedition with a force of between three thousand and four thousand men. About three hours, however, before starting, an advance force of five hundred men was sent ahead to clear the ford, and draw the attention of any small parties of "rebs" who might be straggling around. We crossed Ely's Ford at one o'clock in the morning, without opposition, and pushed forward rapidly, passing, in our course, Chancellorsville, of historic fame, and at daylight we entered Spottsylvania Court-House. The numerous campfires around the place indicated that the "Johnnies" were around, but upon our approach they had fled precipitately, too much frightened to offer any resistance to our advance. On we went, stopping only at long intervals for a few moments' rest and refreshment for ourselves and horses. We proceeded rapidly, passing through Mount Pleasant, Markham, and Childsburgh. Up to this time we had followed up the trail of our advanced five hundred, but at Mount Pleasant we diverged from the main road to go to Childsburgh, whilst our advance had taken the road leading to Frederickshall, with the understanding that they were to join us at Hanover Junction. At Childsburgh we struck for Beaver Dam Station, on the Virginia Central Railroad. When we had proceeded about two miles from Childsburgh, we suddenly came upon a rebel engineer train and captured the whole thing, engineers and all. They were going to Fredericksburgh, and had much valuable apparatus with them. About three o'clock p.m., we dashed into Beaver Dam Station, captured the telegraph apparatus and operator, and in less than ten minutes the whole station, with all its buildings, etc., was in flames. We ascertained that a train from the Junction was due in a few minutes. General Kilpatrick despatched a party from the First Maine to attack it when it came up, but we were a little too late. They saw the smoke and flames of the burning station and stopped just before the party sent out to attack them came up. The train-guards fired a few shots at our party and then they reversed motion and rushed back to Han-

over Junction. I will say here that it was the Fourth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania cavalry regiments that destroyed the station, our brigade being in advance that day. It was our intention to go to Hanover Junction and destroy the station also, but for obvious reasons we changed our course and struck directly for Richmond.

I will not take time nor space to describe all the incidents along the route; suffice it to say that we burnt another station on the Fredericksburgh and Richmond Railroad. On Tuesday, at noon, we passed within the first line of fortifications around Richmond. We took up a position near Old Church, threw out our skirmishers, and opened a brisk artillery fire on them of two hours' duration. We lost one officer—a captain—killed. We now directed our course toward White House, but halted for the night at Bidnells Cross-Roads—threw out our pickets, and in a drenching rain, lay down to get a few hours' sleep, of which we all stood very much in need; but fate ordained it otherwise. General Kilpatrick had set his heart upon taking Richmond, and for that purpose he detailed Major Taylor with four hundred men of his (Taylor's) command, consisting of First Maine, Fourth Pennsylvania, and Sixteenth Pennsylvania, who were to lead the advance, and all the rest were to follow in due time. The preliminaries were all arranged and the enterprise ready to be carried into execution, when we were attacked. This, of course, knocked the project on the head, and it had to be abandoned. The night was awful dark. The rebs came down upon us with a yell that made us think of Pandemonium; but we soon got our lines formed and advanced upon them, when they hastily fell back, not, however, until they had killed the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Michigan, and captured about two hundred of the men of that regiment.

We now directed our course in such a manner as to strike the Pamunkey about eight miles above White House. The next morning it was ascertained that the rebs were following us up. About ten o'clock we formed a line of battle. Two squadrons of the First Maine were deployed as skirmishers, the remaining two squadrons and the Fourth and Sixteenth Pennsylvania were drawn up for a charge. In about ten minutes our skirmishers attacked them, and almost immediately after, the devils saw our colors and came down toward us on a charge. Captain Cole, of the First Maine, was ordered to meet the charge, which he did in gallant style, completely routing them, and driving them like sheep before him.

In this charge the rebs lost five killed and quite a number wounded and captured. We only sustained a loss of two captured from the First Maine.

Our advance party of five hundred had not formed a junction with us yet, and we began to have some apprehension for their safety.

We now pushed on for the Pamunkey, about four miles distant—the rebels had gotten all they wanted from us, and molested us no further.

Our whole force now succeeded in crossing a branch of the Pamunkey. Lieutenant Grant, of the Fourth Pennsylvania cavalry, was in command of the skirmish-line. Just as they were in the act of crossing, they discovered a body of troops coming toward them. They were dressed in blue, and it was soon discovered that they were friends. Upon coming up they proved to be our advance party; there were only about three hundred left—they were surrounded at Frederickshall, lost all their field-officers, and about two hundred men, the remainder cutting their way through. The next day we were reinforced by three regiments of cavalry and a "nigger" brigade of infantry, from Williamsburgh; but we were completely worn out, as well as our horses; we needed rest, so the column was headed for Yorktown, which place was reached without any note-worthy incident. Our appearance created the utmost consternation wherever we went: had a thunderbolt fallen in amongst them, they could not have been more astonished than to see a Yankee column galloping along with perfect impunity, so near Richmond.

On the whole, I can't say that I regret the trip; but if we had known that we were coming on this raid we might have made some different arrangements about clothing and rations.

Your sincere friend,

T. W. B.

REBEL REPORTS AND NARRATIVES

RICHMOND, March 1, 1864.

Yesterday afternoon intelligence reached the city that a heavy column of Yankees had made their appearance in the neighborhood of Frederickshall, on the Virginia Central Railroad, fifty miles from Richmond. The statement was somewhat startling, because of the known fact that the greater portion of the reserve artillery of the army of Northern Virginia was quartered at that point, and without an adequate force for its protection. Later in the afternoon, the report reached the city that the whole of the artillery, amounting to some eighty pieces, had been captured; but this, in turn, was contradicted by a statement that the enemy did not go to Frederickshall, but struck the railroad some two miles south of that point, where they tore up a portion of the railroad track. After inflicting this damage on the road, they left, taking a southerly direction. We are inclined to think, from all the information we can gather in relation to the affair, that this latter statement is, in the main, correct. The raid is no doubt intended to interrupt communication between General Lee's army and Richmond, but it is hoped that, like Stoneman's raid last spring, it may prove a failure.

Passengers by the Fredericksburgh train, last night, state that the Yankee force consisted of one brigade of cavalry, and several pieces of artillery; that they crossed at Ely's Ford, on the Rappahannock, and passed through Spottsylvania Court-House about eleven o'clock on Sunday night.

A despatch was also received yesterday after-

noon from Colonel Mallory, commanding at Charlottesville, that a cavalry force of the enemy were threatening that point, and that our troops were fighting them about three miles from the town. Late last night, report stated that they had been repulsed, and had retired.

The train which left this city yesterday morning, carried, as a passenger, General R. E. Lee, and for a while, those who feed upon rumors had it circulated that the train had been captured, and General Lee made prisoner. For this, however, there was no foundation, as information had been received of the safe arrival of the train at Gordonsville. Some uneasiness was felt in the early part of the evening, for the safety of the down passenger-train, due here at seven o'clock, but it was ascertained later in the night that it, too, was safe.

RICHMOND, March 2, 1864.

The raid of the enemy, so sudden and unexpected, has so completely interrupted telegraphic communication that little is known of the damage inflicted by them on the Virginia Central Railroad; but what little we have been able to ascertain leads to the belief that the injury to that road has been comparatively trifling.

After leaving Frederickshall, on Monday evening, the force seems to have divided, a portion of them passing through the upper part of Hanover County to the Fredericksburgh Railroad, which they are reported to have struck between Taylorsville and Ashland, and the others moving off through Louisa into Goochland County.

Early in the day yesterday, nothing could be heard from Ashland, on account of the interruption of the telegraph line, and nothing could be learned of the column of the enemy that struck the railroad at that point, until they appeared on the Brook turnpike, a few miles from the city. This was about ten o'clock A.M. They were gallantly met by a detachment of battery-troops, commanded by Colonel Stevens. After an engagement of some thirty minutes with light field-pieces, they were driven off and retired in the direction of the Meadow Bridges, on the Central road. During the firing, the enemy threw several shells at the fine mansion of Hon. James Lyons, one or two of which, we understand, passed through the building, but happily without inflicting any material damage. It was reported last night, that this column had encamped about five miles from the city, on the Mechanicsville road. In the fight on the Brook road, Colonel Stevens had one man killed and seven wounded. This force of the enemy is variously estimated at from one thousand to five thousand cavalry, and a battery of artillery. The best information we have, leads to the impression that their force at this point did not exceed one thousand three hundred. In the fight, nothing but artillery was used.

The column that went into Goochland County paid a visit to the house of the Hon. James Seddon, Secretary of War. We heard last night, that the damage done by them on his place amounted to but little. They burnt two or three

flouring-mills in the county, among them, the Dover Mill, some twenty-five miles above the city. General Henry A. Wise, who was at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Hobson, in Goochland, narrowly escaped capture. He was at Mr. Hobson's when the enemy went to Mr. Seddon's place, and hearing of their presence in the neighborhood, he put out for Richmond, and arrived here about the middle of the day yesterday. This column of the enemy is said to have consisted of four regiments of cavalry and one battery of artillery. A report reached the city last night that a portion of them had crossed James River, whilst others were moving in the direction of Richmond on the Westham plank-road, with the view, it is conjectured, of forming a junction with the column that was repulsed on the Brook turnpike. If it be true that any portion of them crossed the James River—which was doubted at the War Office—the design doubtless is, in conjunction with those approaching on the Westham road, to attempt the release of the prisoners on Belle Island. About nightfall, musketry-firing was heard on the plank-road, supposed to be about five miles distant from the city, and as a body of our troops had been sent in that direction, the inference is, that they had come up with the approaching enemy. Of the result of the firing we had learned nothing up to the time of writing this article.

Later.—Since writing the above, some fifteen prisoners, captured at different points along the line of the enemy's routes, have been brought in. They say that the column of their forces which approached on the Brook road are under General Kilpatrick, and that the column which went into Goochland is commanded by General Gregg. The main body of Kilpatrick's forces crossed the Chickahominy at Meadow Bridges, late in the afternoon. The rear-guard went into camp last night at the junction of the Mechanicsville and Meadow Bridges roads.

Whilst in Goochland, Gregg's force burned the barn of Hon. J. A. Seddon. It is also reported that they carried off with them Mrs. Patterson Allan, who is under indictment for treason in the confederate court. This is only rumor, and should be received with allowance.

Kilpatrick's party visited the premises of Mr. John P. Ballard, about three miles from the city, and stole from his stables a pair of valuable carriage-horses.*

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, March 2, 1864.

Our last notice of the movements of the enemy closed with their appearance at Frederickshall, on the Central Railroad, and the approach of another column toward Charlottesville. The latter, we learn, were met by our cavalry under Colonel Caskie, and repulsed. At Frederickshall they tore up the track for a considerable distance, and, it is trustworthily reported, captured and brought off several of our officers and eight pieces of artillery stationed there, besides doing considerable damage by destroying the carriages, and

* Richmond *Dispatch*, March 1st and 2d.

otherwise rendering it unserviceable for immediate use.

Leaving Frederickshall on Monday, they crossed the Central Railroad and divided into two detachments, one moving in the direction of James River Canal, and the other of Ashland, where it spent Monday night.

The force penetrated yesterday (Tuesday A.M.) to the farm of John A. Seddon, Secretary of War, in Goochland County; burned his barn and stable, and it is reported by escaped men that his dwelling-house was in flames. They burned all the flour and saw-mills in the vicinity, including the Dover flour-mills and barns, and the mills of Stanard & Morson; destroyed a number of freight and other boats in the canal, and did considerable damage to the iron-works at Mannakio. The only damage done to the canal beside the destruction of boats, was cutting the lock at Simpson. General H. A. Wise was at the time on a visit to his son-in-law, whose farm adjoins that of Secretary Seddon, but fortunately became apprised of their approach in time to make his escape. He arrived in the city yesterday.

The other detachment, that came to Ashland, was accompanied by a battery of artillery, and approached on the Brook turnpike, about six miles north-west of the city, yesterday morning. They were promptly met and kept in check, and finally handsomely repulsed, by a portion of engineer troops under Colonel W. H. Stephens, who manned a few sections of light artillery. A duel ensued, and shots were exchanged for about two hours. The enemy then withdrew in the direction of Mechanicsville, burning the trestle-work of the Central Railroad across the Chickahominy in their retreat. Our loss in the fight on the Brook road was one killed and six or seven wounded, but we are unable to learn their names. Neither the force nor the loss of the enemy is yet ascertained, as they carried their dead and wounded with them. We captured two prisoners, who were committed to Libby Prison.

During the retreat of this column they threw two or three shells at the dwelling-house of the Hon. James Lyons, which exploded in the yard without damage. They stopped the carriage of Mr. John P. Ballard, took out both the horses, and carried off the horses of Mr. Giddin. The latest report we have from this retreating column is, that they had halted five or six miles from the city to take refreshments. They are probably endeavoring to make their escape by way of the White House. We omitted to mention a report that they saluted Camp Lee with a few shells, but this lacks confirmation.

The detachment that went to Goochland, according to the statement of an escaped prisoner, included a large body of negroes, mounted and armed. They seized and brought with them a considerable number of negroes as they passed through the country, as well as a large number of horses, which were brought into requisition whenever others were exhausted and gave out. Before leaving the Central Railroad they impressed into service a negro guide, to pilot them to the

vicinity of the city, where they intended and expected to arrive last night, to effect a junction, probably, with a column from the direction of Ashland. The negro, however, intentionally or ignorantly piloted them in a wrong direction, and they landed in Goochland, as above stated, about daylight yesterday, for which they hung him yesterday morning.

It is reported that a detachment from this column went to the river at Mannakin's Ferry, it was believed with the intention of crossing it, if practicable, and coming over on the south side. Whether they succeeded or not we have not learned. Some of the privates expressed regret at the burning of houses, but said they acted under orders. A negro belonging to Stanard was captured, and, after being with them all day, feigned sickness, and being sent off under guard, three of our pickets galloped up and captured the Yankee, and released the negro.

About three o'clock yesterday afternoon, the enemy advanced toward the city by the Westham or River road, evidently the same force that went to Goochland. They formed into line of battle not far above the city, and, from the brisk firing of musketry heard in that direction about dusk, it is supposed that a fight occurred. The enemy were afterward reported to have been repulsed. Several prisoners were brought in about eight o'clock last night. Up to the late hour of writing this we learned no particulars.

The body of raiders is under command of General Kilpatrick, celebrated in connection with the raid of last spring, over very much the identical route. Besides the general destruction of property, one of the principal objects of the raid was evidently the release of the prisoners in this city, but the plan miscarried by the treachery or ignorance of this negro guide. It is not to be supposed that it would have been successful, had it been otherwise. The whole force is estimated at about two large brigades, and whatever the object, they have won a title to considerable boldness, to say the least of it.

Later.—Last night at about a quarter past ten o'clock, brisk artillery-firing was heard in the direction of Meadow Bridges or Mechanicsville, which continued half an hour. It proceeded, doubtless, from the column that retreated in that direction. It was reported that a skirmish occurred earlier in the night on the Westham road, in which the enemy charged Hurley's battalion and the Twenty-eighth Virginia regiment, who were in charge of the main body, and were repulsed. We heard of no casualties.

An official communication received last night, expresses the opinion that Meade is advancing against General Lee. The same opinion is entertained in a high official quarter. If Meade means fight, it may begin to-day, the weather permitting, though it may be only a demonstration in favor of the raid on the city.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

RICHMOND, March 4, 1864.

In concluding our report yesterday, we stated

that the raiders had succeeded in effecting their escape by crossing the Pamunkey at Piping Tree. Subsequent information has satisfied us that this statement was erroneous, and that only a small portion of the enemy's forces crossed the Pamunkey in their retreat. The main body, after passing Old Church, in Hanover County, moved down into New-Kent, on their way, doubtless, to Williamsburgh.

Yesterday afternoon, Colonel Bradley T. Johnson, with about forty of his Marylanders, assisted by a detachment of the Ninth Virginia cavalry, which had joined him, came up with their rear-guard, near Tunstall's Station, when a skirmish ensued, resulting in the capture of seventy of the raiders. This is probably the last heavy pull that will be made upon them, as it is understood that the remainder of the party had pushed on beyond New-Kent Court-House.

Thus ends the great raid which was designed for the destruction of General Lee's communications and the liberation of the Yankee prisoners in Richmond. The injury to the communications with the army of Northern Virginia can be repaired in three days, and, instead of releasing the prisoners already in our hands, they have added not less than two hundred and fifty to their numbers.

It is somewhat difficult to ascertain the exact loss of the raiders in killed and wounded. It is thought that in the fights on Mick's and Green's farms they had seventeen killed, and it is known that they had not less than twenty wounded. In Hampton's night attack upon them, near Atlee's, he killed four or five and wounded as many more. In the several engagements which occurred, they must have lost, at a low estimate, twenty-five in killed and seventy wounded.

Their loss in prisoners will reach two hundred and fifty. Up to seven o'clock yesterday evening, one hundred and seventy had been booked at the Libby, and these did not include the seventy captured by Colonel Johnson in the neighborhood of Tunstall's.

What their net loss in horses will amount to cannot, of course, be estimated, as the number they stole in their line of march will go far to make up the number captured from them. They did not lose less than five hundred in killed and captured. Beside the horses, they lost a Napoleon gun, many saddles, carbines, sabres, pistols, blankets, etc. Altogether, the expedition was rather an expensive one to Kilpatrick's Government, taking into consideration the results accomplished.

We were in error as to the name of the officer who commanded this battalion in the recent fight with the enemy on Green's farm. Captain John McAnerney, and not McIlthaney, is his name. He came to Virginia in the early part of the war with the Third Alabama regiment, and was wounded in the battles around Richmond. His wound disabling him, he was appointed a clerk in the Post-Office Department. On the day of the raid he assumed command of the battalion as senior Captain, Major Henly being sick.

In addition to the names already published by us, we have heard of the following wounded in the late fights: Of Henly's battalion—privates D. T. Carter, S. McLain, R. B. Green, and Gray Deswell. Of the Armory battalion—Lieutenant Truehart, slightly in shoulder; private Jones, mortally; private Rees, badly in the neck. Among the local troops, we understand our total loss to be: Killed, three; mortally wounded, two; wounded, twelve; missing, five.

The injury sustained by this road from the raiders is slight, and only such as to prevent the running of the trains for a few days. In the neighborhood of the Chickahominy they destroyed the trestle-work over the Brook, and some fifteen feet of what is known as the dry trestling on the other side of the Chickahominy. At Beaver Dam they tore up some hundred yards or more of track, and burnt one or two unimportant railroad buildings. This is about the extent of the damage inflicted upon the road.

Some uneasiness has been expressed with reference to our artillery at Frederickshall, and apprehensions entertained that it sustained some damage from the raiders on Monday. The fact that several of the artillery officers were captured by them excited these apprehensions. We are glad to state, however, that not a single piece was injured, as the enemy were not at Frederickshall at all. They struck the railroad some three miles below that point.

The remains of Captain Albert Ellery, who fell in one of the fights on Tuesday night, were interred in Hollywood Cemetery. They were followed to their last resting-place by the battalion of which he was a member, and Smith's battalion band. Among the pall-bearers, we noticed Marshal Kane and Doctor Charles Magill.

THE DEATH OF DAHLGREN.

RICHMOND, March 5, 1864.

The most important blow which has yet been struck the daring raiders who attempted to enter this city on Tuesday last, was wielded by Lieutenant Pollard, of the Ninth Virginia cavalry, on Wednesday night, about eleven o'clock, in the neighborhood of Walkertown, in King and Queen County.

Lieutenant Pollard, with the greater portion of his own company, had been watching the movements of the enemy all day on Wednesday, in King William, and ascertained that night that Dahlgren, with about two hundred of his deluded followers, had crossed the Mattaponi at Aylett's. With his own men he crossed over and followed the retreating raiders. On reaching the forks of the road, a few miles above Walkertown, Lieutenant Pollard learned that the enemy had taken the river road, leading to that place. Leaving a few men to follow on after them, he quitted the main road with the larger portion of the force at his disposal, and by a circuitous route and forced march, he succeeded in throwing himself in front of the enemy and awaited his approach. In the mean time, he had been joined by the home-guards of King and Queen

County, and a few men of Robbins's battalion. A little before eleven o'clock at night the enemy approached on the road in which they were posted. A fire was at once opened upon them, but their leader, Colonel Dahlgren, relying, perhaps, upon their numbers, or stung by chagrin at his failure to capture Richmond, determined to force his way through, and at once forming his men, ordered a charge, which he led himself. It proved, however, a fatal charge to him; for, in the onset, he was pierced with a ball and fell dead. After his fall, the command could not be rallied, but were soon thrown into confusion inextricable. Our boys, noticing this, availed themselves of the opportunity it afforded, and used it to the best advantage. Dashing in among the discomfited foe, they succeeded in capturing ninety prisoners, thirty-five negroes, and one hundred and fifty horses. The body of Dahlgren also fell into their hands, and on his person was found the paper which we publish below, disclosing the diabolical schemes which the party had in view, in making the late, and, to them, disastrous raid.*

Lieutenant Pollard, commanding company H, of the Ninth Virginia regiment, aided by some home-guards and a few men from Lieutenant-Colonel Robbins's command, succeeded in penning Colonel Dahlgren on Wednesday night, about eleven o'clock. Dahlgren made a determined effort to force his way out, and was killed leading the charge.

Thursday morning, the remaining officers having escaped, the party surrendered, ninety Yankees and thirty-five negroes.

Several papers were found in the pockets of Dahlgren, copies of which are subjoined:

ADDRESS TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN.

The following address to the officers and men of the command was written on a sheet of paper, having, in printed letters, on the upper corner, "Headquarters, Third Division, Cavalry Corps, 1864":

OFFICERS AND MEN: You have been selected from brigades and regiments as a picked command, to attempt a desperate undertaking—an undertaking which, if successful, will write your names on the hearts of your countrymen in letters that can never be erased, and which will cause the prayers of our fellow-soldiers now confined in loathsome prisons to follow you and yours wherever you may go. We hope to release the prisoners from Belle Isle first, and, having seen them fairly started, we will cross the James River into Richmond, destroy the bridges after us, and, exhorting the released prisoners to destroy and burn the hateful city, will not allow the rebel leader Davis, and his traitorous crew, to escape. The prisoners must render great assistance, as you cannot leave your ranks too far or become too much scattered, or you will be lost.

Do not allow any personal gain to lead you off, which would only bring you to an ignominious

death at the hands of citizens. Keep well together and obey orders strictly, and all will be well; but on no account scatter too far, for in union there is strength. With strict obedience to orders and fearlessness in their execution, you will be sure to succeed. We will join the main force on the other side of the city, or perhaps meet them inside. Many of you may fall; but if there is any man here not willing to sacrifice his life in such a great and glorious undertaking, or who does not feel capable of meeting the enemy in such a desperate fight as will follow, let him step out, and he may go hence to the arms of his sweetheart, and read of the braves who swept through the city of Richmond. We want no man who cannot feel sure of success in such a holy cause. We will have a desperate fight; but stand up to it when it does come, and all will be well. Ask the blessing of the Almighty, and do not fear the enemy.

U. DAHLGREN.*

Colonel Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS.

The following special orders were written on a similar sheet of paper, and on detached slips, the whole disclosing the diabolical plans of the leaders of the expedition:

Guides and pioneers, with oakum, turpentine and torpedoes, signal-officer, quartermasters, commissaries, scouts and pickets, and men in rebel uniforms—these will remain on the north bank and move down with the force on the south bank, not get ahead of them, and if the communication can be kept up without giving an alarm, it must be done; but every thing depends upon a surprise, and no one must be allowed to pass ahead of the column; information must be gathered in regard to the crossings of the river, so that, should we be repulsed on the south side, we will know where to recross at the nearest point.

All mills must be burned and the canal destroyed, and also every thing which can be used by the rebels must be destroyed, including the boats on the river. Should a ferry-boat be seized which can be worked, have it moved down. Keep the force on the south side posted of any important movement of the enemy, and in case of danger, some of the scouts must swim the river and bring us information. As we approach the city, the party must take great care that they do not get ahead of the other party on the south side, and must conceal themselves and watch our movements. We will try and secure the bridge to the city, one mile below Belle Isle, and release the prisoners at the same time. If we don't succeed they must then dash down, and we will try to carry the bridge by storm. When necessary the men must be filed through the woods and along the river bank. The bridge once secured and the prisoners loose and over the river, the bridges will be burned and the city destroyed.

* See Admiral Dahlgren's letter denying the authenticity of this "address."

The men must be kept together and well in hand, and, once in the city, it must be destroyed and Jeff Davis and his cabinet killed. Pioneers will go along with combustible material. The officer must use his discretion about the time of assisting us. Horses and cattle which we do not need immediately, must be shot rather than left.

Every thing on the canal and elsewhere, of service to the rebels, must be destroyed.

As General Custer may follow me, be careful not to give a false alarm. The signal-officer must be prepared to communicate at night by rockets, and in other things pertaining to his department. The quartermasters and commissaries must be on the lookout for their departments, and see that there are no delays on their account. The engineer officer will follow and survey the road as we pass over it, etc. The pioneers must be prepared to construct a bridge or destroy one. They must have plenty of oakum and turpentine for burning, which will be soaked and rolled into balls and be given to the men to burn when we get into the city. Torpedoes will only be used by the pioneers for burning the main bridges, etc. They must be prepared to destroy the railroads.

Men will branch off to the right with a few pioneers and destroy the bridges and railroads south of Richmond, and then join us at the city. They must be well prepared with torpedoes, etc.

The line of Falling Creek is probably the best to march along, or, as they approach the city, Good's Creek, so that no reinforcements can come up on any cars.

No one must be allowed to pass ahead, for fear of communicating news.

Rejoin the command with all haste, and if cut off, cross the river above Richmond and rejoin us. Men will stop at Bellona Arsenal and totally destroy it, and every thing else but hospitals; then follow on and rejoin the command at Richmond with all haste, and, if cut off, cross the river and rejoin us. As General Custer may follow me, be careful and not give a false alarm.

PROGRAMME OF THE ROUTE AND WORK.

The following is the exact copy of a paper, written in lead-pencil, which appears to have been a private memorandum of the programme that Dahlgren had made to enable him to keep his work clearly in mind:

Saturday, leave camp at dark—six P.M.; cross Ely's Ford at ten P.M.; twenty miles, cross North-Anna at four A.M. Sunday, feed and water one hour; three miles, Frederickshall Station, six A.M.; destroy artillery eight A.M., twenty miles; near James River, two P.M. Sunday, feed and water one hour and a half.

Thirty miles to Richmond. March toward Kilpatrick for one hour, and then, as soon as dark, cross the river, reaching Richmond early in the morning of Monday. One squadron remains on north side, one squadron to cut the railroad bridge at Falling Creek, and join at Richmond—eighty-three miles—General Kilpatrick cross at one A.M., Sunday—ten miles—pass river five A.M.

—resistance; Childsburgh, fourteen miles, eight A.M. Resistance at North-Anna, three miles—railroad-bridge at South-Anna, twenty-six miles, two P.M.; destroy bridges, pass South-Anna, and feed until after dark, then signal each other. After dark move down to Richmond and be in front of the city at daybreak. Return.

In Richmond during the day, feed and water—men outside.

Be over the Pamunkey at daybreak, feed and water, and then cross the Rappahannock at night—Tuesday night—when they must be on the lookout. Spies should be sent on Friday morning early, and be ready to cut—a guide furnished.

The following paper was inclosed in an envelope directed to Colonel U. Dahlgren, etc., at General Kilpatrick's headquarters, and marked "confidential." The letter is not dated:

Colonel Dahlgren, etc.

DEAR COLONEL: At the last moment I have found the man you want, who is well acquainted with the James River from Richmond. I send him to you mounted on my own private horse. You will have to furnish him a horse. Question him five minutes and you will find him the man you want. Respectfully and truly yours,

JOHN C. BABCOCK.

On the margin of the letter is written:

He crossed the Rapidan last night and has late information.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

The column of Yankees under Dahlgren took on their route two prisoners, Captain Demont and Mr. Mountcastle, who accompanied the force from Goochland to the *débat* at Walkerton. From these gentlemen and other sources of information we gather some interesting accounts of Dahlgren's excursion.

Dahlgren came down the Westham plank-road, with eight hundred or a thousand men. The Armory battalion was on the enemy's flank, and appears to have been completely surprised. But when the enemy came in contact with Henley's battalion the cavalry broke at the first fire. The first volley of musketry seems to have done all the disaster that occurred. There were eleven Yankees killed and some thirty or forty wounded.

After the affair Dahlgren seemed to be anxious for his retreat, and divided his forces so as to increase the chances of escape. The force under his immediate command moved down the south bank of the Pamunkey, and crossed the river at Dabney's Ferry.

Their exact number was not at first easily ascertained, and, as usual, the most exaggerated accounts were soon circulated throughout the country, increasing as they spread, until the miserable fugitives from the Richmond defences were magnified into a full brigade. From the ferry they proceeded by the most direct route to Aylett's, on the Mattaponi, watched closely at every step by scouts detached from Lieutenant James Pollard's company of Lee's Rangers, now on picket-duty and recruiting services in King

William, the residence of most of its members. The ferry-boat having been previously removed, and Lieutenant Pollard's arrangements for disputing their passage when they reached the King and Queen side of the river being suspected, they dashed across the river as precipitately as possible, under the fire of a small squad of rangers left on the south bank for that purpose. While passing through King William they captured one prisoner, Mr. William Edwards, and several horses, and mortally wounded a man attached to the signal-corps, whose name we could not learn. Subsequently Colonel Dahlgren, in command of the party, ordered the release of Mr. Edwards and the restoration of his horse and some valuables which were forcibly taken from his person when captured.

The Yankees had no sooner reached King and Queen County than they were harassed, both front and rear, by the Rangers, until Lieutenant Pollard was reinforced by Magruder's and Blake's companies of the Forty-second Virginia battalion, now on picket duty in King and Queen, and Fox's company of Fifth Virginia cavalry, on furlough in the same county. Here the fight became general, resulting in the death of Colonel Dahlgren and the capture of the greater number of the party, the rest having fled in disorder and panic to the nearest woods. It is believed that few, if any, will reach Gloucester Point alive, as the home-guard of King and Queen, whose bravery was conspicuous during the whole affair, are scouring the country and cutting off escape.

A large body of this raiding party was pushing toward the peninsula at last accounts, preferring that route to the rather hazardous attempt to reach Gloucester Point through King William and King and Queen. We regret this very much, as in both counties adequate preparations were made to prevent the soil of either county from being converted into a highway, as in the earlier period of the war, for Yankee robbers whose track is marked, wherever they are permitted to obtain a foothold, with desolation and blood.

A FURTHER ACCOUNT.

From information derived from a trustworthy source it appears that the credit of the capture of the "Dahlgren party" is mainly due to Captain William M. Magruder and a squadron of Robbins's battalion under his command, who have for some time past been posted in King and Queen County as a corps of observation. Learning that the enemy was moving down the north bank of the Mattaponi by the river road, with the evident intention of reaching Gloucester Point, Captain Magruder determined to anticipate him, and with this view left his camp with about one hundred of his command and Lieutenant Pollard and seventeen men of the Ninth Virginia cavalry, making for a point on the river between Mantua Ferry and King and Queen Court-House, which he succeeded in reaching in advance of the enemy.

Posting his command at an eligible point along the road in ambush, he had not long to wait before the enemy made his appearance, headed by Dahlgren himself, slowly and cautiously approaching, as if apprehensive of their impending fate. As the head of the column neared the point of concealment, Dahlgren's attention was attracted by a slight rustling in the bushes, occasioned doubtless by the movement of some of our party. Drawing his pistol he called out: "Surrender, you damned rebel, or I'll shoot you." In an instant private McCoy sprang into the road, and, levelling his piece, shot the miscreant dead.

A general volley was then poured into the enemy's ranks, which had the effect of emptying their saddles and killing as many horses and throwing the rest into inextricable confusion. Then ensued a scene of the wildest panic, which was heightened by the intense darkness of the night. Each man looking to his own personal safety, all sought refuge in flight, and spurring their jaded horses over the bodies of their wounded and over each other, the whole body broke pell-mell over a ditch and wailing fence, which the most adventurous fox-hunter would hardly have essayed in the heat of the chase, into a small field. Captain M. immediately disposed his force around the field so as to prevent all egress, and quietly awaited the approach of daylight, when the whole party surrendered without resistance.

Much praise is due Captain Magruder for his coolness and judgment in this affair. If he had ordered a charge upon the discomfited enemy in the road, the probability is that some of our own men would have fallen by the hands of their comrades by an indiscriminate fight in the dark, while the opportunity of escape by the enemy would have been increased. As it was, the prudent course adopted secured most effectually the result desired without a single casualty on our side. This account strips the valorous Dahlgren's name of the little *éclat* which might have attached to it if he had fallen, as was at first stated, while boldly leading a charge in an effort to cut his way through our lines. He was shot down, as he deserved to be, like a "thief in the night," with his stolen plunder around him, while seeking, under cover of darkness, to elude the punishment he so richly merited.

THE NEGRO GUIDE.

Dahlgren's guide, recommended to him "at the last moment" as the "very man he wanted," by one "truly yours, John C. Babcock," has reached the Libby, in company with the two or three hundred brigands he attempted to guide into the heart of Richmond. His name is John A. Hogan, an Irishman by birth, twenty-three years old, tall and lithe, with a fine open countenance. When asked his rank, he declared himself a full high private, and did not aspire to any thing else. Being interrogated as to his knowledge of Richmond and its suburbs, he

said he knew it "like a bog;" he was a guest at the Hotel de Libby in July, 1863, and knew the officers of the prison. Then recognizing Mr. Ross, the clerk, Hogan broke out, "How do you do, Lieutenant Ross? Glad to see you." Hogan boasted of his narrow escape, having had four bullets put through his clothing and hair. In reply to a question as to what he was fighting for, he replied he was fighting for fun. When such fun ends in a hempen rope, as we trust it will, Hogan will cease to estimate his business a joke.

Hogan disposed of for the present, we would inquire who is this "John C. Babcock" who sent Hogan on his own horse to Dahlgren? If found, he should certainly be sent headlong after Dahlgren, or brought to Richmond to participate in whatever fate awaits the outlaws of his command held here. —*Richmond Examiner*, March 8.

GEN. ELZEY'S CONGRATULATIONS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND, }
March 8, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10.

The Major-General commanding congratulates the troops upon their completely successful defence of the city of Richmond, and its rescue from the ravages of the invader.

The enemy was gallantly repulsed on the north side by Colonel Stevens's command, and on the west by Brigadier-General G. W. C. Lee's troops. Their conduct is entitled to the highest praise and credit.

To Colonel Bradley T. Johnston, and the officers and soldiers under his command, the thanks of the Major-General are especially due, for the prompt and vigorous manner in which they pursued the enemy from Beaver Dam to Richmond, and thence to the Pamunkey and down the peninsula, making repeated charges, capturing many prisoners and horses, and thwarting any attempt of the enemy to charge them.

The Major-General commanding begs leave to tender to Major-General Hampton and his command his sincere thanks for their coöperation in following up the enemy, and their gallant assault upon his camp at Atlee's Station, on Tuesday night, in which the enemy's entire force was stampeded and completely routed, leaving in the hands of General Hampton many prisoners and horses.

Lastly, the conduct of the home guard of King and Queen County, and of Captain Magruder's squadron of the Forty-second battalion, Virginia cavalry, which, in conjunction with small detachments of furloughed men, under Captain Fox and Lieutenant Pollard, of the cavalry of the A. N. V., attacked the retreating column of Colonel Dahlgren—killing the leader and capturing nearly one hundred prisoners, with negroes and horses—deserves public acknowledgment.

By command of
Major-General ELZEY.

T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPIRIT OF THE REBEL PRESS.

RICHMOND, March 5.

If the confederate capital has been in the closest danger of massacre and conflagration—if the President and Cabinet have run a serious risk of being hanged at their own door, do we not owe it chiefly to the milk-and-water spirit in which this war has hitherto been conducted?

It is time to ask, in what light are the people of the confederate States regarded by their own government? As belligerents resisting by war an invasion from a foreign people—or as a gang of malefactors evading and postponing the penalty of their crimes? It may appear a strange question; yet the answer is not so distinct as could be desired. The enemy's government, we know, takes the second view of our position. To the Washington authorities we are simply criminals awaiting punishment, who may be hanged, or may be pardoned. In their eyes, our country is not ours, but theirs. The hostilities which they carry on are not properly war, but military execution and coercion. There is, in their opinion, no equality of rights between us; no more than between the police and a gang of garroters whom the police is hunting down. Even the one symptom of apparent recognition, upon their part, of our *status* as a war-making people—namely, the exchange of prisoners (a measure to which policy compelled them for a little while,) is at an end. We would not treat, forsooth, with Major-General Butler! The outlaws, indeed, pretend to tastes and preferences as to which of the efficient police constables shall be sent to deal with them. The fastidious creatures demand to be brought back to their duty by gentlemanlike officers, and to be handled with kid gloves, do they!

But the present matter in hand is not the position which the Yankees assign us. Does the confederate government take any different view of the case? Does it at least recognize us as belligerents? What a question—after three years of fierce and deadly war! Now, in submitting to take an inferior position, in suffering our enemies to do things which we may not or dare not do, in shrinking from retaliation for outrage, pillage and murder, this government does virtually acknowledge and accept the theory, the whole theory of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Seward. General Morgan makes a raid into Ohio; he is taken, is thrust into a State penitentiary as a felon, to await his trial as a robber. Streight and his mounted brigands lay waste and burn and plunder several counties in North-Alabama—they are taken and treated as prisoners of war. Stoneman, Spears, Kilpatrick, ride when they please up to the fortifications of Richmond, robbing the houses and hen-coops, stealing the very spoons and clothing, carrying off, at their pleasure, horses, mules, slaves. Some of the thieves are apprehended, but what care they? Their officers are conducted to the Libby and used with distinguished consideration.

The private thieves are sure of the treatment of honorable enemies and prisoners taken in

battle. Several hundred of this last marauding gang are now in the confederate prisons at Richmond. They are not chained up in a penitentiary for felons, not handed over to be dealt with by the outraged laws of Virginia. Why not? Perhaps this State government at Richmond is not the true government of Virginia; perhaps the true government is the one at Wheeling, or at Alexandria, or at Norfolk, and these raiders and robbers have committed no offence against that government or against the people of the real State of Virginia—that is, the “loyal” State. This is the theory at Washington; those in “rebellion” have no rights; and to do by those caiffis as was done by Morgan, in Ohio, would not there be regarded as the legitimate retaliation of belligerents, but as a new outrage by rebels; and, doubtless, if the wretches were hanged, an equal number of confederate officers of the highest rank they have got would swing; and our government knows it, and in its humanity and Christian charity submits.

Again, two Yankee officers are solemnly designated by lot to be executed in retaliation for two of ours most foully murdered. But, in the eyes of our enemies, we have no rights of retaliation, nor any other rights, so they coolly inform us that if we do as we have threatened, they will not regard it as retaliation, but as a new crime, to be severely punished. They choose out two officers of rank—one a Brigadier-General—and inform us that their lives shall answer for the two whom we propose to execute. Well, this government, after months of hesitation, gives way, yields all, confesses that it has no rights, and lets the condemned men go. In other words, it accepts for us, and in our name, the position of rebels and malefactors.

But “we are to consider,” it seems, “not what wicked enemies may deserve, but what it becomes us, Christians and gentlemen, to inflict.” O hypocrisy, and thou forty-parson-power which alone can sound its praise through thy forty noses! What cant is this? We wonder whether Mr. Davis is aware of what many honest people begin to mutter and murmur.

They say, can this man be saving up for himself, in case of the worst, a sort of plea in mitigation of punishment? If the cause for which a hundred and fifty thousand of us have died, be borne down at last, is this Christian meekness of his intended to save his own life? They say, what comfort are these fine sentiments to the houseless families who have been driven from their homes in Tennessee or Virginia, when they find that our armies, even on the enemy’s soil, are withheld from giving the invaders a taste of real war in their own quenched hearths and blazing barns? For what have we set over us a government at all, if it be not to protect us against our enemies; to avenge us of our enemies when need is; to uphold our cause in all its fulness and grandeur, and to keep our banner flying high? But this is lowering the cause and dragging the banner through the dust—this is encouraging, inviting our invaders

to ravage and pillage us at pleasure, sure that they will not be visited with the like in their turn.

—*Richmond Sentinel.*

RICHMOND, March 7.

Perhaps the people—perhaps even the government of the confederate States—are now at length awakened to the true nature of the struggle in progress. We have been in the habit of regarding it as a war between nations; our enemies have all along looked upon it as a military execution upon a mutinous crew. The means by which their soldiers are desired “to write their names in ineffaceable letters on the hearts of their countrymen,” are by rushing at night upon a populous city, burning it down with turpentine and oakum in “soaked balls,” turning loose some thousands of ruffian prisoners, brutalized to the deepest degree by acquaintance with every horror of war, who have been confined on an island for a year, far from all means of indulging their strong sensual appetites—inviting this pandemonium to work their will on the unarmed citizens, on the women, gentle and simple, of Richmond, and on all their property—in a word, to sack, with the usual accompaniments attending that operation—to kill Jefferson Davis and his mutinous crew, and slip away as they came; to burn not only houses and bridges, but every thing else which might be of use to the rebels, barns, boats, stores, provisions, and to slaughter all horses and cattle which they could not carry away with them.

The results, indeed, of this tremendous intention of ravage and butchery, were contemptible. The “picked command, selected from brigades and regiments” for the thieving and murdering expedition, was not quite up to the mark. “The braves who were to have swept through Richmond” were very easily swept away from before Richmond; and their balls of oakum and turpentine, instead of hissing and flaming in our dwellings and amidst terrified women and children, as was expected, had to be thrown into the Pamunkey for the present. Nevertheless, the minute programme of that piece of business cannot fail to be instructive. After our government has existed for three years, and has all that time maintained large armies to meet and baffle their far greater armies in fair fight in the field, they think it still an allowable, nay, a virtuous and glorious proceeding, to steal upon our Chief-Magistrate and his Cabinet in their beds, and, after burning their houses, to hang them up on the next tree, just as the French in Algiers would do to a Kabyle chief and his encampment in the desert, or the English in India to some Nena Sahib or Ghoorka marauder.

Now—it is as well to look our position straight in the face—we are barbarians in the eyes of our enemies. Our way of life is, according to the *dictum* of one of these philosophers, “the sum of all barbarism.” Against us every thing is fair. We also, though we have newspapers and orators, and a certain command of the English language, are yet so hemmed in for the present by

blockading fleets and armies, that our protest, if we attempt any, dies away in silence too. It is the simple fact, let us take it as we will, that those enemies against whom we fondly believe we are waging an honorable war, as nation against nation, are carrying on against us the very same sort of warfare that English armies think good enough for the revolted Sepoys and mutinous hill-tribes.

If they can surprise, by any sort of artifice, our kraal of Richmond, and deliver it over to the mercy of their troops, and hold in it one good carnival of lust and rapine, they will write their names in imperishable letters on the hearts of their countrymen. This situation of affairs was always well known to us; but it was doubted or denied by many confederates of feeble brain. Do they believe it now, understand it now, that we have it under the hand of Federal officers charged with the task of breaking up this "hateful" den of Richmond, burning and robbing our houses, stripping and violating the virtuous and often refined Christian women of this place, shooting, stabbing, hanging the highest civil officers of the law, and massacring indiscriminately the population?

This is a wholesome kind of reflection for our own countrymen. We believe it will sting them. We think it highly probable that they will peremptorily demand of their government some practical, unmistakable assertion of our full determination to be treated as honorable enemies and civilized people. And what—some may ask—what then would you have our government do?—turn the war into a war of extermination? Certainly, certainly; it is already a war of extermination, of indiscriminate slaughter and plunder on the part of our enemies. Their sparing the lives of prisoners and occasional exchanges, form but a temporary suspension of the rule, necessitated by our holding prisoners also; but the true *animus*, the authentic Yankee theory of the war, is manifest in the actual proceedings of our enemy wherever he has the power, and especially, and most signally, in this code of instructions for sack and massacre in Richmond.

Our government owes it to its own army and to its own people, if it cannot at the moment retaliate such atrocities in kind, at least to bring to condign punishment the robbers who, in the guise of soldiers, and under pretence of war, have been caught lurking about Richmond with their oakum balls and turpentine, and their written programme for murdering the chief magistrate and setting fire to all the houses till the city is burnt in a hundred places at once, and then inviting eight thousand bloodthirsty, lustful ruffians to gut the blazing mansions, rape the mistresses, and knock the masters in the head, in the dreadful confusion.

But if we hang these wretches, then the enemy will select an equal number for the gallows? Not while we hold sixteen thousand hostages. But if we shrink from that, there is another alternative, and the only one left us—hanging and mas-

sacre all on one side. We can choose between the two; other choice there is none.

—*Richmond Examiner.*

RICHMOND, March 7.

Presuming the documents found on the body of Dahlgren to be authentic, the whole question of the recent attempt to invade Richmond, burn and sack it, (with all the other horrible concomitants of such a scene,) can be stated and disposed of in a few words. It requires no fine disquisition to see our way clear as to what should be done with those of the banditti who have fallen into our hands. But it does require nerve to execute the palpable convictions of our judgment—a judgment which will be promptly sustained by the civilized world, including China, the most truculent of nations; nations not uncivilized.

Are these men warriors? Are they soldiers, taken in the performance of duties recognized as legitimate by the loosest construction in the code of civilized warfare? or are they assassins, barbarians, thugs who have forfeited (and expect to lose) their lives? Are they not barbarians redolent with more hellish purposes than were ever the Goth, the Hun or the Saracen? The consentaneous voice of all Christendom will shudderingly proclaim them monsters, whom no sentimental idea of humanity, no timorous views of expediency, no trembling terror of consequences, should have shielded from the quickest and the sternest death.

What more have we to dread from Yankee malice or brutality than we know now awaits us, if success attend them? What have we to hope from their clemency? Will justice meted out to these poor creatures stimulate either the brutality of the Yankees on the one hand, or increase their capacity and means for diabolism on the other? Both are now in fullest exercise. If these men go unpunished, according to the exceeding magnitude of their crimes, do we not invite Yankees to similar, and, if possible, still more shocking efforts? If we would know what we ought to do with them, let us ask what would ere now have been their fate, if, during a war, such a body of men, with such purposes and such acts, had made an attempt on and were taken in London or Paris? The English blow fierce and brutal Sepoys, who disregard and exceed the just limits of war, from the mouths of cannon; the French fusillade them. If we are less powerful, have we less pride and self-respect than either of these nations! These men have put the *caput lupinum* on themselves. They are not victims; they are volunteers for remorseless death. They have rushed upon fate, and struggled in voluntary audacity with the grim monster. Let them die, not by court-martial, not as prisoners, but as *hostes humani generis* by general order from the President, Commander-in-Chief.

Will the Cabinet and President have the nerve to do what lies palpably before them? This is the question in all mouths. What concerns the

people most now is not whether its public officers will come out of this war with brilliant European reputations—not whether, after leading the people out of Egypt, they shall have the reputation that Moses preserved, of being very meek—but they wish protection to themselves, their wives and children, and their honor.

—*Richmond Whig.*

A REVIEW OF THE EXPEDITION.

BY R. A. PAUL.

The rebels, through the newspapers, have had their say about the recent raid. As was anticipated, those located about the confederate capital very naturally were, and still are, fearfully excited at the audacity of Kilpatrick and his troopers—they had reason to be so. This is not only what was expected, but what was hoped would be the case by all who took any particular interest in the matter; and, by the degree of their exasperation over what the Richmond editors are pleased to call “the raid of barbarians,” may we judge the amount of damage done them and their failing cause. The simple fact is, that in the so-called programme of operations found upon the body of the lamented Colonel Dahlgren, they have interpolated words of their own coining, to the effect that Jeff Davis and his cabinet were to be killed, thereby giving an importance to the proclamation (which, by the way, was never read to the troops) and the memoranda of operations which were found, not at all in accordance with the spirit actuating the instigators and leaders in the movement. The writer was privileged to see the documents which Colonel Dahlgren had the day he started on the expedition, and which have been spread before the public in a garbled shape through the Richmond press, to intensify, if possible, the infernal spirits of all rebeldom in their hatred to the Union cause and all its supporters; and although having no copy of these papers before him now, he is satisfied that there was no expression therein written which could reasonably be construed even so as to express a determination to murder any person or persons—even so great an outlaw as Jeff Davis. Stripped of this interpolation, the memoranda and proclamation do not exceed the bounds of legitimate warfare. The planners and participators in this raid are as high-minded and honorable men as even the conceited editor of the *Examiner* could wish, and the leaders of the expedition would go as far in preventing their men committing overt acts. And even if the worst was true, how illy it becomes the indorsers of Early in Pennsylvania, Morgan in Ohio, Quantrel in Kansas, and Beauregard in his plot to murder President Lincoln and Lieutenant-General Scott, to take special exceptions to this raid! Either one of the confederate leaders named has been guilty of more doubtful acts than were ever contemplated by any body of Union raiders. Forgetting these things, they threaten to mete out condign punishment to the prisoners captured from Kilpatrick’s command. The real *animus*, however, may be found—first,

in the amount of property destroyed, some of which cannot be replaced—none of which can be well spared—and next the chagrin and mortification experienced by the bombastic South at the fact that an expedition on so important a mission should accomplish so much under the very noses and in defiance of the Richmond Junta; and, what is worse than all, by troops led on by Kilpatrick and Dahlgren—two men who, next to Butler, are most cordially hated and feared by all opposed to the Union cause, and for the reason that they have so often humiliated the knights of the black flag. Kilpatrick, particularly, has been the special object of their vengeance for ruining the prospects of one of Virginia’s best known chieftains—Stuart of cavalry fame. Whipped time and again by Kilpatrick, Stuart finds now among his people none so poor as to do him reverence. Plot upon plot, similar to that concocted and nearly executed at Buckland’s Mills last fall, have been laid by Stuart, in the hope of destroying the hated and feared Kilpatrick, hoping thereby to gain that confidence of his associates in crime lost by battling with the man whom he seeks to ruin. In this, however, he will not be permitted to be successful.

From the rebel statements made, it would appear that Dahlgren lost his life by neglecting to exercise the usual precautions to guard against surprise, and was ambushed late at night. There was no moon on Wednesday or Thursday nights, (March second and third,) until toward morning; there was a cloudless sky both nights, and bright star-light, affording sufficient light to see objects at a distance, except in woods. Dahlgren being so near Gloucester, probably considered himself beyond all serious danger, and therefore it is possible was entrapped when least prepared for it, and almost entirely thrown off his guard. But I am inclined to think that Major Cook, his second in command, when at liberty to do so, will give an entirely different version of this lamentable affair. Dahlgren, though brave almost to rashness, always moved cautiously when there was the possibility of a lurking enemy being near.

He had passed beyond what he considered the most critical point. He could not have expected to find Kilpatrick beyond the Mattapony, for he must have heard his guns on Wednesday morning. The larger portion of his command rejoined the main column on that day at about two p.m.; he doubtless, in attempting to follow, ran upon the enemy, and was forced to cross the Pamunkey and Mattapony at a point further north. When, on Wednesday evening, he attempted to recross the Pamunkey at Pine-Tree Farm, he was within a very few miles of Kilpatrick, and must have seen the fires of his camp, for they were numerous and much extended by the burning of miles of basket-fence along the plantations within a few miles of the Pamunkey. He probably supposed, however, they were fires in an enemy’s camp, and therefore resolved to make his way to Gloucester. Would to God he had known whose hands kindled those extended lines of fire on that crisp March night!

The story of arrangements having been made to blow up the buildings containing Union prisoners, is simply ridiculous. No doubt the rebel heart is bad enough for any such atrocity; but the prisoners were protected from this calamity by the fact that the humane design could not be carried into effect without sacrificing a large number of rebel lives and property. Possessed of more than Yankee cunning, the rebel authorities, under the panic created by the shells thrown from Ransom's battery, doubtless did attempt to intimidate the prisoners by telling them that arrangements had been made to blow up the buildings they occupied, for the purpose of preventing any general attempt to overpower the guard—a result which would doubtless have been attained had the prisoners known how near their friends were. The rumors about blowing up prisoners has this foundation and no more.

In view of all the known facts, how puerile appear the indignities heaped upon Dahlgren's body! It was the old fable of kicking the dead lion. No man in all rebeldom would have presumed to offer him an indignity when alive; but when his mangled, mutilated, and bleeding body was lying dead before them, the self-styled aristocrats, the chivalrous gentlemen of the city of Richmond, could heap indignities upon that inanimate form with impunity. Was ever sneaking cowardice more palpable?

Kick the dead body of the gallant Dahlgren to your heart's content—obliterate every mark by which his resting-place may be known; heap all the indignities upon his name and fame that the incarnate fiend of secession may suggest—but it will be of no avail; his ghost won't down at your bidding; his spirit still lives in the hearts of thousands of his compatriots in arms, who have sworn to avenge the cowardly indignities attempted to be heaped upon his name and remains.

Doc. 185.

GOVERNOR MURPHY'S ADDRESS.

To the People of the Counties of Arkansas for which no Elections have been held:

CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS: I address you because you have been so far deprived of the privilege of aiding in the restoration of civil government in the State, by the occupation of your section of the State by the rebel army. In January last, a Convention of Delegates, elected by a portion of the people, met at Little Rock, remodelled the Constitution of the State, and appointed me for Governor. The new Constitution differs from the old in this: That it abolishes slavery in Arkansas forever. The members of the Convention were sober, earnest men, on whom events had made a deep impression. They were tired of war, and the desolation that war produces; they remembered the security and happiness that they enjoyed when law and order prevailed, and the

flag of the free was the only emblem of their nationality. They remembered, too, when, in an evil hour, a combination of insane politicians forced their State into rebellion against their own Government. Not one of the traitors had been wronged—not one of them had ever been deprived of a right. On the contrary, they had always been protected in their special exclusive rights—especially in their right to hold slaves. Yet, in their insane madness, they rejected that protection, and sought to overturn the Government that protected them in the possession of their slaves.

The results of the rebellion they now see—you all see and feel; the slaves free; the masters fugitives or prisoners, or the recipients of the pardon of the Government against which they rebelled, and tried, but in vain, to destroy; all the families in the land in mourning; property pillaged and destroyed; poverty and desolation everywhere; happiness changed to misery; joy, to mourning and woe. They saw no way to escape the evils under which we were all suffering, but to return to the government of our ancestors, and remove the cause of our trouble. The Constitution was referred to the people on the fourteenth of March, and ratified by a very large vote, and is now the supreme law of the State. State and county officers have been elected. You have been deprived of the right by the presence of rebel forces in your counties.

The Convention provided, by an ordinance, that in such cases, an election may be holden on any other day thereafter, that the people may agree upon, for county officers. I therefore recommend to you, that as soon as you can hold an election with safety to yourselves, that you appoint a day in your respective counties, and that you elect representatives to the Legislature, and all your county officers, and take on yourselves all the rights and duties of freemen, and give your aid and influence to the restoration of the State to her position in the Union, and to peace and former security. We have all erred—we have all gone astray. Father, forgive us, as we forgive those that have sinned against us. Let this spirit prevail, and happiness will soon be ours; peace and security will soon spread over the land, and we will again be honored citizens of the United States of America.

This is nobility enough; this is honor enough—to be called a citizen of the United States, whose flag commands the admiration and respect of the world; and whose Government has never failed to avenge or right the wrongs done to its humblest citizen.

Spurn, then, the tyranny and oppression of the leaders of this wicked rebellion, and return to the home of your ancestors, and your own by inheritance, and atone for the past by securing to your posterity freedom, security, and happiness hereafter.

ISAAC MURPHY,
Provisional Governor of Arkansas.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, LITTLE ROCK,
ARKANSAS, March 20, 1864.

Doc. 136.

AFFAIR AT CHARLESTON, ILL.

CHARLESTON "PLAIN-DEALER" ACCOUNT.

CHARLESTON, ILL., March 28—9 P.M.

THIS afternoon a dreadful affair took place in our town, the most shocking in its details that has ever occurred in our part of the State. Early in the morning, squads of copperheads came in town from various directions, and, as the sequel will show, armed and determined upon summary vengeance upon our soldiers. During the day, premonitions of the coming trouble were too evident. Some of the soldiers, about to return to their regiments, were somewhat excited by liquor, and consequently rather boisterous, but not belligerent—were more disposed for fun than fight. About four o'clock, a soldier, Oliver Sallee, stepped up to Nelson Wells, who has been regarded as the leader of the copperheads in this county, and placing his hand good-naturedly against him, playfully asked him if there were any butternuts in town? Wells replied, "Yes, I am one!" and drawing his revolver, shot at Sallee, but missed him. In an instant Sallee was shot from another direction, and fell; but raising himself up, he fired at Wells, the ball taking effect in his vitals. He (Wells) went as far as Chambers & McCrory's store, and, passing in, fell dead.

The copperheads were gathered behind Judge Edwards's office, loading their firearms, and then would step out and fire from the corner at the soldiers indiscriminately, with guns and revolvers. Of course, having come fully prepared, they had vastly the advantage over the soldiers, who were not expecting such an attack, and were, for the most part, unarmed. Those who were armed would hardly know at whom to fire until they were fired upon. The copperheads were seen to hurry to their wagons, hitched at the square, and gather therefrom several guns, which were concealed under the straw. They were freely used, and with terrible effect. Thomas Jeffries was the next to fall, receiving an ugly wound in the neck. William Gilman was shot by B. F. Dukes, the ball striking a rib on his left side and glancing off. Dukes was then seen to fire at Colonel Mitchell, and afterward declared that he had killed him. Colonel Mitchell received several shots through his clothes; one hit his watch and glanced off, producing only a slight flesh-wound upon his abdomen. The watch thus providentially saved his life. Dr. York, surgeon of the Fifty-fourth Illinois, while passing through the Court-House, was approached by some one from behind, who took deliberate aim and shot him dead—the pistol being held so close to him that the powder burned his coat! So far as we could learn, Dr. York was not actively engaged in the affray, save in his professional capacity as surgeon, and in trying to restore order. A soldier, Alfred Swim, of company G, Fifty-fourth Illinois, was shot, and taken to Drs. Allen & Van Meter's office, where he soon died. Mr. Swim lived somewhere near Casey, in Clark County, where he

leaves a wife and three children. He is spoken of by all as having been an excellent soldier and a good citizen. William G. Hart, Deputy Provost-Marshal, was shot in several places—in the head and vitals—his wounds are probably mortal. James Goodrich, company C, Fifty-fourth Illinois, received a shocking wound—being shot in the bowels. His wound, we fear, will prove mortal.

Unarmed as our boys were, Colonel Mitchell soon rallied all he could, citizens and soldiers, and improvising such arms as could be had, gathered at the south-west corner of the square, as the copperheads retreated down the street running east therefrom. Despatches were sent to Mattoon for soldiers, and three hundred were soon on the way. The copperheads halted somewhere near Mrs. Dickson's, and remained for some time, then turned and went off. Beyond J. H. O'Hair's residence they gathered together, consulted for a time, then moved off in a northerly direction, cutting the telegraph wire as they went—unfortunately before a despatch could be sent to Dr. York's family, at Paris, giving notice of his assassination.

About five o'clock the reinforcements from Mattoon arrived, and while in the Court-House yard, Mr. John Cooper, from Saulsbury, was captured and brought in as a prisoner, by Mr. W. H. Noe and a soldier. Mr. Cooper had taken an active part in the affray. When in front of Jenkins's store he attempted to escape, and when commanded to halt refused to do so, whereupon Mr. Noe fired over Cooper's head, who, in return, fired at some of our men, when orders were given to fire upon him, which was done, and he fell dead at Jenkins's door. Unfortunately, one of the balls passed through the closed door and struck Mr. John Jenkins in the groin, producing a serious, and probably mortal wound. Mr. Cooper was shot through the neck and shoulder. When the copperheads were halted near Mrs. Dickson's, he was heard to say, that as they now had no leader, he was ready to lead them back and kill the d—d soldiers and burn the town, or die in the attempt; and at various places he was heard to threaten to cut out the hearts of the "d—d Abolitionists," and use kindred expressions.

How many there were of the copperheads we do not know, nor can we estimate the number, save by the size of the squads that retreated in several directions. We think there may have been from one hundred to one hundred and fifty, and all mounted. Who their leaders were we do not know, precisely. J. H. O'Hair, Sheriff of this county, was seen to fire three times at the soldiers. John Frazier, while sitting on his horse, was seen to deliberately fire five times at them and then leave. Others of less prominence were equally warlike.

Immediately after the soldiers arrived, squads, mounted upon all the horses that could be found, were started out in every direction in pursuit—Colonel Brooks in charge of one, Lieutenant Horner another, etc. Up to this writing, nine P.M.,

some twelve prisoners have been captured, and the pursuit still kept up after more.

Of the gang were two men from Edgar County, on one of whom was an oath of allegiance, taken by him at Paris, recently. He boasted that he was the man who shot Dr. York; that he came for that purpose.

We herewith present the following list of killed and wounded:

Killed.—Major York, Surgeon Fifty-fourth Illinois; Alfred Swim, company C, Fifty-fourth; Nelson Wells, copperhead; John Cooper, copperhead.

Wounded.—Colonel Mitchell, Fifty-fourth Illinois, slightly; James Goodrich, company C, Fifty-fourth, severely; Oliver Salles, Fifty-fourth, severely; John Neer, company G, Fifty-fourth, slightly; William Decker, company G, Fifty-fourth, slightly; George Ross, company C, Fifty-fourth, slightly; Thomas Jeffries, Brooks's regiment, severely; William G. Hart, soldier, severely; John Jenkins, citizen, severely; William Gilman, citizen, severely; John Trimble, slightly; Sanford Royes, slightly.

Several of the copperheads were severely wounded, but were taken off in wagons.

Tuesday Morning, 11.30 A.M.

Messrs. Jenkins, Hart, and Goodrich are dead, having died at five, half-past ten, and half-past eleven o'clock, respectively, this morning, making a total of seven killed.

Colonel Brooks's squad, going up through the O'Hair settlement, recaptured Levi Freisner, and also the guard of butternuts placed over him, six or eight in all.

Doc. 137.

REBEL COMMERCE.

MEMORIAL OF FOUR GOVERNORS.

To the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled:

THE undersigned, Governors of their respective States, beg leave, respectfully, to invite the attention of Congress to the fact that the States of the Confederacy have great need of many articles for State use which can only be obtained by importation. And the Legislatures of several of the States have made appropriations for the purpose of exporting cotton and other productions, and importing necessary articles for the use of the States, including clothing, shoes, blankets, and other articles indispensably necessary to the comfort of their troops in confederate service, who frequently suffer from want of necessary articles, which it is not, at the time, in the power of the confederate government to furnish. These exportations and importations are to be made by the Governors of the States, under the authority of the Legislatures, at the risk and expense of the States, upon vessels purchased or chartered for that purpose.

The Governors of several of the States, in the execution of the acts of their State Legislatures,

have purchased or chartered steamers preparatory to the exportation of cotton which they now have on hand as the property of the States, to place funds abroad with which to purchase supplies, to be returned upon the vessels to confederate ports for State use. At this point they regret to say that they are met by an order from the Secretary of the Treasury, under the authority of the President, which prohibits the Custom-House officer from granting clearance to vessels owned or chartered by the States with State cargoes, some of which are now aboard, unless they will consent to allow the confederate government to use one half the storage-room of their vessels upon terms which would cause actual loss to the States. Surrounded by all the embarrassments with which they have to contend, they cannot consent to this; and believing, as they do, that the order has grown out of an erroneous construction of the late act of Congress, which, as they understood it, exempts the States from all the restrictions thrown around exportations and importations made by private individuals or companies; and feeling assured that those who represent the sovereign States and people would fail to carry out the views or wishes of the people, or governments of their respective States, if they should attempt by any law or regulation to prohibit the States from the exportation of their own productions upon their own vessels, or such as they may charter for that purpose, and the importation of such supplies as they need, the undersigned appeal with confidence to Congress to remove said restrictions, and enact such laws as shall secure to all vessels in the service of the States speedy clearances upon application to the Custom-House officers at the ports from which the vessels are expected to go to sea.

While the undersigned are aware of the importance of exportations and importations by the confederate government, and would gladly facilitate its operations in every proper way, they are of the opinion it is better that each government should conduct its own business and affairs for itself.

But independently of this view of the case, they can not yield their assent to the doctrine that the confederate government has any right to impose any such restrictions upon the States, or compel them to submit to any such terms. When in their power to assist the confederate government with State vessels, they will do so with great pleasure, but they will not consent to do this under compulsion.

They deny that the provision in the Constitution which authorizes Congress to regulate commerce "among the several States" confers the power to destroy the commerce of States, or to detain State vessels till they consent to relinquish half their storage-room to the confederate government. If Congress has the power to place this restriction upon the commerce and vessels of the States, it may claim for the Confederacy three fourths or nine tenths of the room, or may deny the right of the State to clear a vessel upon

any terms. The power to regulate commerce does not include the power to destroy it, or to put any such restrictions upon it.

The undersigned beg leave, further, to submit to the consideration of Congress the question of the propriety of allowing the State to export produce and import supplies necessary for State use, free of export and import duties, as the importations are made for the public use and in furtherance of our cause.

In considering this question, it is hoped Congress will not fail to take into account the fact that the Legislatures of part, if not all, the States, have passed laws exempting cotton and other property belonging to the confederate government, within the limits of the State, from all State tax; and they submit, whether, upon principles of reciprocity and comity, apart from the want of constitutional power in Congress to tax State property, it is not the duty of Congress to exempt State property, including exportations and importations by the States, from all confederate taxation. The undersigned beg leave to add that it is not their intention to import articles of luxury, or indeed, any articles not necessary for the public use, and for the comfort of the troops from their respective States, in military service.

April, 1864.

J. E. BROWN, Governor of Georgia.
CHARLES CLARK, Governor of Mississippi.
T. H. WATTS, Governor of Alabama.
T. B. VANCE, Governor of North-Carolina.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, MILLEDGEVILLE, May 2, 1864.

I have purchased thirty thousand soldiers' blankets for the State of Georgia, now in the Islands, and have to send out cotton to pay for them. The steamer Little Ada, chartered by the State, has been loaded for three weeks with about three hundred bales of cotton ready for sea. She lies thirty miles from Charleston. I ask clearance for her to go out now, while we have dark nights. She is detained at heavy expense to the State. I solicit an early reply.

JOSEPH E. BROWN.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond.

RICHMOND, May 10, 1864.

His Excellency Governor Brown:

Your telegram of the ninth to the President in relation to steamer Ada, has been referred to this department. On the twelfth of April a telegram was sent you, stating that the act of Congress, imposing restrictions on export of cotton, required that the regulations of trade should be uniform.

Therefore the requirement that one half of the cargo of every outward-bound vessel should be for account of the confederate States, cannot be relinquished as an exception in your favor.

April twenty-seventh, Mr. Lamar applied for a clearance for the steamer, and was informed

that she could not go out until she had complied with the regulation.

C. G. MEMMINGER,
Secretary of Treasury.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, MILLEDGEVILLE, May 21, 1864.

Your telegram of the tenth did not reach me till yesterday. The act of Congress to which you refer, which prohibits the exportation of cotton and other productions except under such uniform regulations as shall be made by the President, has in it this express proviso, "that nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the confederate States or any of them from exporting any of the articles herein enumerated on their own account." The three hundred bales of cotton upon the Little Ada belong to the State of Georgia, and I propose to export it on State account to pay for blankets for Georgia soldiers, and if any surplus, to apply it to the purchase of cotton-cards for the people of the State, under an act of the Legislature.

I deny your right to repeal the act of Congress by your order, or to refuse clearance to the State under any just rule of construction which you can apply to the plain proviso in the act of Congress. I therefore, again demand clearance as a right, not as a favor, and waiving for the present the question of your right to ask it of the State, offer to pay export duties.

JOSEPH E. BROWN.

Hon. C. MEMMINGER,
Secretary of the Treasury, Richmond, Va.

RICHMOND, May 26, 1864.

Governor Joseph E. Brown:

Your telegram of the twenty-first instant is received. Clearance cannot be given except in conformity with the regulations of the President.

C. G. MEMMINGER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Doc. 138.

SECRET REBEL CIRCULAR.

PROOFS OF PLOTTING IN 1860.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., Tuesday, April 19, 1864.

I HAVE to-day come in possession of a secret circular, issued in Charleston five months before the firing on Sumter. The document is genuine. It is signed by one of the wealthiest and ablest lawyers of South-Carolina, and the copy which I inclose to the *Tribune* was addressed to one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Alabama—a Huntsville rebel whom General Logan ordered south of our lines.

It should be borne in mind that this circular was issued before the meeting of the Congress of 1861-62—before the introduction of the Crittenden resolutions—before the Peace Congress. Yet now, after nearly three years of unparalleled war, you find incompetent officers and unworthy citizens proposing these same "disclaimers and overtures."

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, "THE 1860 ASSOCIATION," }
CHARLESTON, NOV. 10, 1860. }

In September last, several gentlemen of Charleston met to confer in reference to the position of the South in the event of the accession of Mr. Lincoln and the Republican party to power. This informal meeting was the origin of the organization known in this community as "The 1860 Association."

The objects of the Association are:

1. To conduct a correspondence with leading men in the South, and, by an interchange of information and views, prepare the slave States to meet the impending crisis.

2. To prepare, print, and distribute in the slave States tracts, pamphlets, etc., designed to awaken them to a conviction of their danger, and to urge the necessity of resisting Northern and Federal aggression.

3. To inquire into the defences of the State, and to collect and arrange information which may aid the Legislature to establish promptly an effective military organization.

To effect these objects, a brief and simple constitution was adopted, creating a President, a Secretary and Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, specially charged with conducting the business of the Association. One hundred and sixty-six thousand pamphlets have been published, and demands for further supplies are received from every quarter. The Association is now passing several of them through a second and third edition.

The Conventions in several of the Southern States will soon be elected. The North is preparing to soothe and conciliate the South by disclaimers and overtures. The success of this policy would be disastrous to the cause of Southern union and independence, and it is necessary to resist and defeat it. The Association is preparing pamphlets with this special object. Funds are necessary to enable it to act promptly. "The 1860 Association" is laboring for the South, and asks your aid.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT N. GOURDIN,
Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Doc. 139.

THE FORT PILLOW MASSACRE.

REPORT OF GENERAL FORREST.*

HEADQUARTERS FORREST'S CAVALRY DEPARTMENT, }
JACKSON, TENN., April 26, 1864. }

COLONEL: I have the honor respectfully to forward you the following report of my engagement with the enemy on the twelfth instant, at Fort Pillow:

My command consisted of McCulloch's brigade of Chalmers's division, and Bell's brigade of Buford's division, both placed, for the expedition, under command of Brigadier-General James A. Chalmers, who, by a forced march, drove in the enemy's pickets, gained possession of the

outer works, and by the time I reached the field, at ten o'clock, A.M., had forced the enemy to their main fortifications, situated on the bluff or bank of the Mississippi River, at the mouth of Coal Creek.

The fort is an earthwork, crescent-shaped; is eight feet in height and four feet across the top, surrounded by a ditch six feet deep and twelve feet in width; walls sloping to the ditch, but perpendicular inside; it was garrisoned by four hundred troops, with six pieces of field-artillery. A deep ravine surrounds the Fort, and from the Fort to the ravine the ground descends rapidly.

Assuming command, I ordered General Chalmers to advance his line, and gain position on the slope, when our men would be perfectly protected from the heavy fire of artillery and musketry, as the enemy could not depress their pieces so as to rake the slope, nor could they fire on them with small arms, except by mounting the breastworks and exposing themselves to the fire of our sharpshooters, who, under cover of stumps and logs, forced them to keep down inside the works.

After several hours' hard fighting, the desired position was gained, not, however, without considerable loss. Our main line was now within an average distance of one hundred yards from the Fort, and extended from Coal Creek, on the right, to the bluff or bank of the Mississippi River, on the left.

During the entire morning the gunboat kept up a continuous fire in all directions, but without effect, and, being confident of my ability to take the Fort by assault, and desiring to prevent further loss of life, I sent, under flag of truce, a demand for the unconditional surrender of the garrison, a copy of which is hereto appended, marked No. 1, to which I received a reply, marked No. 2.

The gunboat had ceased firing, but the smoke of three other boats ascending the river was in view, the foremost boat apparently crowded with troops, and believing the request for an hour was to gain time for reinforcements to arrive, and that the desire to consult the officers of the gunboat was a pretext by which they desired improperly to communicate with her, I at once sent the reply, copy of which is numbered 3, directing Captain Goodwin, Assistant Adjutant-General of Brigadier-General Chalmers, to remain until he received a reply, or until the expiration of the time proposed.

My dispositions had all been made, and my troops were in a position that would enable me to take the Fort with less loss than to have withdrawn under fire, and it seemed to me so perfectly apparent to the garrison that such was the case, that I deemed their surrender without further bloodshed a certainty.

After some little delay, seeing a message delivered to Captain Goodwin, I rode up myself to where the notes were received and delivered. The answer was handed me, written in pencil, on a slip of paper without envelope, and was, as

* See Document 1, page 1, ante.

well as I remember, in these words: "Negotiations will not attain the desired object." As the officers who were in charge of the Federal flag of truce had expressed a doubt as to my presence, and had pronounced the demand a trick, I handed them back a note, saying: "I am General Forrest. Go back and say to Major Booth that I demand an answer in plain, unmistakable English: Will he fight or surrender?" Returning to my original position, before the expiration of twenty minutes I received a reply, copy of which is marked No. 4.

While these negotiations were pending, the steamers from below were rapidly approaching the Fort; the foremost was the Olive Branch, whose position and movements indicated her intention to land. A few shots fired into her caused her to leave the shore and make for the opposite one. Other boats passed up on the bar side of the river; the third one turned back.

The time having expired, I directed Brigadier-General Chalmers to prepare for the assault. Bell's brigade occupied the right, with his extreme right resting on Coal Creek. McCullock's brigade occupied the left, extending from the centre to the river. Three companies of his left regiment were placed in an old rifle-pit on the left and almost in the rear of the Fort, which had evidently been thrown up for the protection of sharpshooters or riflemen in supporting the water-batteries below. On the right, a portion of Barton's regiment of Bell's brigade, was also under the bluff and in the rear of the Fort.

I despatched staff-officers to Colonels Ball and McCullock, commanding brigades, to say to them that I should watch with interest the conduct of the troops; that Missourians, Mississippians, and Tennesseans surrounded the works, and I desired to see who would first scathe the Fort. Fearing the gunboat and transport might attempt a landing, I directed my aid-de-camp, Captain Charles W. Anderson, to assume command of the three companies on the left and rear of the Fort, and hold the position against any thing that might come by land or water, but to take no part in the assault on the Fort.

Every thing being ready, the bugle sounded the charge, which was made with a yell, and the works carried, without a perceptible halt in any part of the line. As our troops mounted and poured into the fortifications, the enemy retreated toward the river, arms in hand, and firing back, and their colors flying—no doubt expecting the gunboats to shell us away from the bluff and protect them, until they could be taken off or reinforced.

As they descended the bank an enflading and deadly fire was poured into them, by the troops under Captain Anderson on the left, and Barton's detachment on the right. Until this fire was opened upon them, at a distance varying from thirty to one hundred yards, they were evidently ignorant of any force having gained their rear. The regiments which had stormed and carried the Fort, also poured a destructive fire into the rear of the retreating and now panic-stricken and

almost decimated garrison. Fortunately for those who survived this short but desperate struggle, some of our men cut off the halyards, and the United States flag floating from a tall mast in the centre of the Fort, came down; the forces stationed in the rear of the fort could see the flag, but were too far under the bluff to see the Fort, and when the flag descended they ceased firing; but for this, so near were they to the enemy, that few, if any, would have survived unhurt another volley. As it was, many rushed into the river and were drowned, and the actual loss of life will, perhaps, never be known, as there were quite a number of refugee citizens in the Fort, many of whom were drowned and several killed in the retreat from the Fort.

In less than twenty minutes from the time the bugles sounded the charge, firing had ceased, and the work was done.

One of the Parrott guns was turned on the gunboat. She steamed off without replying. She had, as I afterward understood, expended all her ammunition, and was, therefore, powerless in affording the Federal garrison the aid and protection they doubtless expected of her, when they retreated toward the river.

Details were made, consisting of the captured Federals and negroes in charge of their own officers, to collect together and bury their dead, which work continued until dark.

I also directed Captain Anderson to procure a skiff and take with him Captain Young, a captured Federal officer, and deliver to Captain Marshall, of the gunboat, the message—copy of which is appended, and numbered 5.

All the boats and skiffs having been taken off by citizens escaping from the Fort during the engagement, the message could not be delivered, although every effort was made to induce Captain Marshall to send his boat ashore by raising a white flag, with which Captain Young walked up and down the river, in vain, signalling her to come in, or send out a boat. She finally moved off, and disappeared around the bend above the Fort.

General Gilmore withdrew his forces from the Fort before dark, and camped a few miles east of it. On the morning of the thirteenth, I again despatched Captain Anderson to Fort Pillow, for the purpose of placing, if possible, the Federal wounded on board their transports, and report to me, on his return, the condition of affairs at the river. I respectfully refer you to his report, numbered 6.

My loss in the engagement was twenty killed and sixty wounded. That of the enemy unknown; two hundred and twenty-eight were buried on the evening of the battle, and quite a number were buried the next day by detail from the gunboat fleet. We captured six pieces of artillery, namely, two ten-pounder Parrott guns, two twelve-pounder howitzers, and two brass six-pounder guns, and about three hundred and fifty stand of small-arms. The balance of the small-arms had been thrown into the river. All the small-arms were picked up where the enemy

threw them down—a few in the Fort, the balance scattered from the top of the hill to the water's edge.

We captured one hundred and sixty-four Federals, seventy-three negro troops and about forty negro women and children, and after removing every thing of value, as far as able to do so, the warehouses, tents, etc., were destroyed by fire.

Among our severely wounded is Lieutenant-Colonel Wiley M. Reid, assigned temporarily to the command of the Fifth Mississippi regiment, who fell, severely wounded, while leading his regiment. When carried from the field he was supposed to be mortally wounded, but hopes are entertained of his ultimate recovery. He is a brave and gallant officer, a courteous gentleman, and a consistent Christian minister.

I cannot compliment too highly the conduct of Colonels Bell and McCulloch and the officers and men of their brigades, which composed the forces of Brigadier-General Chalmers. They fought with courage and intrepidity, and, without bayonets, assaulted and carried one of the strongest fortifications in the country.

On the fifteenth, at Brownsville, I received orders which rendered it necessary to send General Chalmers, in command of his own division and Bell's brigade, southward. Hence, I have no official report from him, but will, as soon as it can be obtained, forward a complete list of our killed and wounded, which has been ordered to be made out and forwarded at the earliest possible moment.

In closing my report I desire to acknowledge the prompt and energetic action of Brigadier-General Chalmers, commanding the forces around Fort Pillow. His faithful execution of all movements necessary to the successful accomplishment of the objects of the expedition, entitles him to special mention. He has reason to be proud of the conduct of the officers and men of his command, for their gallantry and courage in assaulting and carrying the enemy's works, without the assistance of artillery or bayonets.

To my staff, as heretofore, my acknowledgments are due, for their prompt and faithful delivery of all orders.

I am, Colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. B. FORREST,
Major-General Commanding.

Doc. 140.

OPERATIONS AROUND DALTON, GA.

COLONEL GROSE'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,
FIRST DIVISION, FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
BLUE SPRINGS, TENN., February 29, 1864. }

Major W. H. Sinclair, A.A.G. First Division:

SIR: I have the honor to report the part taken by this brigade in the recent seven days before Dalton.

I was ordered by the Division Commander, and marched to take part in the reconnoissance toward the enemy from this place, on the morning

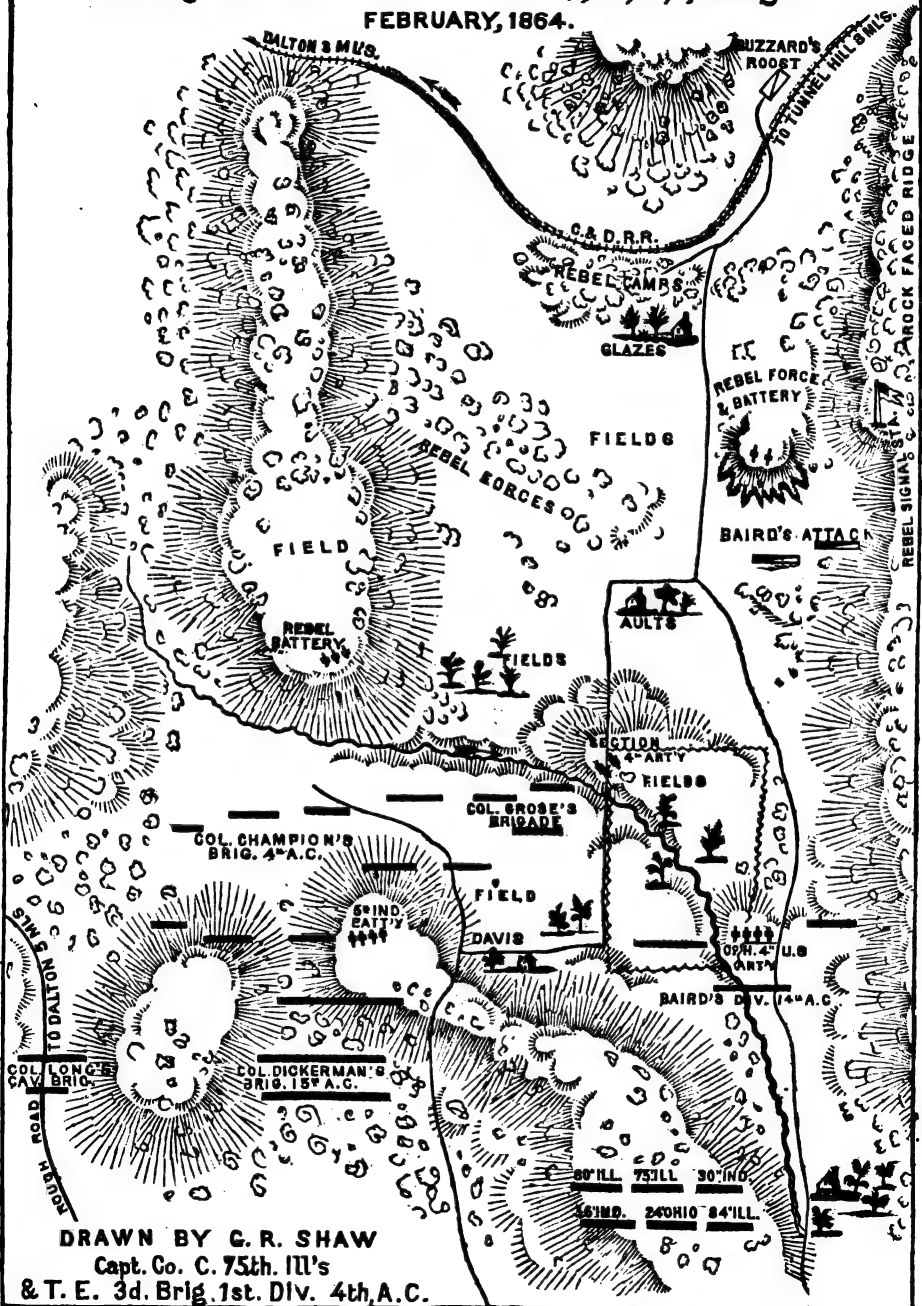
of the twenty-second of February, 1864, with the Eighty-fourth Illinois, Colonel Waters, Seventy-fifth Illinois, Colonel Bennett, Thirty-sixth Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Carey, Thirtieth Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Hind, Eightieth Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel Kilgour, and Twenty-Fourth Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Cockerill, with battery H, Fourth U. S. artillery, Lieutenant Heilman; effective force, officers and men, including battery, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six.

My brigade having the advance, and the Thirty-sixth Indiana marching in front, we marched toward Red Clay, or "Council-Ground," on the Georgia State-line, a distance of eight miles; arrived there at half-past twelve p.m. I was there ordered by the General commanding the division, to move on the road toward Dalton, and, if possible, find the enemy. I advanced three miles to Wade's farm, and found the enemy's pickets, drove them, and directed Captain Van Antwerp, with his company of Fourth Michigan cavalry, to pursue them, which he did promptly, one and a half miles. Upon the cavalry rejoining the brigade, we returned to Red Clay and rested for the night.

February 23d. Marched with the division *via* Dr. Lee's house twelve miles, to near Catoosa Springs, Georgia, to make a junction with Fourteenth corps; arrived there about nine o'clock p.m.

February 24th. Marched back east to Dr. Lee's house, with division. I was here directed to move south-east toward Dalton, crossing the ridge three miles north of the place known as Tunnel Hill, with my infantry and one section of artillery, the latter under command of Lieutenant Stansbury. I passed the first and second ridges to a road running south on the eastern base of the latter, along the road to Neil's farm, six miles from Dalton. At this point I made a junction with Colonel Long, in command of six hundred cavalry. He was in position, and skirmishing with the enemy. He had left Charleston, Tennessee, passed around on Spring-Place road, thence west by Varnell's Station to the position at which I found him. Neil's farm is six miles north-west of Dalton, and three miles north of the Chattanooga and Dalton Railroad. We both advanced on the wagon-road south, toward Glaze's house, at the railroad. The ridge to our right at this place, (Neil's house,) soon changes to south-east, and continues that direction until it passes beyond Davis's house, at the western base of the ridge, at which point the road crosses to the west side of the ridge. Five hundred yards beyond, and south-east from the passage of the road over a ridge, a gorge separates the ridge, through which a creek flows to the west, south of which the ridge bears to the west of south one and a fourth miles to the railroad, at a point three miles north of west from Dalton, and at a point one and a half miles east of the gorge through Rocky-Face Ridge, or Buzzard's Roost, forming a valley east of Rocky Face Ridge about one and a half miles wide, running from Davis's house south to the railroad a like distance. We stead-

MAP SHOWING THE RELATIVE POSITION OF FORCES During the reconnoissance near DALTON, Georgia. FEBRUARY, 1864.



ily advanced, Colonel Long taking the lead; drove the enemy from all the ridge north of the creek. Upon entering the valley, Colonel Long's command passed to the right, along the base of the ridge, to the west. The Eighty-fourth and Seventy-fifth Illinois infantry were moved forward in the valley on the left of the cavalry, covering the slope of the eastern ridge with skirmishers, thrown forward and to the left to cover the ridge and flank of the line. The Twenty-fourth Ohio was thrown forward in rear of the cavalry to support them. In this form we pressed the enemy to within three hundred yards of the railroad, the command of Colonel Long driving the rebel infantry out of their camps immediately at the road. We continued in this position, skirmishing in front, for some time, when lines of the enemy's infantry commenced an advance upon us. A few well-directed rounds from the section of artillery, with the aid of a heavy skirmish-line, brought them to a halt and put them under cover. It was now near night, and learning from prisoners that Stewart's rebel division was in our front, and Stevenson's near by, and not knowing that it was possible to have any assistance during the night, at dusk I withdrew the forces, leaving the cavalry and Eightieth Illinois infantry at Neil's farm, and retired the residue to widow Burk's house, reported the facts, and rested for the night.

February 25th. At early day Brigadier-General Cruft, division commander, promptly came up with the other two brigades, and by his orders all moved forward to Neil's farm, the enemy having reoccupied the ridge where the road passes over toward Davis's house, and for near a mile to the north. Our lines were soon formed, my brigade on the ridge to the right, covering the summit and extending well over the western slope; the Thirtieth Indiana, Seventy-fifth and Eightieth Illinois in the front line, from right to left, in the order I have named them; the Eighty-fourth Illinois, Twenty-fourth Ohio, and Thirty-sixth Indiana in the second line. The Second brigade, Colonel Champion, formed on my left, Colonel Long's cavalry extending his left, the other brigade, Colonel Dickerman, in reserve. It was now about nine A.M. Major-General Palmer appeared on the field, and wished to see me. I reported to him in front on the skirmish-line. After consultation, the General informed me that we would not advance until General Baird's division should arrive in the valley to my right. About eleven o'clock all was ready and I sounded the forward, and the whole line moved off in splendid order. I rode with Colonel Bennett, Seventy-fifth Illinois, whose battalion was the battalion of direction. Was upon the summit of the ridge, with good opportunities to observe well the movements and grandeur of the scene, to the right and left of the long blue lines moving to battle. A more grand sight my eye has never beheld. The direction was left oblique, to keep the bearing of the ridge, my artillery following the lines closely, and bearing past at every halt. We had not

more than started before the skirmishers became closely engaged in all the woodland covering the ridge. The advance was steady and rapid, clearing the enemy from the ridge as we went. When my lines had reached the creek at the gorge, and beyond Davis's house in the valley, the skirmishers well advanced beyond, a staff-officer rode up and informed me that General Palmer desired me to have halted on the ridge. I immediately halted where we were. We remained in this position during the afternoon, having heavy skirmishing and artillery practice in the mean time, the enemy occupying the ridge and valley south of the creek that I had possession of the day before. With ten thousand more men on our left, Dalton, no doubt, would have fallen an easy prey to our arms. At night, the object of the reconnaissance being ended, we were ordered, and, with the division, retired to Dr. Lee's farm, on the west of the Tunnel Hill range of ridges, and three miles north of that place.

February 26th. At about nine o'clock A.M., I moved my command south-east one mile, on to the ridge two miles north of the Tunnel, threw out some skirmishers on the eastern slope, met some rebel cavalry that were attempting to follow us, and drove them out of sight and hearing. In the evening, moved down south-west into the valley at Israel's house; rested until nine o'clock P.M. Was ordered and marched westward to the Stone Church, near Catoosa Platform, and rested the balance of the night.

February 27th. Started at twelve o'clock M., and marched to Ewing's farm, north nine miles, and camped for the night.

February 28th. Marched at seven o'clock A.M. Arrived in camp at this place at twelve o'clock M. Command in good condition.

I can with pleasure refer to the prompt and willing coöperation and obedience of the officers and men of my command during this short campaign, and I regard myself as truly fortunate, in being surrounded by first-class officers, both of infantry and artillery, and braver soldiers never went upon a battle-field.

My staff-officers and non-commissioned staff have alike my kindest regards for their efficient aid and assistance during the dangers and fatigues.

The following shows the casualties of the brigade while on the reconnaissance:

Colonel J. E. Bennett, Seventy-fifth Illinois.—Wounded, one commissioned officer, six enlisted men; missing, one commissioned officer; total, two commissioned officers, six enlisted men; aggregate, eight.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. M. Kilgour, Eightieth Illinois.—Wounded, four enlisted men; total, four enlisted men; aggregate, four.

Colonel L. H. Waters, Eighty-fourth Illinois.—Wounded, three enlisted men; total, three enlisted men; aggregate, three.

Lieutenant-Colonel O. D. Hurd, Thirtieth Indiana.—Missing, three enlisted men; total, three enlisted men; aggregate, three.

Lieutenant-Colonel O. H. P. Casey, Thirty-sixth Indiana.—Killed, one enlisted man; wounded, two enlisted men; total, three enlisted men; aggregate, three.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Cockerill, Twenty-fourth Ohio.—Wounded, twelve enlisted men; total, twelve enlisted men; aggregate, twelve.

Lieutenant William H. Hulman, battery H, Fourth artillery.—Wounded, one enlisted man; total, one enlisted man; aggregate, one.

Total.—Killed, one enlisted man; wounded, one commissioned officer, twenty-eight enlisted men; missing, one commissioned officer, three enlisted men; total, two commissioned officers, thirty-two enlisted men; aggregate, thirty-four.

My sincere condolence and high appreciation of the merits of these braves attend them.

Major Watson, Seventy-fifth Illinois, wounded by a falling tree—effects of artillery firing—deserves notice as a noble officer. Hope he may soon recover.

For more detailed accounts, I refer to the accompanying reports of the regimental and battery commanders. Exhibit A, herewith, gives the topography of the ground in the vicinity of the contest. All of which is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, Major, your humble servant,

W. GROSE,
Colonel Commanding.

Doc. 141.

BATTLE OF MISSION RIDGE.*

COLONEL GROSE'S REPORT.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,
FOURTH ARMY CORPS, WHITESIDE, TENN., }
December 4, 1863.

Lieutenant J. A. Wright, A. A. A. G.:

SIR: In accordance with duty, I have the honor to report the part my brigade took in the recent battles before Chattanooga. On the twenty-third of November ultimo, under orders, and the command of Brigadier-General Cruft, I marched from this place with part of my command, Eighty-fourth Illinois, Colonel Waters; Ninth Indiana, Colonel Suman; Seventy-fifth Illinois, Colonel Bennett; Thirty-sixth Indiana, Major Trusler; Fifty-ninth Illinois, Major Hale; Twenty-fourth Ohio, Captain Bacon. Effective force, officers and men, one thousand six hundred and ninety-three. We marched that day to Lookout Valley and reported to Major-General Hooker, where we rested for the night, and were ready to move at daylight on the morning of the twenty-fourth, at which time I was ordered with my command to the front, and informed that General Hooker desired to see me in person. I repaired to his quarters, and received instructions to move with my command and drive the enemy from and effect a crossing of Lookout Creek at a destroyed bridge, near the railroad crossing over that creek, which courses along the base of Lookout Mountain on

the west into the Tennessee River. I immediately went forward in advance of the troops, to make observations and learn the position, and found the enemy's pickets on the east bank and ours on the west, within thirty paces of each other, enjoying a friendship which was soon after broken and turned into wrath upon the approach of my forces.

I discovered soon that the creek was more swollen than was expected, and the only means of passage was to repair a place in the centre of the bridge, of about fifteen feet, which was strongly covered by the enemy from their rifle-pits on the opposite side and from the railroad embankment, which gave them complete protection. I ordered up the Eighty-fourth Illinois, supported by the Seventy-fifth Illinois. The former, in line with proper skirmishers, advanced through a bayou or pond, in some places up to their waists, drove the enemy under cover, and soon occupied the west bank of the creek; and Captain Chambers, of the Thirty-sixth Indiana, with a detail, was sent forward to do the work, but it was found impracticable without too great a loss. In the mean time Captain Bacon, with the Twenty-fourth Ohio, had moved upon the left of the two Illinois regiments, and was briskly skirmishing with the enemy along the creek. General Hooker, upon a hill to the rear, soon saw the impracticability of the crossing, and desired to see me. On reporting to the General, he directed me to take the other four regiments not thus in position and proceed to the creek a mile above and to the right, where General Woods's brigade, of General Osterhaus's division, was constructing a pole-bridge, which was nearly completed. When I arrived at the crossing point, I met General Woods there. He had some skirmishers over the creek and a regiment ready to follow, and as soon as that regiment passed over, the General kindly gave me the use of the bridge. I at once crossed over the four regiments, and prolonged the line of battle on his right. I formed in double lines, the Thirty-sixth Indiana and Fifty-ninth Illinois in front line, the right of my lines connecting with the left of the brigade of General Whittaker and of General Geary, still to my right, who had advanced from a crossing still farther to the right and higher up the creek. The line was thus formed, obliquely up the slope of the mountain, and the grand forward move was soon in motion, moving forward as fast as the men and officers could climb, (for all were on foot,) sweeping every thing before them, over rebel camps and rebel rifle-pits. As the lines advanced so that the left of General Wood's brigade neared the position of the Eighty-fourth and Seventy-fifth Illinois, flanking the rifle-pits of the enemy defending the crossing, the enemy were so surprised at the "Yankee trick" that most of them threw down their arms and surrendered. These two regiments immediately crossed under command of General Cruft, and extended the main line of battle on the left, covering and advancing on the main Chattanooga road over the

* See Document 18, ante.

point of the mountain slope. These two regiments of Colonels Waters and Bennet, the latter in front, with the whole line, only halted when imperative orders were received to "pursue to the crest of Lookout Slope only, and no farther," until farther orders. The Eighty-fourth and Seventy-fifth Illinois had already been gallantly pressed forward four or five hundred yards in advance of the crest, and beyond and to the left of the White House, and sufficiently far to uncover the mouth of Chattanooga Creek and allow troops to pass from the city to our rear. My other regiments were in the line rather above and to the right of the White House, but fully covering the plateau of ground on which it is situated.

There were two regiments of the troops on my right that were immediately under the high ledge of rocks at the top of the mountain that were farther advanced than the centre of the line. I was greatly annoyed with overtures to relieve these two regiments with regiments from my command, and before nightfall, I sent the Fifty-ninth Illinois and Ninth Indiana to relieve them, making now four regiments of mine in the front line, two on the extreme left and two on the right and far in the advance of all other regiments. At the point now occupied by these two regiments there was constant firing kept up on both sides, and about eight o'clock p.m., Colonel Suman and Major Hale, commanding those two regiments on the right, reported their ammunition exhausted, when the Thirty-sixth Indiana and Twenty-fourth Ohio were sent to relieve them, who held the position until about midnight, when the firing ceased on both sides, the enemy evidently having retired from our front, and, as afterward appeared, from the top of the mountain, but not until these two latter regiments had also exhausted their ammunition. Thus all my regiments had been in the front line during this engagement. The ground in front of the centre of the line, in and about the White House, I believe, was the common stock of the skirmishers of all the commands engaged, and at the house they found in park two pieces of the enemy's artillery, (with the limbers,) which was not in use upon our advance. Early the next morning, the enemy having entirely left the mountain, the Stars and Stripes waved upon the point of rocks on the summit of this grand old mountain. This was the conclusive evidence to observers for many miles around that one of the grandest feats of the war had been performed by our soldiers in successfully storming this stronghold, and taking most of the enemy, that were there posted, prisoners. Our advancing lines completely enfiladed most of the enemy's works, which were poorly adapted to the defence of the position.

Early on the morning of the twenty-fifth November, the Eighty-fourth and Seventy-fifth Illinois were advanced on the left to make a reconnaissance, and captured some rebel guards, camps, baggage, and several boxes of arms, near the road from Chattanooga up the mountain to Summer Town, and found that the main force of the ene-

my had evacuated Chattanooga Valley. These facts being reported, the whole force, under General Hooker, moved about ten o'clock a.m., toward Rossville, situated at the base of Missionary Ridge, five miles distant from Chattanooga, at which place the La Fayette road passes through a gorge in the ridge. Having to rebuild the destroyed bridge over Chattanooga Creek, it was after two o'clock p.m. before our advance, General Osterhaus's division, reached the rebel lines strongly posted in the gorge. The attack was soon made, however, and the advance division forced the passage, routed the enemy and moved forward through the gorge. As my advance approached the passage in the ridge, General Cruft directed me to move up the point of the ridge to the left and at right angles with the road. As we assumed the point of the ridge, a brisk fire was opened from the summit upon some cavalry escort in our front. They soon found other quarters and gave way for our infantry. The Ninth Indiana, Colonel Suman, was in advance, and, seemingly by intuition, came into line with skirmishers in front, supported by the Fifty-ninth Illinois, Major Hale, in double-quick, on the left, the Eighty-fourth Illinois and Thirty-sixth Indiana in the second line, the Seventy-fifth Illinois and Twenty-fourth Ohio forming the third line. By the time the rear lines were formed, the advance line had charged and driven the enemy from two lines of barricades, visiting the enemy with severe punishment, killing and wounding a large number and taking all the balance prisoners that were behind the barricades. Two regiments of General Whittaker's brigade soon came up on the left of my second and third lines on the slope of the ridge, General Geary's division advancing still further to the left in the valley; at the same time General Osterhaus's division was advancing to the east side of the ridge to my right.

We continued the advance, meeting and driving more of the enemy northward on the ridge. At the same time heavy firing was going on a couple of miles to our front. As we approached, it seemed to be advancing toward us, which turned out to be General Johnson's division, Fourteenth corps, driving the enemy south on the ridge. When his lines and ours approached within eight hundred or nine hundred yards of each other, the enemy's forces, between us, threw down their arms, and firing and destruction of life ceased; and it appeared to me that we had more prisoners between than we had men in our own lines. Here we disposed of prisoners, cared for the wounded, buried the dead, and rested for the night. Colonel Suman and Major Hale, with their regiments, deserve favorable mention for daring and gallant conduct on this occasion.

On the morning of the twenty-sixth, our forces moved on the Ringgold road in pursuit of the routed enemy. Two divisions of Fourteenth corps, under Major-General Palmer, had the advance, followed by General Osterhaus's division; then came the two brigades of our division, fol-

lowed by General Geary's division. Delayed at Chickamauga to rebuild bridge, we reached Peavine Valley about sunset, and the forces advanced cautiously through its mud and dense underbrush, until the advance reached the La Fayette road, where it found a battery and train of the enemy moving. One volley captured all, scattering the men therewith in every direction. General Palmer's forces there took the Grayville road to the left. Our division moved forward out of the valley, ascended the hill, gathering up many scattering prisoners, and rested for the night, four miles from Ringgold.

At early day on the morning of the twenty-seventh, General Osterhaus, taking the advance, followed by our division, we moved forward. At about eight o'clock we approached the town and found the enemy in force on White Oak Ridge and in the gorge through which Middle Chickamauga flows beyond the town.

A severe engagement soon commenced, our forces endeavoring to carry the position by a front assault. The action lasted about four hours, with heavy loss to us; at last the place was carried and the enemy driven. My brigade had been placed in position in the town, took no part, but was under fire, where I lost one man killed.

Shortly after the enemy had been driven from their position, I received orders to move, with my command, in pursuit, and was soon under way. Skirmishing with their rear-guard soon commenced, and destroyed bridges made the pursuit difficult and slow. We followed them until night, a distance of three miles, and found what appeared to be a division in a well-selected position, and in accordance with orders, I returned to Ringgold. We recaptured two of our wounded men, took two more prisoners, found broken caissons, wagons, ambulances, dead and dying men of the enemy strewn along the way to a horrible extent.

We remained at Ringgold until the evening of the thirtieth November, when I received orders to return to Whiteside via the Chickamauga battle-field. We marched to Reed's farm, on west Chickamauga, six miles, and camped for the night. On the first day of December, we crossed the creek, proceeded two miles to the memorable battle-field of the nineteenth and twentieth of September, 1863. We buried the remains of about four hundred of our brave fallen comrades that had been the prey of animals for two and a half months. On the left of our line, the dead of the enemy over a portion of the ground had been well buried, and ours tolerably well covered, but toward the centre and right but few of ours were attempted to be buried or covered at all. The heads and feet of those on that part of the field that had been slightly covered, were mostly uncovered, and frequently found separated and some distance from the bodies. On the west of the road from Gordon and Lee's Mills to Rossville, and on our centre and right, and as far as I went to the south, but few burials had been attempted of either party.

We had not time to explore the entire field, and no doubt many of our soldiers remain un-

buried yet. All good clothing had been stripped from the bodies. Such a sight of inhumanity I hope never to witness again. On the second of December, we marched to our old quarters at this post, and thus ended our part of a fruitful campaign.

My command took prisoners as follows, the evidence of which is herewith forwarded:

List of names and rank taken by my provost-marshal, two hundred and forty-five; wounded on Mission Ridge and prisoners, twenty-one; voucher of Lieutenant Jaquis, Provost-Marshal of division, one hundred and eleven; with officers, four; vouchers of Captain Woodbury, of Twenty-ninth Ohio, one hundred and fifty-nine; vouchers of Captain Tolby, Twenty-seventh Missouri, thirty-seven; captured by Colonel Suman on Missionary Ridge, and turned over to the regiment on his right, as he states, which was one of General Wood's regiments, two hundred. Total, seven hundred and seventy-seven.

The conduct of the officers and men of my command was highly commendable, and I thank them for a prompt obedience and execution of all orders, without regard to danger or fatigue.

I am under obligations to my staff-officers for their kind and willing assistance rendered me during the campaign.

The following is a table of casualties in the brigade during the campaign, namely:

Major G. Trusler, Thirty-sixth Indiana volunteer infantry: killed, one enlisted man; wounded, ten enlisted men; total, eleven enlisted men; aggregate, eleven.

Colonel J. C. B. Suman, Ninth Indiana volunteer infantry: killed, two enlisted men; wounded, one commissioned officer, twenty-two enlisted men; total, one commissioned officer, twenty-four enlisted men; aggregate, twenty-five.

Major C. Hale, Fifty-ninth Illinois volunteer infantry: killed, one enlisted man; wounded, four commissioned officers, thirteen enlisted men; total, four commissioned officers, fourteen enlisted men; aggregate, eighteen.

Colonel J. E. Bennett, Seventy-fifth Illinois volunteer infantry: wounded, two enlisted men; total, two enlisted men; aggregate, two.

Colonel L. H. Waters, Eighty-fourth Illinois volunteer infantry: wounded, four enlisted men; total, four enlisted men; aggregate, four.

Captain G. M. Bacon, Twenty-fourth Ohio volunteer infantry: wounded, four enlisted men; total, four enlisted men; aggregate, four.

Killed, four enlisted men; wounded, five commissioned officers, fifty-five enlisted men; total, five commissioned officers, fifty-nine enlisted men; aggregate, sixty-four.

Knowing that I filled every post of danger required of me, I rejoice that so few of my men have fallen, compared with former battles. Lists of the casualties accompanying the reports of the regimental commanders respectively, which for further particulars are herewith forwarded.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,
W. GROSE,
Colonel Commanding.

Doc. 142.

MESSAGE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS.

DELIVERED MAY 2, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America :

You are assembled under circumstances of deep interest to your country ; and it is fortunate that, coming as you do, newly elected by the people, and familiar with the condition of the various localities, you will be better able to devise measures adapted to meet the wants of the public service without imposing unnecessary burdens on the citizen. The brief period which has elapsed since the last adjournment of Congress has not afforded sufficient opportunity to test the efficacy of the most important laws then enacted, nor have the events occurring in the interval been such as materially to change the state of the country.

The unjust war commenced against us, in violation of the rights of the States, and in usurpation of power not delegated to the government of the United States, is still characterized by the barbarism with which it has heretofore been conducted by the enemy. Aged men, helpless women and children, appeal in vain to the humanity which should be inspired by their condition, for immunity from arrest, incarceration, or banishment from their homes. Plunder and devastation of the property of non-combatants, destruction of private dwellings, and even of edifices devoted to the worship of God, expeditions organized for the sole purpose of sacking cities, consigning them to the flames, killing the unarmed inhabitants, and inflicting horrible outrages on women and children, are some of the constantly recurring atrocities of the invader. It cannot reasonably be pretended that such acts conduce to any end which their authors dare avow before the civilized world, and sooner or later Christendom must mete out to them the condemnation which such brutality deserves. The sufferings thus ruthlessly inflicted upon the people of the invaded districts have served but to illustrate their patriotism. Entire unanimity and zeal for their country's cause have been pre-eminently conspicuous among those whose sacrifices have been greatest. So the army which has borne the trials and dangers of the war, which has been subjected to privations and disappointments, (tests of manly fortitude far more severe than the brief fatigues and perils of actual combat,) has been the centre of cheerfulness and hope. From the camp comes the voice of the soldier-patriot, invoking each who is at home, in the sphere he best may fill, to devote his whole energies to the support of a cause, in the success of which their confidence has never faltered. They, the veterans of many a hard-fought field, tender to their country, without limit of time, a service of priceless value to us, one which posterity will hold in grateful remembrance.

In considering the state of the country, the reflection is naturally suggested that this is the

Third Congress of the Confederate States of America. The provisional government was formed, its congress held four sessions, lived its appointed term, and passed away. The permanent government was then organized, its different departments established, a Congress elected, which also held four sessions, served its full constitutional term, and expired. You, the second Congress under the permanent government, are now assembled at the time and place appointed by law for commencing your session. All these events have passed into history, notwithstanding the threat of our prompt subjugation, made three years ago, by a people that presume to assert a title to govern States whose separate and independent sovereignty was recognized by treaty with France and Great Britain in the last century, and remained unquestioned for nearly three generations. Yet these very governments, in disregard of duty and treaty obligations, which bind them to recognize as independent Virginia and other confederate States, persist in countenancing, by moral influence, if not in aiding by unfair and partial action, the claim set up by the executive of a foreign government to exercise despotic sway over the States thus recognized, and treat the invasion of them by their former limited and special agent as though it were the attempt of a sovereign to suppress a rebellion against lawful authority. Ungenerous advantage has been taken of our present condition, and our rights have been violated, our vessels of war detained in ports in which they had been invited by proclamations of neutrality, and in one instance our flag also insulted where the sacred right of asylum was supposed to be secure ; while one of these governments has contented itself with simply deprecating, by deferential representations, the conduct of our enemy in the constantly recurring instances of his contemptuous disregard of neutral rights and flagrant violations of public law. It may be that foreign governments, like our enemies, have mistaken our desire of peace, unreservedly expressed, for evidence of exhaustion, and have thence inferred the probability of success in the efforts to subjugate or exterminate the millions of human beings who, in these States, prefer any fate to submission to their savage assailants.

I see no prospect of an early change in the course heretofore pursued by these governments ; but when this delusion shall have been dispelled, and when our independence, by the valor and fortitude of our people, shall have been won against all the hostile influences combined against us, and can no longer be ignored by open foes or professed neutrals, this war will have left, with its proud memories, a record of many wrongs, which it may not misbecome us to forgive—some for which we may not properly forbear from demanding redress. In the mean time, it is enough for us to know that every avenue of negotiation is closed against us ; that our enemy is making renewed and strenuous efforts for our destruction, and that the sole resource for us, as a people secure in the justice of our cause, and hold-

ing our liberties to be more precious than all other earthly possessions, is to combine and apply every available element of power for their defence and preservation.

On the subject of the exchange of prisoners, I greatly regret to be unable to give you satisfactory information. The Government of the United States, while persisting in failure to execute the terms of the cartel, make occasional deliveries of prisoners, and then suspend action without apparent cause. I confess my inability to comprehend their policy or purpose. The prisoners held by us, in spite of human care, are perishing from the inevitable effects of imprisonment and the home-sickness produced by the hopelessness of release from confinement. The spectacle of their suffering augments our longing desire to relieve from similar trials our own brave men, who have spent so many weary months in a cruel and useless imprisonment, endured with heroic constancy. The delivery, after a suspension of some weeks, has just been resumed by the enemy; but as they give no assurance of intent to carry out the cartel, an interruption of the exchange may recur at any moment.

The reports of the departments, herewith submitted, are referred to for full information in relation to the matters appertaining to each. There are two of them on which I deem it necessary to make special remark.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury states facts justifying the conclusion that the law passed at the last session for the purpose of withdrawing from circulation the large excess of Treasury notes heretofore issued, has had the desired effect, and that by the first of July the amount in circulation will have been reduced to a sum not exceeding two hundred and thirty million dollars. It is believed to be of primary importance that no further issue of notes should take place, and that the use of the credit of the government should be restricted to the two other modes provided by Congress, namely, the sale of bonds and the issue of certificates bearing interest, for the price of supplies purchased within our limits. The law, as it now stands, authorizes the issue by the Treasury of new notes to the extent of two thirds of the amount received under its provisions. The estimate of the amount funded under this law is shown to be three hundred million dollars, and if two thirds of this sum be reissued, we shall have an addition of two hundred million dollars to our circulation, believed to already ample for the business of the country. The addition of this large sum to the volume of the currency would be attended by disastrous effects, and would produce the speedy recurrence of the evils from which the funding law has rescued the country. If our arms are crowned with the success which we have so much reason to hope, we may well expect that this war cannot be prolonged beyond the current year, and nothing would so much retard the beneficent influence of peace on all the interests of our country, as the existence of a great mass of currency not redeemable in coin. With our

vast resources, the circulation, if restricted to its present volume, would be easily manageable, and by gradual absorption in payment of public dues would give place to the precious metals, the only basis of a currency adapted to commerce with foreign countries. In our present circumstances I know of no mode of providing for the public wants which would entail sacrifices so great as a fresh issue of Treasury notes, and I trust that you will concur in the propriety of absolutely forbidding any increase of those now in circulation.

Officers have been appointed and despatched to the trans-Mississippi States, and the necessary measures taken for the execution of the laws, enacted to obviate delays in administering the treasury and other executive departments in those States; but sufficient time has not elapsed to ascertain the results.

In relation to the most important of all subjects at the present time—the efficiency of our armies in the field—it is gratifying to assure you that the discipline and instruction of the troops have kept pace with the improvement in material and equipment. We have reason to congratulate ourselves on the results of the legislation on this subject, and on the increased administrative energy in the different bureaux of the War Department, and may not unreasonably indulge anticipations of commensurate success in the ensuing campaign.

The organization of reserves is in progress, and it is hoped they will be valuable in affording local protection without requiring details and detachments from active forces.

Among the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary of War, your attention is specially invited to those on which legislation is suggested on the following subjects, namely:

The tenure of office of the general officers in the provisional army, and a proper discrimination in the compensation of the different grades.

The provision required in aid of invalid officers who have resigned in consequence of wounds or sickness contracted while in the service.

The amendment of the law which deprives officers in the field of the privilege of purchasing rations, and thus adds to their embarrassment, instead of conferring the benefit intended.

The organization of the general staff of the army, in relation to which a special message will shortly be addressed to you, containing the reasons which compelled me to withhold my approval of a bill passed by your predecessors at too late a period of the session to allow time for returning it for their reconsideration.

The necessity for an increase in the allowance now made for the transportation of officers travelling under orders.

The mode of providing officers for the execution of the conscript laws.

The means of securing greater despatch and more regular administration of justice in examining and disposing of the records of cases reported from the courts-martial and military courts in the army.

The recent events of the war are highly creditable to our troops, exhibiting energy and vigilance combined with the habitual gallantry which they have taught us to expect on all occasions. We have been cheered by important and valuable successes in Florida, Northern Mississippi, Western Tennessee and Kentucky, Western Louisiana, and Eastern North-Carolina, reflecting the highest honor on the skill and conduct of our commanders, and on the incomparable soldiers whom it is their privilege to lead. A naval attack on Mobile was so successfully repulsed at the outer works that the attempt was abandoned, and the nine months' siege of Charleston has been practically suspended, leaving that noble city and its fortresses imperishable

monuments to the skill and fortitude of its defenders. The armies in Northern Georgia and in Northern Virginia still oppose, with unshaken front, a formidable barrier to the progress of the invader; and our generals, armies, and people are animated by cheerful confidence.

Let us, then, while resolute in devoting all our energies to securing the realization of the bright auspices which encourage us, not forget that our humble and most grateful thanks are due to Him, without whose guidance and protecting care all human efforts are of no avail, and to whose interposition are due the manifold successes with which we have been cheered.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, May 2, 1864.

POETRY AND INCIDENTS.

THE STORMING OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

BY CAPT. THOS. H. ELLIOTT.

The uncertain mists were thickening as the 'proach of
day was quickening;
The angel of the dawn had put out the stars of night;
A sombre mantle wrapped about the beetling cliffs of
Lookout,
Which frowned in threat'ning majesty from its heav-
en-soaring height.

Awakened a day of great portending—soldiers pray
ing a victorious ending
Should show the world the prowess and the force in
Federal might.
Many a suppliant, prayerful bending, to Him patriot
hopes was sending,
That Lookout should be ours before the day sank
into night.

Through the forest, bared and blackened, with steady-
ness ne'er slackened,
Would like a lithesome river a column known as
Geary's braves;
Marched they forth to take the mountain, though the
soil should drain life's fountain—
Surged they onward 'gainst the giant rocks like the
sea's tumultuous waves.

"Forward! Forward!" Geary shouted, as their danc-
ing colors flouted
The chilly breeze that 'mong the mountain shadows
played;
Borne upon the wings of glory, like gnomes of ghostly
story,
They sped onward, and with wild charge the Miss'ip-
pians dismayed.

Then came a scene of wildest battle—the dread musket-
ry's rattle—
And the bayonet found its sheath in the carcass of
the foe.
The "Rebs" retreated quite defeated—the remnant
who Death cheated—
Our victors sent up loud cheers for Union, Geary,
"Uncle Joe."

Glorious paeans, cheers of conquest, among crags, above
the contest,
Greeted Hooker, greeted Geary, with the first flush
of the sun.

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Then our bay'nets madly plying, the enemy ever flying
each for bravest deeds vying,
On battlements, in deep ravines—our work in earnest
had begun.

Behind works of art and strongest Nature—a wall of
flame at each embrasure—
Under the weird finger of the mountain, which reach-
ed into the skies,
Where the grizzly warrior "graybacks" of the rebel
Manny, who, like Ajax,
Defied a power above him, and to oppose it hard he
tries.

Over works, upon their flanks, hand to hand amidst
their ranks,
The pressing force of Geary forth the foemen drove;
Over bastions, breastworks, fled they—from the carn-
ival of death sped they—
But deadly volleys and "White Stars" a cordon
round them wove.

Deadly trial of the dastard's flight, with the sweeping
whirlwind's might,
Toward the Star of Bethlehem, Geary turned the
mountain curve;
O'er the crimson paths before them, on the vanquished
host they bore them,
The daring Second and Third brigades, and the gal-
lant First in reserve.

To the ambitious eagle's eyrie, were borne the strife-
torn flags of Geary,
As like angry storm-spirits, his boys fought far above
the clouds;
Their courage was theiregis as they carved for hist'ry
brightest pages;
In their path of glory many "blue-coats," more of
"gray-coats"—martial shrouds.

Grenades, grape, and screaming shell, with noise like
strife of fiends in hell,
Unheeded came from the Titan rocks into this Ghe-
ber's bloody glen;
"Sweep every rebel from it," from base to Lookout
summit,
Was the fiat of the bold Hooker, and the duty of
his men.

In the "last ditch," torn and shattered, massed the
rebel hordes so scattered,

And the clash of arms and crash of battle raged
anew—
Assault upon assault was given, while the crags and
heavens seemed riven,
Surged they forward—surged they backward, and
recoiled that rebel crew.

The shades of night crept on apace, came erring shots
through gloomy space,
As in the fogs of Erebus, died this most glorious
day;
The myriad fires beaming, 'mid planet torches gleam-
ing
With fitful glare, revealed the battle horrors in
ghastly array.

From the blasted souls there moaning comes a wail
and sufferers' groaning,
And Death in hideous forms dead hopes grim re-
vealed.

'Twas a night of watch and waiting, with no vigilance
abating,
While the chill wind sang hosannas and a requiem
o'er the bloody field.

At early dawn the mount was ours, one of heaven's
choicest dowers,
As the Stars and Stripes and "White Star" were
planted on the crest.
Two thousand foes were taken from the ranks we had
so shaken;
Seven colors, and their cannon, and many spoils
given to our behest.

Lay the laurel on their cold brows, honored martyrs to
their Union vows,
The brave soldiers whose lives on their country's
shrine were given;
Bow the head and drop the tear, as you plant banners
o'er the bier
Of the patriot whose spirit soars with angel wings
to heaven.

With life-regardless decision—the old "White Star
Division,"
Fresh and laurelled from the brave army of Poto-
mac's shore,
Had shown their ability to fight, on this defiant moun-
tain's height,
And with "Cumberland's" brave boys ask to finish
up the war.

RESPONSE OF THE COLORED SOLDIERS.

BY EDNA DEAN PROCTOR.

To God be the glory! They call us! we come!
How clear rings the bugle, how bold beats the drum!
Our "Ready!" rings clear; our hearts bolder beat;
The strongest our right arms, the swiftest our feet;
No danger can daunt us; no malice o'erthrow;
For country, for honor, rejoicing we go.

How watchful, how eager we waited for this,
In terror lest all were betrayed with a kiss!
Yet, weary in cabin or toiling in field,
The sweet hope of Freedom we never would yield;
But steadfast we trusted, through sorest delay,
That the beam on our night was the dawning of day.

'Tis dawning! 'tis morning! the hills are aglow!
God's angels roll backward the clouds of our woe!—

One grasp of the rifle, one glimpse of the fray,
And chattel and bondman have vanished for aye!
Stern men they will find us who venture to feel
The shock of our cannon, the thrust of our steel.

The bright Flag above us, exultant we hail;
Beneath it what rapture the ramparts to scale!
Or, true to our leader, o'er mountain, through hollow,
Its stars never setting, with fleet foot to follow,
Till, shrill for the battle, the bugle-notes blow,
And proudly we plant it in face of the foe.

And then, when the conflict is done, in the gleam
Of the camp-fire at midnight, how gayly we dream;
The slave is the citizen—coveted name
That lifts him from loathing, that shields him from
shame;

His cottage unravished; and, blithesome as he,
His wife by the hearthstone—his babe on her knee.

The cotton grows fair by the sea, as of old;
The cane yields its sugar; the orange its gold;
Light rustle the corn-leaves; the rice-fields are green;
And, free as the white man, he smiles at the scene;
The drum beats—we start from our slumbers and pray
That the dream of the night find an answering day.

To God be the glory! They call us! we come!
How welcome the watchword, the hurra, the hum!
Our hearts are aflame as our good swords we bare—
"For Freedom! for Freedom!" soft echoes the air;
The bugle rings cheerily; our banners float high;
O comrades, all forward! we'll triumph or die!

ROSECRANS.

'Twas something to be a chieftain when
The Chaldee hero fought,
For 'twas the battle-step of progress then,
When manhood's work was wrought.

And at the Pass, and Salamis, still higher
Waved the glorious crest,
When hero-warriors burned with patriot fire,
And won a country's rest.

And something 'twas, when Hamilcar's great son
Was hero under oath—
But in that contest 'twas not Rome that won,
For manhood conquered both.

And when across the Medial gulf we look
For radiant fields of glory,
The Cross and the imperial kingdoms took
The honors of the story.

But still the march of progress onward beat
Toward the glorious goal,
Where despot hosts and Freedom's legions meet
To try the world's control.

Then Liberty's flag was given to the strife,
Where nature's self is grand,
With rivers, lakes, with mountains and with life,
And billions, too, of land.

Triumphant, then, the banner of the free,
Over that curse and blight—
As chieftain then, thrice glorious was he
Who battled for the right.

But, as testing the new birth, lurked there within
Full of a masked deceit—
False to all truth, in league with every sin—
A most villainous cheat.

Insolent and proud, he drew the red-blade,
To turn aback the world
On the track of the ages of progress she'd made,
With the old banner furled.

"Then round the old flag let's rally again"—
Rang through the whole land,
"Though billions were lost and millions were slain,
The great cause it shall stand."

A continent and more—there's freedom to lose—
The present requires it—
The great Future demands and freemen must choose
As the ages invoke it.

Lo! thousands sprang forth from valley and plain,
And our *ROSCRANS* was there—
The chief in the strife, and now we proclaim
His deeds also are *there*.

Hail! then, the great chief whose victories tell
What the hero has done—
Let's march to his step, and all rebels compel
To acknowledge that *ONE*,
From *E Pluribus Unum* proclaimed long ago,
Is the sole rendering patriots care know.

TO THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

Devoted band! baptized anew in blood,
Standing again as ye before have stood
To bay the waves of Treason's maddened flood,
A wall, as that of adamantine stone,
Or hills of granite in your own loved North,
Were never aught alike in strength and worth!—
The nation whose torn heart hath sent you forth,
The nation for whose life ye pledged your own,
Looks proudly on you, and although the while,
With o'erfull heart and tearful eye, can smile,
And say, while counting o'er each blood-stained file:
O Army of the Cumberland!—well done!

The nation knew you! when ye stood the shield
Before your comrade braves, whose doom was sealed
'Mid all the horrors of red Shiloh's field;
Hopeless till you their saviours came, and burst
As an avenging fate upon the foe,
It marked you well, and treason felt the blow;
And watching breathlessly it saw you go
To dare and do what only heroes durst
In that death-storm on Murfreesboro's plains,
When Treason's blood ran cold through all her veins,
And in the nation's heart, while swelled the strains
Of Victory, you gained your place—the first.

Again, brave souls, most glorious when most tried,
'Twas yours that surging sea of fire to ride,
That round you licked and beat on every side,
All mad and foaming with the hate of hell;
We heard the roarings of that billowy host,
And saw it smite, and you upon it tossed—
Oh! it was agony! and all seemed lost!
Never! The story, how shall tongue e'er tell
How gloriously ye saved in that dread fray,
The cause of Freedom, standing there at bay!
Look up! the sky grows brighter day by day:
O Army of the Cumberland, 'tis well!

E. H.

THE SWAMP ANGEL.

"The large Parrott gun used in bombarding Charleston from the marshes of James Island is called the Swamp Angel."—*Soldier's Letter*.

Down in the land of rebel Dixie,
Near to the hot-bed of treason,
Five miles away from Charleston,
Amid the sands of James Island,
Swept by the tides of the ocean,
Is the Swamp Angel.

Can parrot,
With plumage as black as a raven,
And scream unlike her tropical sisters'—
A hundred-pounder, with terrible voice!—
Be called bird or angel?

She's for Freedom,
And Uncle Sam! synonymous terms;
An angel of vengeance and not of mercy,
Come to execute wrath upon the city
Whence sprang secession.

At night this angel raiseth her voice,
And her cry is "woe," and not "rejoice."
She sendeth far her meteor shell,
And it soareth up as if to dwell
With the twinkling stars in the fadeless blue;
There poiseeth itself for the mighty blow,
Then downward shoots like a bolt from God:
Crushes the dwelling and crimson the sod!
Fire leaps out from its iron heart,
Rives the defences of treason apart,
Till ruin spreads her sulphur pall
O'er shattered tower and crumbling wall;
And fearful crowds from the city fly,
Seeing the day of her doom is nigh!

O ye who herd with traitors!—say,
Is this the dawn of that promised day
Your poets sung and your prophets told?
Is this age of iron your age of gold?
For this did ye rouse the Southern hate,
To rend the Union strong and great?
And build on the low Palmetto's shore
An empire proud for evermore—
And shut in the face of the North your door!

Hear ye in the Angel the Northern call,
Thundered on Sumter's broken wall,
Echoed in Charleston's silent street,
Shouted in Treason's proud retreat:

"Freemen must share with you the land!
Choose olive leaf—or blazing brand;
Choose peaceful Commerce' flag of stars,
Or rifled guns and monitors!

"By you were words of treason spoken,
By you the nation's peace was broken;
The first gun fired whose startling jar
Sent through the land the shock of war!

Hear truth by Gospel trumpet blown—
Shall ye not reap as ye have sown?
Thistles for thistles, tares for tares,
The whirlwind's breath—a rain of snares!

"The avenging Angel rides the blast—
You fired the first gun—we'll fire the last!"

T. N. J.

CENTREVILLE, VA., August 25.—Captain Ned Gillingham, of company B, Thirteenth New-York cavalry, with an escort of eight sergeants, whilst going from camp near Centreville as bearer of despatches to Washington, on the twenty-third instant, was met on the road near Allandale, about two o'clock p.m., by a detachment of the Second Massachusetts cavalry, the Sergeant of the latter asking Captain Gillingham if they need apprehend any danger, to which Captain Gillingham replied: "So far, we have not met with any obstruction." Captain Gillingham had scarcely gone over four hundred yards, when he was met by a party of Mosby's cavalry, consisting of about one hundred men, by whom he was ordered, under fire, to "halt." Captain Gillingham, taking them for our own troops, (as they were dressed similar to his own men,) replied, "Hold up firing—you are fools—you are firing on Government troops," to which the captain of said troops replied: "Surrender there, you Yankee ——" Captain Gillingham replied he could not see the joke. Then, turning to Sergeant Long, Orderly of company B, and to Sergeant Burnham, ordered them to draw their sabres and follow him. A general conflict ensued, in which sabres and pistols were freely used, resulting in the wounding of Orderly Sergeant Long and Sergeant Zeagle, both of company B, who, with four other sergeants, were all taken prisoners.

Captain Ned Gillingham and Sergeant Burnham effected their escape, the former having been wounded in the arm, and the latter in the hip, as well as having their horses shot. Obtaining horses on the road, they reached Washington about six o'clock p.m.

Captain Gillingham is a man highly esteemed by both his officers and men, and was warmly welcomed back to camp, to which he returned the following day.

THE SHELLING OF CHATTANOOGA.

ONE of the most impressive scenes we have ever witnessed, occurred in the Presbyterian church on yesterday. The services were being held by the Rev. Dr. Palmer, of New-Orleans, and the pews and aisles were crowded with officers and soldiers, private citizens, ladies and children. A prayer had been said, and one of the hymns sung. The organist was absent, "and I will be thankful," continued the minister, "if some one in the congregation will raise the tune." The tune was raised, the whole congregation joined in singing, as in days gone by; the sacred notes, in humble melody from the house of God, swelling their holy tribute to his glory, and dying away at last like the echoes of departed days. The second, or what is known as the long prayer, was begun, when out upon the calm, still air, there came an alien sound—the sullen voice of a hostile gun—ringing from the north bank of the river, and echoing back and back among the far-off glens of Lookout Peak. It was sudden—it took every one by surprise; for few, if any, expected the approach of an enemy. The day was one of fasting and prayer; the public mind was upon its worship. Its serenity had not been crossed by a shadow, and it was not until another and another of these unchristian accents trembled in the air, and hid themselves away to the hills, that it was generally realized that the enemy were shelling the town. Without a word of warning, in the midst of church services, while many thousands of men and women thronged the several places of public worship, the basest of human foemen had begun an attack upon a city crowded with hospi-

tal and refugees from the bloody pathway of their march, and in nowise essential to a direct assault. There was a little bustle and disturbance in the galleries; the noise in the streets became more distinct and louder; near the doors several persons, who had other duties, military or domestic, to look to, hastily withdrew. The mass of the congregation, however, remained in their places; and the man of God continued his prayer. It was impressive in the extreme. There he stood, this exile preacher from the far South, with eyes and hands raised to heaven, not a muscle or expression changed, not a note altered, not a sign of confusion, excitement, or alarm; naught but the calm, Christian face uplifted, and full of the unconsciousness to all save its devotions, which beams from the soul of true piety. Not only the occasion, but the prayer, was solemnly, eloquently impressive. The reverend Doctor prayed, and his heart was in his prayer—it was the long prayer, and he did not shorten it; he prayed it to the end, and the cannon did not drown it from those who listened, as they could not drown it from the ear of God. He closed, and then, without panic or consternation, although excited and confused, the dense crowd separated, while shells were falling on the right and left. All honor to this noble preacher, and to those brave women and children.—*Chattanooga Rebel*, August 22.

VICTORY OR ANNIHILATION.—Doctor Elliot, the Bishop of Georgia, in a late sermon preached in Savannah, exhibits the alternative before us, in a few sentences pregnant with all the fire of a prophet and a patriot. These are, indeed, words that burn:

"Forward, my hearers, with our shields locked and our trust in God, is our only movement now. It is too late even to go backward. We might have gone backward a year ago, when our armies were victoriously thundering at the gates of Washington, and were keeping at successful bay the Hessians of the West, had we been content to bear humiliation for ourselves and degradation for our children. But even that is no longer left us. It is now victory or unconditional submission; submission, not to the conservative and Christian people of the North, but to a party of infidel fanatics, with an army of needy and greedy soldiers at their backs. Who shall be able to restrain them in their hour of victory? When that moment approaches, when the danger shall seem to be over and the spoils are ready to be divided, every outlaw will rush to fill their ranks, every adventurer will rush to swell their legions, and they will sweep down upon the South as the hosts of Attila did upon the fertile fields of Italy. And shall you find in defeat that mercy which you did not find in victory? You may slumber now, but you will awake to a fearful reality. You may lie upon your beds of ease, and dream that, when it is all over, you will be welcomed back to all the privileges and immunities of greasy citizens, but how terrible will be your disappointment! You will have an ignoble home, overrun by hordes of insolent slaves and rapacious soldiers. You will wear the badge of a conquered race. Pariahs among your fellow-creatures, yourselves degraded, your delicate wives and gentle children thrust down to menial service, insulted, perhaps dishonored. Think you that these victorious hordes, made up in the large part of the sweepings of Europe, will leave you any thing? As well might the lamb expect mercy from the wolf. Power which is checked and fettered by a double contest, is very different from power victorious, triumphant, and irresponsible. The friends whom you

have known and loved in the North; who have sympathized with you in your trials, and to whom you might have looked for comfort and protection, will have enough to do then to take care of themselves. The surges that sweep over us will carry them away in its reflux tide. Oh! for the tongue of a prophet, to paint for you what is before you, unless you repent and turn to the Lord, and realize that "His hand is upon all them for good that seek him." The language of Scripture is alone adequate to describe it: "The earth mourneth and languisheth: Lebanon is ashamed and hewn down: Sharon is like a wilderness. They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.—They ravished the women of Zion and the maids in the cities of Judah. They took the young men to grind, and the children fell under the wood. The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning. The crown has fallen from our head; woe unto us that have sinned."—*Richmond Enquirer*, November 21.

AN INCIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK RIOT.—"Mother, they may kill the body, but they cannot touch the soul!" was the language used by poor Abraham Franklin, as he was borne from the presence of his mother by the barbarous mob on the morning of the fourteenth ult. The young man, aged twenty-three, had been an invalid for about two years, and was a confirmed consumptive. When the mob broke into the house they found him in bed. They bore him into the street, and there, although he had not raised a finger against them—indeed, was not able to do so—they beat him to death, hanged him to a lamp-post, cut his pantaloons off at the knees, cut bits of flesh out of his legs, and afterward set fire to him! All this was done beneath the eyes of his widowed mother. Such an exhibition of bloodthirstiness is without a parallel in the history of crime. Patrick Butler and George Glass, both Irishmen, the latter fifty-three years of age, were arrested for the murder of Mr. Franklin.—*Anglo-African*.

NEGRO COURAGE—AN INCIDENT AT CHARLESTON.—*The Newburgh Journal* says that a private letter received from a member of the Tenth Legion, contains the following interesting passage:

"The Tenth Connecticut (white) and Fifty-fourth Massachusetts (black) were on picket. The rebels came down at daylight with five regiments of infantry, one of cavalry, and two pieces of artillery, attacking our whole picket-line simultaneously. The Tenth Connecticut being a small regiment, and somewhat detached from the rest of the line, gave way almost immediately, firing but very few shots. Not so, however, with the darkeys. They stood their ground and blazed away until almost surrounded. One company of them was completely cut off from the rest and surrounded by a rebel regiment formed in square. The poor niggers plainly heard the rebel colonel give the order, "Take no prisoners!" and well knowing that that was equivalent to "Give no quarter," clubbed their muskets and make a desperate effort to break the rebel lines, in which they succeeded, with a loss of five killed and six or eight wounded. Nine out of ten white companies under the same circumstances would have surrendered; but the darkeys, knowing their lives were forfeited any way, concluded to die fighting like brave men (as they are) rather than give up. The "sympathizers" of the North may say and think what they please about the fighting qualities of the negro; but as for myself, I

would as soon fight alongside of a negro regiment as of any white one; and, besides, I believe, as a general thing, they will fight more desperately and hold out longer than most of our white troops. I am not a disciple of Henry Ward Beecher, so you need not accuse me of Abolitionism because of that last sentiment. It is the honest conviction of my heart, strengthened by actual experience. Give me my choice, to fight beside a darkey or a "sympathiser," and I will take the gentleman of color every time, both because he is more of a gentleman, and a more loyal man."

JENNY WADE, THE HEROINE OF GETTYSBURGH.—The country has already heard of John Burns, the hero of Gettysburgh: of how the old man sallied forth, a host within himself, "to fight on his own hook," and how he fell wounded after having delivered many shots from his trusty rifle into the face and the hearts of his country's foes. John Burns's name is already recorded among the immortal, to live there while American valor and patriotism has an admirer and an emulator. But there was a heroine as well as a hero of Gettysburgh. The old hero, Burns, still lives; the heroine, sweet Jenny Wade, perished in the din of that awful fray, and she now sleeps where the flowers once bloomed, and the perfume-laden air wafted lovingly over Cemetery Hill.

Before the battle, and while the National hosts were awaiting the assault of the traitor foe, Jenny Wade was busily engaged in baking bread for the National troops. She occupied a house in range of the guns of both armies, and the rebels had sternly ordered her to leave the premises, but this she as sternly refused to do. While she was busily engaged in her patriotic work a Minie ball pierced her pure breast, and she fell a holy sacrifice in her country's cause. Almost at the same time a rebel officer of high rank fell near where Jenny Wade had perished. The rebels at once proceeded to prepare a coffin for their fallen leader, but about the time that was finished the surging of the conflict changed the positions of the armies, and Jenny Wade's body was placed in the coffin designed for her country's enemy. The incidents of the heroine and the hero of Gettysburgh are beautifully touching, noble, and sublime.

Old John Burns was the only man of Gettysburgh who participated in the struggle to save the North from invasion, while innocent Jenny Wade was the only sacrifice which the people of that locality had to offer on the shrine of their country. Let a monument be erected on the ground which covers her, before which the pilgrims to the holy tombs of the heroes of Gettysburgh can bow and bless the memory of Jenny Wade. If the people of Gettysburgh are not able alone to raise the funds to pay for a suitable monument for Jenny Wade, let them send a committee to Harrisburgh, and our little boys and girls will assist in soliciting subscriptions for this holy purpose. Before the summer sunshine again kisses the grave of Jenny Wade; before the summer birds once more carol where she sleeps in glory; before the flowers again deck the plain made famous by gallant deeds, let a monument rise to greet the skies in tokens of virtue, daring, and nobleness.—*Harrisburgh Telegraph*.

INCIDENTS OF MISSION RIDGE.—One of the non-commissioned staff of the Sixth Ohio thus speaks of the charge, in which General Wood's division participated, up the steep of Missionary Ridge, in the fighting of Wednesday, November twenty-fifth:

From the foot to the crest of Missionary Ridge

is at least three fourths of a mile, and very steep. Up this steep our men charged, right in the very mouths of at least sixty guns, that belched forth grape and canister incessantly. They stopped to rest only twice in the whole distance, each time quietly getting up and advancing as deliberately as though on drill, until, arrived at last within about one hundred yards of the enemy, away they went with a whoop and a yell, and clearing, almost at a bound, embankments, ditches, and every thing, were in the rebel works. They captured about five thousand prisoners, and nearly all the enemy's artillery. Our brigade (Hazen's) alone took sixteen pieces, and of these our regiment claims six, which they facetiously call the "Sixth Ohio battery." Not one gun was spiked, as far as I can learn."

"Chickamauga" rang through the lines when the charge was made. A rebel captain was captured by a boy of our regiment, and refusing to go the rear, our boy pushed him upon the breastworks, and gave him a kick in the region of his "base," that sent him headlong down the hill, accompanying the demonstration with the shout: "*Chickamauga, — you!*"

Altogether, it was a glorious day for the army of the Cumberland.

POCAHONTAS, TENN., Nov. 19.—An amusing instance of the efficiency of our negro troops occurred at this post to-day, which we will submit to our friends at the North as evidence of the vigilance with which our lines are guarded, and of the implicit obedience to orders, both general and special, which is here observed. A verdant but exceedingly well-developed Mississippian of twenty summers presented himself at the pickets guarded by colored troops, and, although Order No. 167 had completely closed the lines, the officer of the guard saw something suspicious in the stranger, and sent him under guard (a healthy African) to the Provost-Marshal, who inquired carefully into the young man's business within the lines, and ascertained that his chief ambition and desire was to procure a pound of tobacco, for which noble purpose he had come from down in "Mississipp." This was rather aggravating, but our Provost smothered his wrath somewhat and offered his visitor a bit of the weed; then turned to the African escort and told him to put the butternut beyond the lines at double-quick. The guard and his charge left the office. On reaching the street, the negro, true to his instructions, announced the double-quick; but the chivalry stated that he did not like to run, whereupon down came the African's bayonet and out flew the butternut's coat-tail to the horizontal, which each maintained down the street and out to the pickets, a little better than a mile, to the infinite amusement of the idlers, all agreeing that it was the prettiest trotting ever seen, and giving the chivalry credit for good bottom.—*Chicago Tribune*.

CORINTH, MISS., Oct. 1.—A feat was lately accomplished by some Union Alabama soldiers, which I think has not been excelled during the war, and is worthy of record. On the fourteenth of last month Lieutenant Tramel and ten men of the First Alabama Federal cavalry, started on foot from Glendale, some ten miles from here, where the regiment is stationed, and proceeded into the centre of Alabama, and, after an absence of two weeks, they reached camp in safety, bringing with them one hundred and ten recruits for their regiment, as well as five prison-

ers—one a lieutenant—and a rebel mail as trophies. The lieutenant captured was engaged in conscripting, and says he thinks that the Confederacy is about played out, if ten men can travel all through it.—*Chicago Tribune*.

A PRIVATE in battery F, Fourth U. S. artillery, writes the following epitaph for John B. Floyd:

Floyd has died and few have sobbed,
Since, had he lived, all had been robbed:
He's paid Dame Nature's debt, 'tis said,
The only one he ever paid.
Some doubt that he resigned his breath,
But vow he has cheated even death.
If he is buried, oh! then, ye dead, beware,
Look to your awaddlings, of your shrouds take care,
Lest Floyd should to your coffins make his way,
And steal the linen from your mouldering clay.

A SECESSIONIST TRICK.—The New-Orleans *Times* of the twenty-eighth of October says:

"We have been sold, most egregiously SOLD; as many other good and respectable people have been before us. Some ingenious person, signing himself or herself 'Emily M. Washington,' sent us really a beautiful patriotic poem—when read in the usual way—which we published in our Sunday's issue, but which turned out to be an acrostic of the most abominable rebel character."

By reading the first letters of each line, and adding the last line of each stanza, we get the following:

"Sink, sink the Stars and Stripes for ever!
Lord, fail the Bannered Cross? Oh! never!
Waft, waft the murdered brave to glory,
Who 'neath that flag, in battle gory,
Denounce the Stars and Stripes for ever!"

The New-Orleans *Era* says indignantly:

"If by such arts of cunning our contemporary expects to fan into a flame the expiring embers of secessionism in this city, it will signally fail."

Here follows the poem:

THE STARS AND STRIPES FOR EVER.

BY EMILY M. WASHINGTON.

Since first our banner bright unfurled
Its crimson folds of glory,
No flag e'er floated yet that could
Keep peace with ours in story!
Sink, sink the hand of treason, then,
Its greatness now would smother!
No earthly power that flag shall mar,
King, prince, or any other.
The Stars and Stripes for ever!

'Long many a crimson field of fame—
O'er decks grown red for honor—
Round Bunker's Hill and Brandywine,
Danced that old veteran banner!
For rebels' gain, and freedom's bane,
All wrong, but subtle reason,
In spite of Right shall Wrong, grown bold,
Lift up that rag of treason—
The bannered Cross! Oh! never!

When darkness draped our country's sky,
And none could comfort borrow

From scourging foes and scowling woes,
That flag sprang forth in sorrow!
Wrong gave the Stripes—hope wrought the Stars—
Ah! those old grandsires able,
From pain to hallowed peace, at last,
They passed—the good, the noble,
The murdered brave—to glory!

When swarming foemen thronged our shores,
Hard pressed for food and rifle,
Our god-like sires, they fought and starved,
Nor shrunk at such mere trifles;
Enrapturedly to death they went,
And still as slaughter crowned them,
The glittering Stars, turned to the skies,
Hung proudly, grandly round them,
That flag, in battle gory.

Down many a vista'd year since then,
Enshrined in hoary honor,
Nobly with martial step hath marched
Our grand old veteran banner!
Unhallowed hands of godless wrong
Now threat that badge we cherish;
Charge! sons of old Columbia, then!
Ere that flag fall, we perish!
THE STARS AND STRIPES FOR EVER!

THE SAGACITY OF GENERAL THOMAS.—There can be no question that General Thomas saved the army of the Cumberland in the critical battle of Chickamauga. The Georgia papers say that the plan of the battle was determined upon by General Bragg after consultation with General Lee. The plan was literally to destroy our army. It was, to cross the Chickamauga Creek on our left flank, where Thomas's corps was placed, and then force him back upon Crittenden and McCook. After Thomas was thus driven, another rebel column was to cross the creek and strike Thomas again as he was forced back, thus completing his rout. Thomas, with the sagacity of a great soldier, perceived the object of the rebels. He did not wait to be assailed, but, with Napoleonic tactics, he concluded to be the assailing party, and hence issued the following important order:

HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
NEAR McDANIEL'S HOCHE, September 19—9 A.M. }

Major-General Palmer:

The rebels are reported in quite a heavy force between you and Alexander's Hill. If you advance as soon as possible on them in front, while I attack them in flank, I think we can use them up.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
GEO. H. THOMAS,
Major-General Commanding.

This order, the Georgia papers say, saved General Rosecrans's army. The Southern journals came to a knowledge of this order from the fact that the adjutant of General Palmer's staff was taken prisoner, and this order was found in his pocket. There is no man in the nation who thinks that Rosecrans could have been superseded by a better man than General Thomas. There is an earnest heartiness in this note, in speaking of the enemy as "rebels." "I think we can use them up" are words the patriot likes to hear. As an illustration of General Thomas's sagacity, a general officer now in this city says that if Thomas could have had ten thousand fresh men on Sunday afternoon, he would have utterly routed the rebel army. This officer says that General Thomas clearly saw the prize of victory within his grasp; but, after the brigades of

the reserve corps had been hurled against the rebels, Thomas had not another thousand fresh soldiers whom he could use. He saved the army, but he would not have been content with that. He wanted and would have had such a victory as would have carried dismay throughout the South. This field-officer says that there were other generals besides Thomas who saw what a prize was lost for the want of ten thousand men.—*Milwaukee Wisconsin.*

MAFFIT, THE PIRATE CAPTAIN.—The Boston *Transcript* says: "When a boy at school, in Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, this bad specimen of humanity always fell below his class. One of his schoolfellows remembers these couplets, which a little urchin of twelve made about him on a certain "exhibition day" many years ago:

And here's Johnny Maffit, as straight as a gun—
If you face him square up, he'll turn round and run!
The first boy in school, sir, if thieving and lies,
Instead of good scholarship, bore off the prize.

SOUTHERN GREEK FIRE.—The Mobile *Register and Advertiser* asserts that Colonel John Travis (of pistol-shot notoriety) has discovered, if not the ancient, at least its counterpart and equal, the modern "Greek fire." Its components are kept secret, but Colonel Travis tenders the use of his invention to the Confederate States. The *Register* gives the following account of a test of this fire:

"On Thursday evening last, near the bay road, in the suburbs of this city, in the presence of several scientific professors, ordnance and artillery officers, Colonel Miller, commanding this volunteer and conscript bureau, other officers of the army and navy, a score of ladies, and at least one representative of the press, Captain Travis made two distinct experiments of his fire or composition, using on each occasion less than half a pint of the preparation, a fluid. Both were eminently successful, eliciting universal commendation. Instantaneously on being exposed to the air the fluid becomes a blaze of fire, with heat intense, resembling that of a liquid metal in the smelting process. A pile of green wood, into which it was thrown, ignited immediately, like tinder.

"Without delay, within ten seconds, a number of bucketfuls of water were thrown upon the flames, a dense volume of smoke ascended, the hissing and singing sound of a quenched fire was heard; but lo! the burning fluid licked up the water, destroying its oxygen, a fluid seemingly added to the flame, and the wood cracked and hummed, and the flames arose again defiantly unquenchable. On the occasion of these experiments, 'Travis's Greek Fire' burned for something over a quarter of an hour in full vigor and force. Its heat is intense, and flies at once into the body of the substance it touches."—*Atlanta Appeal*, October 22.

A SCORCHING REBUKE.—The Nashville *Union* of the sixth of November, gives the following:

A highly instructive as well as amusing incident took place in one of the business houses on one of our principal streets, last Saturday, while the colored regiment was marching along to the music of the National airs. Several gentlemen were looking on the parade, among them a wealthy planter of Alabama who is a large slaveholder. One of the group stepped out to the door, looking on for a few minute

and then indignantly turning on his heel, addressed himself to the grave Alabamian, to the following purport:

"Well, I'll be — if that is not a burning disgrace, which no decent white man can tolerate. Isn't that nigger regiment too great an insult?"

The Alabamian jumped to his feet, and replied, while his eyes flashed fire:

"Sir, there is not a negro in that regiment who is not a better man than a rebel to this Government, and for whom I have not a thousand times more respect than I have for a traitor to his country. I think that the best possible use the Government can make of negroes is to take them and make them fight against the rebels. No traitor is too good to be killed by a negro, no weapon too severe to be used against the wretches who are endeavoring to overthrow the Government. Now, sir, swallow that, whether you like it or not."

The rebel darted off in utter amazement, without uttering a syllable of reply, leaving the sturdy Alabamian, who cherished the jewel of patriotism as something more precious than flocks of slaves, "alone in his glory."

LONGSTREET'S VISIT TO KNOXVILLE.*

— *Air—Yankee Manufacturer.*

BY J. W. MILLER, TWENTY-THIRD INDIANA BATTERY.

Come, gather round, my Yankee boys,
And listen to my ditty:

I'll tell you all about old Longstreet's
Visit to this city.

And how the Rebs around him flocked

While he made a long oration,

Saying: "Boys, we'll drive the Yankees out,
And run them like tarnation."

Chorus.—So pass the grog, and drink unto
The Union's preservation;

Old Longstreet and his rebel crew
Are running like tarnation.

Says he: "My boys, on our success

Our fate depends, by thunder!

And if we meet with a defeat,

Our government's gone under.

So charge upon their raw recruits

Without procrastination:

We'll make them fly to wooden hams,
To save them from starvation!"

But little did old Longstreet know

The boys he had to meet him;

They fought on old Virginia's soil,

At Bull Run and Antietam.

The Western boys from Illinois

And Buckeyes wont knock under;

And Yankee steel, it made them squeal,

And Old Kentuck, by thunder!

The rebels made a bold advance,

To bag us they intended;

And up the hill on double-quick

The chivalry ascended.

* Previous to the charge on Fort Sanders, Tennessee, Longstreet harangued his men, told them that the regiments before them were nine months' men, and promised them an easy victory. But the reception the attacking party met with, soon convinced them that they had veterans to deal with, and their consternation was increased when they learned that this warm reception came from old antagonists—the tried battalions of the Ninth army corps.

Our battery's fire, and Burnside's wire,
It caused them for to stumble,
And head o'er heels, into the ditch,
Like "bull-frogs" they did tumble,

Our boys did quickly on them pile,
Amid their great confusion,
Resolved that they should pay the cost
For such a bold intrusion;
And if, my friends, I have received
The proper information,
The rebs will never charge again
That charged on that occasion.

But finding in our "raw recruits"
They sadly were mistaken,
The rebs they soon picked up their traps,
And left, to save their bacon!
Now Knoxville's free from chivalry,
And Wolford's in his saddle:
He swears outright he'll make them fight,
Or quickly to skedaddle!
Chorus.—So pass the grog, and drink unto
The Union's preservation;
Old Longstreet and his rebel crew
Are running like tarnation!

THE BATTLE ABOVE THE CLOUDS.

"The day had been one of dense mists and rains, and much of General Hooker's battle was fought above the clouds, which concealed him from our view, but from which his musketry was heard."—*General Meigs to Secretary Stanton.*

By the banks of Chattanooga watching with a soldier's heed,

In the chilly autumn morning, gallant Grant was on his steed:

For the foe had climbed above him with the banners of their band,

And the cannon swept the river from the hills of Cumberland.

Like a trumpet rang his orders: "Howard, Thomas, to the bridge!

One brigade aboard the Dunbar! Storm the heights of Mission Ridge,

On the left the ledges, Sherman, charge and hurl the rebels down!

Hooker, take the steeps of Lookout and the slopes before the town!"

Fearless, from the northern summits, looked the traitors, where they lay,

On the gleaming Union army, marshalled as for muster-day,

Till the sudden shout of battle thundered upward its alarms,

And they dropped their idle glasses in a hurried rush to arms.

Then together up the highlands, surely, swiftly, swept the lines,

And the clang of war above them swelled with loud and louder signs,

Till the loyal peaks of Lookout in the tempest seemed to throb,

And the star-flag of our country waved in smoke on Orchard Knob.

Day, and night, and day returning, ceaseless shock and ceaseless change,

Still the furious mountain conflict burst and burned along the range,

While with battle's cloud of sulphur mingled densely
mist and rain,
Till the ascending squadrons vanished from the gazers
on the plain.

From the boats upon the river, from the tents upon
the shore,
From the roofs of yonder city anxious eyes the clouds
explore:
But no rift amid the darkness shows them father,
brother, sons,
While they trace the viewless struggle by the echo of
the guns.

Upward! charge for God and country! up! Aha!
they rush, they rise,
Till the faithful meet the faithless in the never-cloud-
ed skies,
And the battle-field is bloody where a dew-drop
never falls,
For a voice of tearless justice to a tearless vengeance
calls.

And the heaven is wild with shouting; fiery shot and
bayonet keen
Gleam and glance where freedom's angels battle in the
blue serene.
Charge and volley fiercely follow, and the tumult in
the air
Tells of right in mortal grapple with rebellion's strong
despair.

They have conquered! God's own legions! Well
their foes might be dismayed,
Standing in his mountain temple 'gainst the terrors of
his aid;
And the clouds might fitly echo pean loud and parting
gun
When from upper light and glory sank the traitor
host, undone.

They have conquered! Through the region where
our brothers plucked the palm,
Rings the noise in which they won it with the sweet-
ness of a psalm;
And our wounded, sick, and dying, hear it in their
crowded wards,
Till they know our cause is Heaven's and our battle is
the Lord's.

And our famished captive heroes locked in Rich-
mond's prison-hells
List those guns of cloudland booming glad as free-
dom's morning bells,
Lift their haggard eyes, and panting, with their cheeks
against the bars,
Feel God's breath of hope, and see it playing with the
Stripes and Stars,

Tories, safe in serpent-treason, startle as those airy
cheers,
And that wild, ethereal war-drum, fall like doom upon
their ears;
And that rush of cloud-borne armies, rolling back the
nation's shame,
Frights them with its sound of judgment and its flash
of angry flame.

Widows weeping by their firesides, loyal hearts de-
spondent grown,
Smile to hear their country's triumph from the gate
of heaven blown,

And the patriot poor shall wonder, in their simple
hearts to know
In the land above the thunder their embattled cham-
pions go.

T. B.

ATTACK ON THE IRONSIDES: CHARLESTON COURIER ACCOUNT.—One of the most daring and gallant naval exploits of the war, distinguished by the greatest coolness, presence of mind, and intrepidity of the brave men associated in the enterprise, was performed Monday night. This was no less than an attempt to blow up the United States steamer New Ironsides, lying off Morris Island. Though not fully meeting the expectations of those who conceived the plan, and those who carried it into execution, it has called forth the unbounded admiration of our citizens for the brilliant heroism of the actors in their dangerous but patriotic and self-sacrificing undertaking. A general feeling of deep anxiety prevails to learn the fate of two of the gallant spirits who went out with the expedition. There is every reason to believe, however, that these gallant men, with the means of safety about their persons, endeavored to reach shore, and have been picked up by some of the enemy's launches. We gather the following particulars from other participants in the affair:

The torpedo steamer David, with a crew of four volunteers, consisting of Lieutenant Wm. T. Glassell, J. H. Toombs, chief engineer, and James Sullivan, fireman of the gunboat Chocoma, with J. W. Cannon, assistant pilot of the gunboat Palmetto State, left South Atlantic wharf between six and seven o'clock on Monday evening, for the purpose of running out to the Ironsides, exploding a torpedo under that vessel near amidships, and if possible blow her up.

The weather being dark and hazy, favored the enterprise. The boat, with its gallant little crew, proceeded down the harbor, skirting along the shoals on the inside of the channel until nearly abreast of their formidable antagonist, the New Ironsides.

They remained in this position for a short time, droling around on the large shoal near the anchorage of the object of their visit. Lieutenant Glassell, with a double-barrelled gun, sat in front of Pilot Cannon, who had charge of the helm. Chief Engineer Toombs was at the engine, with the brave and undaunted Sullivan, the volunteer fireman, when something like the following conversation ensued:

Lieutenant Glassell—"It is now nine o'clock. Shall we strike her?"

Pilot Cannon—"That is what we came for. I am ready."

Engineer Toombs—"Let us go at her then, and do our best."

Sullivan, fireman—"I am with you all, and waiting. Go ahead."

The boat was now put bow on, and aimed directly for the Ironsides. As the little steamer darted forward, the lookout on the Ironsides hailed them with: "Take care there, you will run into us. What steamer is that?" Lieutenant Glassell replied by discharging one barrel at the Yankee sentinel, and tendering the gun to Pilot Cannon, told him there was another Yankee, pointing to one with his body half over the bulwarks, and asked Cannon to take care of him with the other barrel.

The next moment they had struck the Ironsides and exploded the torpedo about fifteen feet from the keel, on the starboard side. An immense volume of water

was thrown up, covering our little boat, and going through the smoke-stack, entered the furnace, completely extinguishing the fire.

In addition to this, pieces of the ballast had fallen in the works of the engine, rendering it unmanageable at that time. Volley after volley of musketry from the crew of the Ironsides and from the launches began to pour in upon them. Lieutenant Glassell gave the order to back, but it was found impossible. In this condition, with no shelter, and no hope of escape, they thought it best to surrender, and hailed the enemy to that effect. The Yankees, however, paid no attention to the call, but barbarously continued the fire. It was then proposed to put on their life-preservers, jump overboard, and endeavor to swim to the shore. All but Pilot Cannon consented. The latter, being unable to swim, said he would stay and take his chances in the boat. Lieutenant Glassell, Engineer Toombs, and Sullivan the fireman, left the boat. The first two having on life-preservers, and the latter supporting himself on one of the hatches thrown to him by the pilot. Engineer Toombs becoming embarrassed with his clothing in the water, got back to the boat, and was assisted in by Cannon.

The boat was then rapidly drifting from the Ironsides. He now fortunately found a match, and lighting a torch, crept back to the engine, discovered and removed the cause of its not working, and soon got it in order. Engineers Toombs and Cannon reached their wharf in the city about midnight, fatigued, and presenting a worn-out appearance, but rejoicing at their fortunate and narrow escape.

With regard to the damage of the Ironsides nothing positive is known. At the moment of striking there was great consternation on board. It was reported that the crew in gangs were hard at work at the pumps all day yesterday. Small boats were seen constantly passing between the Ironsides and the Monitors. At nightfall, however, she remained at her old anchorage.

INCIDENTS AT NATCHEZ.—Sitting at General Ransom's headquarters the other day, I saw a gray-haired man, bent with age, coming feebly up to the porch. He asked if he might come in.

"Certainly, sir, if you have any business here."

He came tottering in, and stated his business to an aid. He wished to enlist in the United States army!

"But you are too old."

"I am only sixty."

"But you are too feeble."

"I think I could drive a team or cook. I have come thirty-three miles on a straight line to see you, and I wish to live and die with you. These Secession devils out yonder have just worried my life out of me—bothered me, cursed me, stole me poor, tried to force me into the rebel service; swear they will force me in yet. That's a pretty flag over the porch. I haven't seen that flag in many a weary day. I saw it in Jackson's time in the war of 1812."

The old man was assured of protection without enlistment, and went on his way.

Our troops here are under very strict orders in regard to marauding, and I have as yet heard of no great injury being done to private property. Now and then a peach-tree suffers, or a watermelon "perishes everlastingly," but on the whole the discipline of the soldiers in this respect is good. Those who complain that an army is not perfectly virtuous, must remember that ten thousand men represent the male

adult population of a city of fifty thousand souls, and in what city of that size do you find complete freedom from crime? And so far as quiet stealing goes, the soldier gets alarmingly skilful. "Strategy, my boy," becomes an element of his larcenies. It is a fact, I believe, that a party of the Fifth Kansas once stole a grave. How? you ask. In this way: Some members of the Second Wisconsin had to bury a comrade, and dug a grave for the solemn purpose. Some members of the Fifth Kansas, having the same melancholy office to perform for one of their deceased companions, watched a chance, and while the detail of the Second Wisconsin had gone for the Wisconsin corpse, took possession of the grave, and buried their own inanimate jayhawker therein. I call that the gravest offence, in its way, on record.

Mr. Brown, who had a lumber-yard in Natchez, and a beautiful residence under the hill, was a good deal astonished the other day by the rigors of war. The Federal Quartermaster sent down a detail with wagons to draw away some of this lumber. Mr. Brown fancied they came as purchasers.

"Some of this, Captain, is worth thirty dollars a thousand, some fifty dollars."

"Well," said the officer, "I guess I'll take some of the fifty-dollar sort. Load on, boys."

"But," said Brown, "it should be measured first."

And at this instant it dawned upon the mind of the man of boards that perhaps Uncle Sam, the offended one, was seizing the lumber!

ANOTHER SNAKE STORY.—Between the point of Lookout Mountain and Bridgeport, down the Valley of the Tennessee, lie twenty-five miles of dead mules, in one continuous string, the head of the first carcass lying on the "quarter-deck" of the one beyond him, and so on throughout the entire distance. Just imagine a convulsion of nature of sufficient magnitude to bury these remains as they now lie, and phancy the phœnix of a future Agassiz, who, in his geological researches, strikes either of the termini, and attempts to exhume the entire "snake." Won't it knock the socks off the saurians of the diluvian period? Twenty-five miles of vertebrae, with two pedal arrangements every three feet! What a bully side-show for a future circus! It will probably be called "the old he-Copperhead of the Rebellion period"—admission ten cents—Peace Democrats half-price.—*Chattanooga Gazette.*

THE FEMALE LIEUTENANT.—The public will remember the numerous paragraphs published concerning one "Lieutenant Harry Buford," née Mrs. Williams, with a history romantic in war as that of Joan of Arc. Last summer the Lieutenant got into Castle Thunder, her sex not corresponding with the dashing uniform she wore. She was released, and went from Richmond to Chattanooga, where she joined General Bragg's army, got upon the staff of General A. P. Stewart, and for a time was employed in the secret service, effecting important arrests of spies, and doing some very daring things.

The other day she visited Richmond again, not as the gay Lieutenant, but in the garments more becoming her sex, and bearing the name of Mrs. Jeruth De Culp, she having, in the interval, married an officer of the confederate States provisional army of that name, first obtaining a divorce from her first husband, Williams, who is in the army of General Grant.

In consideration of her services, the confederate government has commissioned Mrs. De Caulp with the rank of captain, and since her arrival in Richmond, she has drawn one thousand six hundred dollars back pay. She is now at the Ballard House, *en route* for Georgia, and the home of her new husband.

The heroine of this sketch is a native of Mississippi, and a devoted Southern woman.—*Richmond Examiner*, September 15, 1863.

ARE NEW-ZEALANDERS BELLIGERENTS?—The London *Daily News* published the following communication:

"SIR: We are at war with the New-Zealanders—we for empire, they for independence! What if President Lincoln recognize their belligerent rights? and what if New-York capitalists take a New-Zealand loan—and if an American Laird furnish a New-Zealand Alabama, to be commissioned by a Maori lieutenant, and manned by British seamen from the naval reserve, and so on? Why not? and what then?"

"I am, sir, etc.,

NEMESIS."

A REBEL PREACHER.—Mr. William Keen, a highly respectable citizen of Cumberland County, Ky., is an honored member of the Methodist Church. The Rev. T. J. Moore, of Franklin, Simpson County, a well-known Methodist preacher, was a chaplain in Morgan's band. It is difficult to understand what Morgan's band wanted of a chaplain, but very easy to understand that, if they did want one, Moore was exactly their man.

Thus Keen and Moore belong to the same church. Morgan's band, upon the occasion of their late advent into Kentucky, took possession of Keen's house, south of Cumberland River. Before retiring at night, Keen, courteously and in a Christian-like manner, asked Moore to pray. Moore consented, and offered up a fervent prayer, Keen occasionally responding "Amen." Near the close of the prayer, the rebel parson prayed for the success of the rebel cause, and, in a loud voice, asked God that, if necessary to the success of the rebellion, he would "strike dead every man, woman, and child in the United States." Keen, unable to stand so much, exclaimed in a voice to which God and all his angels might listen, "No, Lord, don't do that—the prayer is unchristian;" and he repeated the exclamation several times. It created an excitement among the rebel officers present; but, to their honor be it said, they rebuked, not Keen, but their own chaplain.

This, as we have said, was on the south bank of Cumberland River. At a house on the north side, Moore said to a gentleman in the presence of his family, that he wished the last Union man was in hell, and added that he himself had a right to take a portion of the property of every Union man in the land. That pseudo-reverend scoundrel is now at Camp Chase. He has full possession of a nook or corner of that Federal establishment, and we guess it is the last Federal property that he is likely ever to "hold, occupy, and possess." Probably the best men in the world are preachers—and the worst.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

BY W. H. VENABLE.

No adulation shall the poet bring,
Nor o'erwrought picture of thy excellence;
But, taught by Truthfulness, shall simply sing
The passing worth of cheerful common-sense;

Shall call thy honesty a priceless gem,
Thy patience beautiful, thy faith sublime;
Thy gentle nature let the harsh condemn,
Just heaven's reward is in the hand of time.
Work on, amidst the nation's wild turmoil,
The day of triumph brightens up the sky;
The tree of peace springs up from roots of toil,
Its leaves shall sweetly crown thee by and by.
Smile on, amidst thy care, O Freedom's friend!
The People's heart is with thee to the end.

IN THE HOSPITAL.

In the ranks of the sick and dying, in the chamber
where death-dews fall,
Where the sleeper wakes from his trances to leap
to the bugle-call,
Is there hope for the wounded soldier? Ah! no,
for his heart-blood flows,
And the flickering flame of life must wane, to fail
at the evening's close.

O thou who goest, like a sunbeam, to lighten the
darkness and gloom!
Make way for his path of glory, through the dim
and shadowy room;
Go speak to him words of comfort and teach him
the way to die,
With his eyes upraised from the starry flag to the
blessed cross on high.

And tell him brave hearts are beating, with pulses
as noble as thine;
That we count them at home by the thousands—
thou sweetest sister of mine—
That they fall not and flinch not from duty, while
the vials of wrath are outpoured,
And tell him to call it not grievous, but joyous to
fall by the sword.

When the hosts of the foe are outnumbered, and
the day of the Lord is at hand,
Shall we halt in the heat of the battle, and fail at
the word of command?
Oh! no; through the trouble and anguish, by the
terrible pathway of blood,
We must bear up the flag of our freedom, on—on
through the perilous flood!

And if one should be brought faint and bleeding,
though wounded, yet not unto death,
Oh! plead with the soft airs of heaven, to favor his
languishing breath,
Be faithful to heal and to save him, assuaging the
fever and pains,
Till the pulse in his strong arm be strengthened,
and the blood courses free in his veins.

Then take the good sword from its scabbard, and
front his pale face to the foe,
And bid him march onward, unconquered, though,
stricken again, he lie low;
He shall see in the dream of his slumber, he shall
know in his soul's swift release,
That the heralds afar on the mountains come bearing
the lilies of peace.

When the blood of the Old Dominion shall lie trod
in its pride to the dust,
When her swords and her traitorous banners are
consumed by the moth and the rust,

When the gold and the purple lie tarnished, and
the light is gone out in her halls,
And she sees the last slave, freed from fetters,
walk out by her pitiful walls;

Though late comes the signal of promise, when
the horse and the rider shall reel,
And slow with the hope of the ages, comes the
roll of God's chariot-wheel;
Yet sure as God's heaven above us, on the glitter-
ing scroll shall be read,
"The days of thy kingdom are numbered," and
our last armed foe shall be dead.

VERSES.

Supposed to be written by General John Morgan, on surveying
his solitary abode in his cell, in the Ohio Penitentiary at Colum-
bus.

I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute;
Naked walls, a stone floor, a tin tray,
Iron spoon, checkered pants and clean suit.

I am out of Jeff Davis's reach,
I must finish my journey in stone,
Never hear a big secession speech—
I start at the sound of my own.

O solitude! strange are the fancies
Of those who see charms in thy face;
Better dwell in the midst of the Yankees,
Than reign in this horrible place.

Ye steeds that have made me your sport,
Convey to this desolate cell
Some cordial, endearing report
Of the thefts I have practised so well.

Horse-stealing, bridge-burning, and fight,
Divinely bestowed upon man;
Oh! had I the wings of a kite,
How soon would I taste you again!

My sorrows I then might assuage
In the work of destruction and raiding;
Might laugh at the wisdom of age,
Nor feel the least pang of upbraiding.

Rebellion! what music untold
Resides in that heavenly word!
It helps me to silver and gold,
And all that the earth can afford.

But the sweet sound of burning and plunder
These prison-walls never yet heard,
Never echoed the chivalry's thunder,
Nor mocked at the Union's grand bird.

How fleet is a glance of the mind
Compared with the speed of my flight;
But Shackelford came up behind,
So I found 'twas no use to fight.

The Buckeyes that gave me a race,
My form with indifference see;
They are so light of foot on the chase,
Their coolness is shocking to me.

When I think of my dear native land,
I confess that I wish I was there;
Confound these hard stone walls at hand,
And my bald pate, all shaven of hair.

My friends, do they now and then send
A wish or a thought after me?
Like Burbuck, that quick-coming friend?
For a friend in need truly was he.

But the sea-fowl is gone to her rest,
The beast is laid down in his lair;
Yet not like John Morgan unable,
As I to my straw bed repair.

GRANT.

BY GEORGE H. BOKER.

As Moses stood upon the flaming hill,
With all the people gathered at his feet,
Waiting in Sinai's valley, there to meet
The awful bearer of Jehovah's will;
So, Grant, thou stand'st, amidst the trumpets shrill,
And the wild fiery storms that flash and beat
In iron thunder and in leaden sleet,
Topmost of all, and most exposed to ill.
Oh! stand thou firm, great leader of our race,
Hope of our future, till the time grows bland,
And into ashes drops war's dying brand!
Then let us see thee, with benignant grace,
Descend thy height, God's glory on thy face,
And the law's tables safe within thy hand.

CHARGE OF THE MULE BRIGADE.

On the night of October twenty-eighth, 1863, when
General Geary's division of the Twelfth Corps re-
pulsed the attacking forces of Longstreet at Wauhatchie,
Tenn., a number of mules, affrighted by the
noise of battle, dashed into the ranks of Hampton's
Legion, causing much dismay among the rebels, and
compelling many of them to fall back under a sup-
posed charge of cavalry.

Captain Thomas H. Elliott, of General Geary's staff,
gives the following rendition of the incident, which
he gleaned from an interior contemporary. Its author-
ship is not known:

I.

Half a mile, half a mile,
Half a mile onward,
Right toward the Georgia troops,
Broke the two hundred.
"Forward the Mule Brigade,"
"Charge for the Rebs!" they neighed;
Straight for the Georgia troops
Broke the two hundred.

II.

"Forward, the Mule Brigade!"
Was there a mule dismayed?
Not when the long ears felt
All their ropes sundered;
Theirs not to make reply;
Theirs not to reason why;
Theirs but to make them fly.
On! to the Georgia troops,
Broke the two hundred.

III.

Mules to the right of them,
Mules to the left of them,
Mules behind them,
Pawed, neighed, and thundered.

Breaking their own confines,
Breaking through Longstreet's lines,
Into the Georgia troops
Stormed the two hundred.

IV.

Wild all their eyes did glare,
Whisked all their tails in air,
Scatt'ring the chivalry there,
While all the world wondered.
Not a mule back bestraddled,
Yet how they all skeddaddled;
Fled every Georgian,
Unsabred, unsaddled,
Scattered and sundered,
How they were routed there
By the two hundred.

V.

Mules to the right of them,
Mules to the left of them,
Mules behind them
Pawed, neighed, and thundered;
Followed by hoof and head,
Full many a hero fled,
Fain in the last ditch dead,
Back from an "ass's jaw,"
All that was left of them,
Left by the two hundred.

VI.

When can their glory fade?
Oh! the wild charge they made!
All the world wondered.
Honor the charge they made,
Honor the Mule Brigade,
Long-eared two hundred.

CO. K.

There's a cap in the closet,
Old, tattered, and blue,
Of very slight value,
It may be to you;
But a crown, jewel-studded,
Could not buy it to-day,
With its letters of honor,
Brave "Co. K."

The head that it sheltered
Needs shelter no more!
Dead heroes make holy
The trifles they wore;
So, like chaplet of honor,
Of laurel and bay,
Seems the cap of the soldier,
Marked "Co. K."

Bright eyes have looked calmly
Its visor beneath,
O'er the work of the reaper,
Grim harvester Death!
Let the muster-roll, meagre,
So mournfully say,
How foremost in danger
Went "Co. K."

Whose footsteps unbroken
Came up to the town,
Where rampart and bastion
Looked threat'ningly down?

Who, closing up breaches,
Still kept on their way,
Till guns, downward pointed,
Faced "Co. K."

Like cameras awful,
Stood cannon aloof,
Till the signal was given,
To strike off a proof
Of the soul of the soldier,
To send up to Him,
(Pray God, that he know it,
Though bloody and dim.)

Who faltered, or shivered?
Who shunned battle-stroke?
Whose fire was uncertain?
Whose battle-line broke?
Go, ask it of History,
Years from to-day,
And the record shall tell you,
Not "Co. K."

Though my darling is sleeping
To-day with the dead,
And daisies and clover
Bloom o'er this head,
I smile through my tears
As I lay it away—
That battle-worn cap,
Lettered "Co. K."

THE SHARPSHOOTER'S LAMENT ON THE
BANKS OF THE POTOMAC.

"The sun-light is yellow and pleasant,
What darkens your spirit, Jem True?"
'Ay, Sergeant, it's bright for the present,
And I know it looks mean to be blue,
Squattin' here, like a draggle-tailed pheasant—
But what's a poor fellow to do?

"Nary shot since I left the 'peraries,'
And 'listed in sarch o' big game—
It's a rule that must work by contraries,
That inveigled me on till I came
To this ground, without even canaries
Or chippies to warrant an aim.

"Misfortin' comes crowdin' misfortin',
And between 'em old Jem is nigh beat,
For here comes the news of the sportin'
As has come to them chaps on the fleet—
And bless yer, they're greenies for courtin'
The shrews of grim death as they'll meet.

"Why, there isn't one cove in a dozen,
For all they're stout as you'll see,
As distinguishes well 'twixt the buzzin'
Of a bullet and that of a bee,
And among 'em there's Billy, my cousin,
He shakes 'on a rest' like a flea.

"And Toby, though brave as a lion,
His intentions his in'ards confound,
When to jerkin' the trigger he's nigh on,
The vertigo bobs him around,
And that bully old sinner, O'Ryan,
He's cross-eyed and shoots at the ground.

"While here's the old boy as can jingle
Any button as shines on a breast,

[illegible]

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 221. 2380-2381

100

tone defiant, it feared not God or
every aide for power to work its
and dry for whittling.

ing was humble, asking, with pious cry,
left alone, in its own time to die ;
first yielding, bolder and bolder grown,
re the nations now, it reared its bloody

time draws nigh for whittling !

before destruction," the wise man said of

gods seek to ruin they first make mad ;"

of its madness, this Wrong forgot its

with noise of gongs to fright our Yankee
ing race.

od gave this chance for whittling.

my trusty Saxons, who come from near and

or who your fathers were, and set your teeth
war ;

of the Lord and Gideon !" be still your battle-

like as Samson struck of old, smite Slavery hip
and thigh.

Now is your time for whittling.

when this life shall rest again from all this noise
and strife,

Peace her olive-branch shall wave o'er this broad
realm of life,

as the sun, our nation before the world shall
stand,
edom on all her banners, freedom throughout the
land.

Oh ! these grand rewards of whittling !

A SONG.

BY FITZ-GREENE HALLECK.

Hark ! a bugle's echo comes,
Hark ! a life is singing,
Hark ! the roll of far-off drums,
Through the air is ringing !

Nearer the bugle's echo comes,
Nearer the life is singing,
Near and more near the roll of drums
Through the air is ringing.

War ! it is thy music proud,
Wakening the brave-hearted,
Memories—hopes—a glorious crowd,
At its call have started.

Memories of our sires of old,
Who, oppression-driven,
High their rainbow-flag unrolled
To the sun and sky of heaven.

Memories of the true and brave,
Who, at honor's bidding,
Stepped, their Country's life to save,
To war as to their wedding.

Memories of many a battle-plain,
Where their life-blood flowing,
Made green the grass and gold the grain,
Above their grave-mounds growing.

Hopes—that the children of their prayers,
With them in valor vying,
May do as noble deeds as theirs,
In living and in dying :

And make, for children yet to come,
The land of their bequeathing
The imperial and the peerless home
Of happiest beings breathing.

For this the warrior-path we tread,
The battle-path of duty,
And change, for field and forest-bed,
Our bowers of love and beauty.

Music ! bid thy minstrels play
No tunes of grief or sorrow ;
Let them cheer the living brave to-day,
They may wait the dead to-morrow.

WHEN THE BOYS COME HOME.

BY JOHN HAY.

There's a happy time coming
When the boys come home,
There's a glorious day coming
When the boys come home.
We will end the dreadful story
Of this treason dark and gory
In a sun-burst of glory
When the boys come home.

The day will seem brighter
When the boys come home ;
For our hearts will be lighter
When the boys come home.
Wives and sweethearts will press them
In their arms, and caress them,
And pray God to bless them,
When the boys come home.

The thinned ranks will be proudest
When the boys come home,
And their cheer will ring the loudest
When the boys come home.
The full ranks will be shattered,
And the bright arms will be battered,
And the battle-standards tattered,
When the boys come home.

Their bayonets may be rusty
When the boys come home,
And their uniforms dusty
When the boys come home ;
But all shall see the traces
Of battle's royal graces
In the brown and bearded faces
When the boys come home.

Our love shall go to meet them
When the boys come home,
To bless them and to greet them
When the boys come home.
And the fame of their endeavor
Time and change shall not dis-
From the nation's heart for ever
When the boys come home.

HONORABLE MENTION OF A COLORED SOLDIER.—The following letters were received by the Military Secretary of Governor Andrew, Albert G. Browne, Esq., at Port Royal:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTY-FOURTH MASS. VOL.,
MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., October 18, 1863. }

COLONEL: I have the honor to forward you the following letters, received a few days since from Sergeant W. H. Carney, company C, of this regiment. Mention has before been made of his heroic conduct in preserving the American flag, and bearing it from the field, in the assault on Fort Wagner, on the eighteenth of July last, but that you may have the history complete, I send a simple statement of the facts, as I have obtained them from him, and an officer who was an eye-witness:

When the Sergeant arrived to within about one hundred yards of the Fort—he was with the first battalion, which was in the advance of the storming column—he received the regimental colors, pressed forward to the front rank, near the Colonel, who was leading the men over the ditch. He says, as they ascended the wall of the Fort, the ranks were full, but as soon as they reached the top, they “melted away” before the enemy’s fire “almost instantly.” He received a severe wound in the thigh, but fell only upon his knees. He planted the flag upon the parapet, lay down on the outer slope, that he might get as much shelter as possible; there he remained for over half an hour, till the Second brigade came up. He kept the colors flying until the second conflict was ended. When our forces retired, he followed, creeping on one knee, still holding up the flag. It was thus that Sergeant Carney came from the field, having held the emblem of liberty over the walls of Fort Wagner during the sanguinary conflict of the two brigades, and having received two very severe wounds, one in the thigh, and one in the head. Still he refused to give up his sacred trust until he found an officer of his regiment.

When he entered the field hospital, where his wounded comrades were being brought in, they cheered him and the colors. Though nearly exhausted with the loss of blood, he said: “*Boys, the old flag never touched the ground.*”

Of him, as a man and a soldier, I can speak in the highest terms of praise.

I have the honor to be, Colonel, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. S. LITTLEFIELD,
Colonel Commanding Fifty-fourth Regt. Mass. Vol.
Colonel A. G. BROWNE, Jr.,
Military Secretary to His Excellency John A. Andrew, Mass.

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., October 18, 1863.

Col. M. S. Littlefield, Commanding Fifty-fourth Mass. :

DEAR SIR: Complying with your request, I send you the following history, pertaining to my birth, parentage, social and religious experience and standing; in short, a concise but brief epitome of my life, I undertake to perform in my poor way. I was born in Norfolk, Va., in 1840; my father’s name was William Carney; my mother’s name before her marriage was Ann Dean, and she was the property of one Major Carney; but at his death, she, with all his people, was by his will made free. In my fourteenth year, when I had no work to do, I attended a private and secret school, kept in Norfolk by a minister. In my fifteenth year I embraced the Gospel; at that time I was also engaged in the coasting trade with my father.

In 1856, I left the sea for a time, and my father set out to look for a place to live in peace and freedom. He first stopped in the land of William Penn, Benja-

min Franklin, and where the “bright Juniata” flows—Pennsylvania—but he rested not there; the black man was not secure on the soil where the Declaration of Independence was written. He went far. Then he visited the Empire State—great New-York—whose chief ambition seemed to be for commerce and gold, and with her unceasing struggle for supremacy, she heard not the slave; she only had time to spurn the man with the sable skin, and made him feel that he was an alien in his native land.

At last he set his weary feet upon the sterile rocks of “Old Massachusetts.” The very air he breathed put enthusiasm into his spirit. Oh! yes, he found a refuge from oppression in the Old Bay State. He selected as his dwelling-place the city of New-Bedford, where “Liberty Hall” is a sacred edifice. Like the Temple of Diana, which covered the virgins from harm in olden time, so old Liberty Hall in New-Bedford protects the oppressed slave of the nineteenth century. After stopping a short time, he sent for his family, and there they still dwell. I remained in the city with the family, pursuing the avocation of a jobber of work for stores, and at such places as I could find employment. I soon formed connection with a church under charge of the Rev. Mr. Jackson, now Chaplain of the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts volunteers.

Previous to the formation of colored troops I had a strong inclination to prepare myself for the ministry; but when the country called for *all persons*, I could best serve my God by serving my country and my oppressed brothers. The sequel is short—I enlisted for the war. I am your humble and obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. CARNEY,
Sergeant Co. C, Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers.

THE CANINE SPECIES SOUTH.—The Columbus *Sun* estimates that in the confederate States of America there are not, perhaps, less than one million of dogs, little and big. We regard this as a very moderate estimate. It is quite evident that these dogs must eat; it is evident, also, that every ounce of bread they eat diminishes the supply of food just that much; and, consequently, as the supply is decreased, the price of what remains must increase. Suppose, for instance, that each dog will consume only one half an ounce of bread per day, that is certainly a moderate estimate, but we desire to be clearly within the bounds of reason; then the million of curs would consume three million five hundred thousand ounces per week, or fifteen million one hundred and sixty-six thousand six hundred and sixty-six and two thirds pounds per annum. At present prices, the bread thus consumed by these worthless dogs would amount to a sum not less than forty-six hundred thousand dollars.

This is the tribute we pay the dogs in the article of bread alone. How shall we estimate the amount of meat they will consume, the amount of eggs they “suck,” or the number of sheep they kill? Of how many pounds of wool, at three and a half dollars per pound, have these worthless canines deprived us? How many excellent pairs of cotton-cards have our noble women sought in vain to purchase, because the million of dog-skins have not been pulled from worthless carcasses, dressed, and turned over to the manufacturer? Does this seem a subject too small to challenge the attention of our legislators, or are our sage representatives willing to pay the tribute for luxury afforded them by a pack of mangy canines! So far as we are concerned, individually, we have well-nigh arrived at the decision to vote for no man to represent the interests of his country in legislative assemblies

who will not pledge himself hostile to this tremendous canine tribute.

An editor, in announcing that he is drafted, discourses as follows:

"Why should we mourn conscripted friends,
Or shake at draft's alarms?
'Tis but the voice that Abram sends,
To make us shoulder arms."

A BRAVE LOYAL BOY.—Rev. John Summers, a home missionary in Benton County, Iowa, has three sons, all of whom have been in the army of the country. One is still in the service, one has been honorably discharged, and the third, a boy less than eighteen years of age, was mortally wounded at the battle of Champion Hill. His funeral sermon was preached by Elder King. An immense audience was present. The following is a copy of the last letter of the dying boy. It exhibits most remarkable coolness, and was written at his own dictation:

BATTLE-GROUND ON RAILROAD,
EAST OF BLACK RIVER, MISS., May 17, 1868. }

DEAR PARENTS, BROTHERS, AND SISTERS: This is the last letter you will receive from me. I am mortally wounded in the thigh, and mortification has already commenced. I was wounded in two places, and at the same time. As I said, one ball entered my right thigh, glancing upward, shivering the bone of my hip, making it impossible to save my life by amputation. The other ball entered just above my ankle, in the same leg. I suppose you are anxious to know what my feelings are with the prospect of death before me. I am resigned, and feel that my Heavenly Father sustains me in this trying hour.

While lying on the battle-ground and the enemy were charging over me, I committed myself into the hands of God, and felt that I was accepted. Don't mourn for me, I am going to a better land. I feel that I can trust Christ as my Saviour. In the hour of death my love for you all seems to be stronger than when in health.

I received your last letter to-day, also one from Lucy and Andy. Hoping you will be sustained in this affliction, I remain your affectionate and dying son and brother,
WILLIE SUMMERS.

AN INCIDENT AT CHATTANOOGA.—At one point there was a lull in the battle. At least, it had gone scattering and thundering down the line, and the boys were as much "at ease" as boys can be on whom, at any moment, the storm may roll back again. To be sure, occasional shots, and now and then a cometary shell, kept them alive; but one of the boys ran down to a little spring, and to the woods where the enemy lay, for water. He had just stopped and swung down his canteen—"tick," and a Minié ball struck it at an angle and bounded away. He looked around an instant, discovered nobody, thought it was a chance shot—a piece of lead, you know, that goes at a killing rate without malice prepense; and so, nowise infirm of purpose, he bent to get the water. Ping! a second bullet cut the cord of his canteen, and the boy "got the idea;" a sharp-shooter was after him, and he went on the right-about on the double-quick to the ranks. A soldier from another part of the line made a pilgrimage to the spring, was struck, and fell by its brink. But where was the marksman? Two or three boys ran out to draw his fire while others watched.

Crack went the unseen piece again, and some keen-eyed fellow spied the smoke roll out from a little cedar. This was the spot, then; the reb had made him a hawk's nest—in choice Indian, a Chattanooga in the tree—and, drawing the green covert around him, was taking a quiet hand at "steeple-shooting" at long-range.

A big, blue-eyed German, tall enough to look into the third generation, and a sharp-shooter withal, volunteered to dislodge him. Dropping into a little runway that neared the tree diagonally, he turned upon his back and worked himself cautiously along; reaching a point perilously close, he whipped over, took aim as he lay, and God and his true right hand "gave him good deliverance." Away flew the bullet, a minute elapsed, the volume of the cedar parted; and, "like a big frog," as the boys described it, out leaped a grayback—the hawk's nest was empty, and a dead rebel lay under the tree. It was neatly done by the German. May he live to tell the story a thousand times to his moon-faced grandchildren!

LEONARD GRENEWALD.—The destruction of the pontoon-bridge and train at Falling Waters in July, 1863, was one of the most daring exploits of the war, and the credit of it belongs mainly to Leonard Grenewald, chief of the Gray Eagle Scouts, and formerly of the Jessie Scouts. During previous trips he had ascertained the strength of the ground and location of the bridge, and finally obtained from General French a detail of two hundred men from the First Virginia and Thirteenth and Fourteenth New-York cavalry, under Major Foley and Lieutenant Dawson, to undertake its destruction. They arrived at the Potomac in the morning, just at daylight, and found the character of the bridge to be part trestle-work with pontoons in the centre, which were carefully floated out every evening and taken to the Virginia shore, rendering the bridge useless for the night. Lieutenant Dawson and Grenewald then swam the river, and brought back several pontoons, with which they ferried over some forty of the detachment, being all that were willing to go. Arriving on the southern side, they surprised the rebel camp, fired a volley into the sleeping rebels, and created an utter stampede. They captured about twenty rebels, including one officer. Then, destroying the camp, some stores, and four wagons of ammunition, they took all the pontoons over the river, and either burned or cut them to pieces. The balance of the bridge was destroyed, and the party came off without the loss of a man. Grenewald desired to perform the same thing at Williamsport, but his party declined to back him up. He is one of the most daring and reliable of scouts, and does great service.

CARLYLE'S "ILIAD."

The following is the entire contribution of Mr. Carlyle to *Macmillan's Magazine*:

ILIAS (AMERICANA) IN NUCE.

Peter of the North (to Paul of the South)—"Paul, you unaccountable scoundrel, I find you hire your servants for life, not by the month or year, as I do! You are going straight to hell, you —!"

Paul—"Good words, Peter! The risk is my own; I am willing to take the risk. Hire you your servants by the month or day, and get straight to heaven; leave me to my own method."

Peter—"No, I won't. I will beat your brains out

first!" (And is trying dreadfully ever since, but cannot get manage it.) T. O.
May, 1868.

A NEW AMERICAN ILIAD.

Let us attempt an "*Ilias Americana in Nuce*," after the manner of Mr. Carlyle.

Peter of the South to Paul of the North—"You miserable Yankee, you, why don't you defend your soil? Why not take Vicksburg? You have no courage. I shall burn, and slay, and lay waste, and—"

Paul—"Suppose you try it."

[Gettysburg and Vicksburg *ad interim*.]

Peter—"You miserable Yankee, you have money, but you have no courage. You are rich, but you are a coward; I shall fight to the last, I shall—"

Paul—"We shall see."—*Philadelphia Press*.

AN EPISODE IN THE "ILIAS (AMERICANA) IN NUCE,"
DIALOGUE.

H. (an Englishman of great respectability, a member of the Carlton)—"My dear fellow, you know I wish perdition here and hereafter to all Yankees; but did you not begin this infernal row?"

S. (a Southern agent)—"Of course we did. Every thing was at stake. A scoundrel of the old country scattered books up and down the States against Gigmanity. He preached the doctrine of the old Scotch ploughman, 'A man's a man for a' that.' He canted about a judgment of God which came upon the French nobles of the last century for denying that doctrine. Certain fools at the North fancied he was in earnest. They believed what he told them, and said that they should act upon it. Idiot parsons went so far as to say that the words we use on Sunday about a Person who was put to death as a slave being the corner-stone of the universe were true. What could we do? It was a matter of life and death. We raised the shout for Gigmanity. We affirmed that Slavery itself, not the Person who suffered the death of the slave, was the corner-stone of the universe. These are our watch-words. In this cause, and not, as some foolish friends of ours represent, to vindicate our right to hire our servants for life, we have drawn the sword and flung away the scabbard."

H. (much affected)—"Brave and noble men! Champions of our interests as well as your own! You have not been exactly the friends of England, but we feel that we may embrace you as ours. Let us join solemnly in drinking the toast. 'The Cause of Gigmanity and Slavery, civil and religious, all the world over.'"

[*Hip, hip, hurrah, and exeunt.*]
F. D. M.*

MY DREAM.

TO THOMAS CARLYLE.

Peter of the North to Paul of the South—"Paul, you unaccountable scoundrel, I find you hire your servants for life, not by the month or year, as I do."—[Thomas Carlyle's "*American Iliad in a Nutshell*," *Macmillan's Magazine*, August.]

O Thomas of Chelsea! I've dreamed such a dream!

I've been reading that dialogue, more smart than grave,

In which you've so settled the case, as you deem,

Of North against South, and of Whip *versus* Slave.

Excuse me—I wandered—I nodded—I dozed,

And straight to your Eden of fetters I flew,

And scenes I saw stranger than you'd have supposed;

Bless your stars, brother Thomas, those scenes were not true!

* Rev. F. D. Maurice, in the *London Spectator*.

Yes, 'twas South-Carolina — 'twas Charleston, no doubt—

But changed—why has quite from my memory slipped—

For the whites now were "hired," as it straightway turned out,

"For life," by the blacks, to be labored and whipped.

I've never been given, like you, to regard

Men treated as beasts as a comical sight;

In the case, as it had been, of blacks, it seemed hard,

And as hard it seemed now that the niggers were white.

But a negro, your namesake, was luckily by,

And this sablest of sages, oh! how he did grin,

As I uttered my doubtings. "They men like us! why

The chattels! had they any black in their skin?

Were they not white all over? What, had I no eyes?

They fitted for freedom!—why, where was their wool?"

He couldn't help sneering out lofty surprise

That my brain could of such silly nonsense be full.

"To be worked, to be walloped for nothing," he said,

"The eternities sent forth all whites—'twas their doom."

Just then an old graybeard was lively led

To the block—for an auction went on in the room;

And think how I stared! why, the chattel, alack!

Yes, 'twas you—no mistake!—you put up there to sell!

You grumbled—whack! down came the thong on your back;

Good lord! how you, Thomas, did wriggle and yell!

My black sage looked on with a sneering disdain,

Stepped up to the block and examined your mouth;

Poked your ribs with his stick; you objected in vain—

"Whites were made to be sarved so by blacks in the South."

A lively discussion around you arose,

On the strength of your legs—on your age; thump on thump.

Tried to straighten you upright; one would tweak your nose;

One hustled you down, just to see how you'd jump.

'Twas fun to their blackships, but Thomas, I've fears

Your temper that moment was none of the best;

There was rage in your scowl; in your old eyes were tears;

For it seems Mrs. Carlyle had just been sold West;

And what might, too, put some hard words in your mouth—

Though it did not affect your black namesake the least—

Master Carlyle was "hired for life," right down South—

Miss Carlyle had been ditto right away East.

So you didn't jump lively, and laugh as you ought,

Though, cursed in a whisper, you tried to look gay,

But at last for a rice-swamp you, Thomas, were bought,

Or "hired for life," as your sageship would say;

Rather "hired for death"—so I dared to suggest;

But then, that's all right, as the world must have rice,

If lives of old whites raise the whitest and best,

Why, we must have our crop, and we must pay the price.

You were handcuffed, and off to twelve hours a day
In a sweltering swamp, with a smart overseer,
Sure, if you do any thing—speak, think, or pray,
But as master allows, for that crime to pay dear:
A beast—every right of a man set at naught—
Every power chained down—every feeling defied—
To exist for the labor for which you were bought,
Till the memory of manhood has out of you died.

And as you went off, looking rueful enough,
I couldn't help thinking, my sage, in my dream,
You perhaps might be taught in a school rather rough,
On "hirings for life" to have views less extreme,
That when you've tried slavery's hell for awhile,
The misery of millions won't seem a good joke,
A grin from the dulness of fools to beguile—
And thinking this, Thomas, thank heaven! I awoke.

W. C. BENNETT.

BLACKHEATH, ENGLAND.

SERVITUDE FOR LIFE.

AN ANSWER TO THOMAS CARLYLE BY J. M. LUDLOW.

Frederick Maximus—"Harkee here, Dan, you black nigger rascal. You're no longer a slave, you're a servant hired for life."

T. C. Nigger—"By golly! Wife and chil'n servants for life too, massa?"

F. M.—"Yes, all you niggers. But you must work all the same, you know."

T. C. N.—"Iss, massa. What wages you gib?"

F. M.—"Wages, you rascal? Quart of corn a day, and three shirts and pantaloons a year; for legal hours of work, fourteen hours a day for half the year, and fifteen the other half."

T. C. N.—"Any priv'leges, massa?"

F. M.—"Privileges! Ha! ha! Yes, privileges of John Driver's whip, or of such other punishment as I choose to inflict, and of not being believed on oath if you go and peach against me, and of being sold down South when I please, and of being converted by any person whom I choose to allow."

T. C. N.—"Hm. Wife and chil'n my own dis time, massa?"

F. M.—"Ha! ha! ha! Yes—till I or Mr. Overseer want them. But you have the privilege of taking another wife as often as I allow it, and of having as many children as it pays me to bring up."

T. C. N.—"Beg pardon, massa, but what for you call me servant hired for life?"

F. M.—"What for, you rascal? Because a great man, after whom I named you, when he had written a d—d good book on the 'nigger question,' says that is all the difference between you and those mean, white-livered Yankee working-men, who are hired by the month or the day."

T. C. N.—"Massa, if him book good book, why's I not priv'leged to learn read it?"

F. M.—"Read, you infernal scoundrel! Why, if any one were to help you to learn, the law gives him fine and imprisonment or lashes,* and what do you suppose you'd get? So off with you—. Stay—how old is that yellow nigger, your wife's daughter?"

T. C. N.—"Born three weeks 'fore Miss Susy, massa."

F. M.—"She'll fetch a right smart price at Mobile, now that New-Orleans—"

T. C. N. (*Aside while passing away*)—"Dey say de Yankees an't bery long way. Wish dey was beeah.

* Laws of South-Carolina.

Wish dey'd gib me a rifle 'fore I dies."—*Macmillan's Magazine*.

CARLYLE AND HIS "NUTSHELL."

Carlyle pours the dregs of his once fertile brain
In a nutshell, the great cause of Freedom to stain;
But the gall he has used foils the foolish attack,
And dyes himself darker than African-black.

AN ACT OF VILLAINY.—A correspondent of the *Boston Traveller*, writing from Sharpsburgh an account of General Kilpatrick's charge on the rebel rear-guard, near Downsville, relates the occurrence of a dastardly act as follows:

General Kilpatrick got within half a mile of the enemy's rear-guard, near Downsville, Md., when our spies discovered that lines of rifle-pits were ready to contest their advance. These works were erected on the brow of quite a large hill, and General Kilpatrick at once resolved to feel the strength of his foe. Two companies of the Sixth Michigan cavalry, B and F, were ordered to charge up the hill to the earthworks, which was done in fine style. As our men dashed in sight, the rebels were seen to throw down their arms and hoist a flag of truce.

Supposing, of course, the enemy had surrendered, they continued on, and when within fifty or sixty feet the entire rebel force, which must have numbered from seven hundred to one thousand men, seized their rifles and fired upon our men, taking them completely by surprise.

Finding the force so much larger than they anticipated, our men gave them a volley and fell back to the main body of cavalry. The rebels, after completely stripping the victims of their infamous treachery of shoes and stockings, fled to a dense piece of woods three miles beyond, carrying off their dead and wounded. I visited the scene of their hellish plot in order to obtain a list of the casualties, and a more revolting spectacle never presented itself.

In all directions, as far as the eye could reach on the top of the hill, lay the lifeless remains of our brave defenders, the warm blood oozing from their mortal wounds in streams that formed in pools amid the grass, while at their side, bleeding, lay their faithful chargers, stiff in death, the sharers of their fate.

A knot of soldiers gathered around the bodies of the slain, swearing eternal revenge upon the dastardly assassins who so cowardly shot their heroic comrades, and then bayoneted them. This is a horrible fact, which I witnessed personally. After killing our men, they pierced their bodies with bayonets and swords, robbed the dead of their finger-rings, boots, stockings, hats, and every article of value.

NOBLE CONDUCT OF THE TWENTY-THIRD NEW-JERSEY.—In the Sixth corps we have a New-Jersey regiment, the Twenty-third, which has exhibited an extraordinary degree of patriotism truly commendable, and worthy of public acknowledgment.

Their term of service had expired, but just as they were preparing to leave for home, the order was received for the division to cross the river. Their gallant Colonel ordered out his command, and after forming them into line and telling them of the orders issued, he stated, notwithstanding their time was out, he for one was going with the division, and desired to know how many would go with him; every soul in the regiment answered *Ay!* and they are now with a part of

the Sixth corps, over the river and under the very guns of the enemy.

This is truly a pleasing incident to record, and should receive the highest encomiums of all.—*Philadelphia Inquirer*, June, 1863.

ODE

On the Inauguration of the Albany Army Relief Bazaar, on the 22d February, 1864.

BY MISS MARGARET F. MORGAN, OF ALBANY.

All hail to our country, the Land of the West !
The dream of the nations, the Great and the Blest ;
The vision that came on the spice of the breeze,
And haunted the heart of the dark Genoese—
That rose like a temple of gold to his view,
That hung like a star in his distance of blue.

The Sun on his journey may linger to glance
On the mosque and the temple, the vine and the dance,
But always returns to the haunt he loves best,
And leaves his last smile with the Land of the West.

O Sun ! in thy beauty, untiring like thee,
The heart of the Westland is glowing !
And over the continent, over the sea,
The light of its purpose is throwing.

Behold how its broad and beneficent ray
Each measure and limit is scorning !
Though dark clouds of error still lurk in the way,
They are edged with the light of the morning.

Come, Morning Light !
Come, quickly come,
Break through the night—
Trumpet and drum
Call in their might,
Come, quickly come !

Break, break the tyrant's yoke,
Break through the battle smoke—
Scatter the gloom !
Let Treason's wonted ire
See in its force and fire
Naught but its doom !

Break through the prison bars, go with a blessing,
Shine on our captives and bid them good cheer ;
Go where the soreness of famine is pressing,
Tell them that bounty and largess are near :
From mountain, vale, and mart,
Tell them the Nation's heart
Whispers, " Good Cheer ! "

Though the air is stirred with combat,
Hope with lifted finger waits—
Hears the bugle-call of " Union ! "—
Hears the homeward march of States !

From the dim and doubting vision,
Rend the veil—and show the Right,
Through the mists of fraud and fable,
Lead them onward, Morning Light !

Peace will return with her chaplet of glory—
Home from the battle-field weary and worn,
Come the brave squadrons of song and of story,
Bearing their banners up, rifted and torn !

What have we done for thee ?
What have we won for thee ?
Surging with tumult and sorely oppressed—
Given our all to thee !
Given our lives to thee !
Given thee Liberty, Land of the West.

Then hail to our country, the Land of the West !
The marvel of nations, the Great and the Blest,
The green of her forests, the blue of her vales,
Her mines and her mountains, her lakes and her sails,
Her cotton and rice-fields that stretch far away
In saffron of sunset, or purple of day—
All, all will we cherish with right and with might,
Till the Sun shall grow dim on his voyage of light !
From blight and from error, from woe and unrest,
May God shield our country, the Land of the West !

MY SOLDIER.

Upon a hard-won battle-field,
Whose recent blood-stains shock the skies,
By hasty burial half-concealed,
With death in his dear eyes,
My soldier lies.

O thought more sharp than bayonet-thrust !
Of blood-drops on his silken hair,
Of his white forehead in the dust,
Of his last gasping prayer,
And I not there !

I know, while his warm life escaped,
And his blue eyes closed shudderingly,
His heart's last fluttering pulses shaped
One yearning wish for me—
O agony !

For I, in cruel ignorance,
While yet his last sigh pained the air,
I trifled—sung or laughed, perchance,
With roses in my hair,
All unaware.

In dreams I see him fall again,
Where cannons roar and guidons wave ;
Then wake to hear the lonesome rain,
Weeping the fallen brave,
Drip on his grave.

Since treason sought our country's heart,
Ah ! fairer body never yet
From nobler soul was torn apart ;
No braver blood has wet
Her coronet.

No spirit more intense and fine
Strives where her starry banners wave,
No gentler face, beloved, than thine
Sleeps in a soldier's grave—
No heart more brave.

And though his mound I may not trace,
Or weep above his buried head,
The grateful spring shall find the place,
And with her blossoms spread
His quiet bed.

The soul I loved is still alive,
The name I loved is Freedom's boast ;
I clasp these helpful truths, and strive
To feel, though great the cost,
Nothing is lost :

Since all of him that erst was dear
Is safe; his life was nobly spent
And it is well. Oh! draw Thou near,
Light my bewilderment,
Make me content!

NORTHWARD.

BY JOHN HAY.

Under the high, unclouded sun,
That makes the ship and shadow one,
I sail away, as from the fort
Booms sullenly the noonday gun.

The odorous airs blow thin and fine,
The sparkling waves like emeralds shine,
The lustre of the coral reefs
Gleams whitely through the tepid brine.

And glitters o'er the liquid miles
The jeweled ring of verdant isles,
Where generous Nature holds her court
Of ripened bloom and sunny smiles.

Encinctured by the faithful seas,
Inviolable gardens load the breeze,
Where flaunt, like giant warders' plumes,
The pennants of the cocoa-trees.

Enthroned in light, and bathed in balm,
In lonely majesty the Palm
Blesses the isles with waving hands—
High-Priest of the eternal Calm.

Yet northward with an equal mind
I steer my course, and leave behind
The rapture of the Southern skies,
The wooing of the Southern wind.

For here o'er Nature's wanton bloom
Falls far and near the shade of gloom,
Cast from the hovering vulture-wings
Of one dark thought of woe and doom.

I know that in the snow-white pines
The brave Norse fire of freedom shines,
And fain for this I leave the land
Where endless summer pranks the vines.

O strong, free North, so wise and brave!
O South, too lovely for a slave!
Why read ye not the changeless truth—
The free can conquer but to save?

May God upon these shining sands
Send Love and Victory clasping hands,
And Freedom's banners wave in peace
For ever o'er the rescued lands!

And here, in that triumphant hour,
Shall yielding Beauty wed with Power;
And blushing earth and smiling sea
In dalliance deck the bridal bower.

OUR COUNTRY'S FLAG.

CAMPAIGN SONG.

Air—"Sparkling and Bright."

Loyal and true to the red, white, and blue,
With high resolve united,
We firmly stand for our native land,
By faith and honor pledged.

Then rally we all at the nation's call,
While the dear old flag waves o'er us;
And our song shall rise till the bending skies
Resound with the swelling chorus.

When in treason's hour our country's power
To the hands of traitors was given,
Men woke to life for the deadly strife,
As the flag caught the breezes of heaven.

Then rally we all at the nation's call,
While the dear old flag waves o'er us;
And our song shall rise till the bending skies
Resound with the swelling chorus.

By our sacred cause—by our rights and laws—
By freedom's hallowed story—
By this flag of the free, on the land and the sea,
We'll maintain our country's glory.

Then rally we all to the nation's call,
While the dear old flag waves o'er us;
And our song shall rise till the bending skies
Resound with the swelling chorus.

O flag divine! each star of thine
Shall brighten in wondrous beauty,
When the wanderers come to their olden home
In the robes of truth and duty

Then in Union grand we shall firmly stand,
While the Stars and Stripes wave o'er us,
And our song shall rise till the bending skies
Resound with the swelling chorus.

B. H. HALL.

OLD ROSY.

When Rosy rode along the line,
Right well we knew our hero's sign;
For there we stood like wolves at bay,
And fought the rebels hard all day.
Still on they came; still back we drove
In fury low and cloud above;
But now they pressed us two to one—
Our line fell back—the front was gone—
We almost wept to see the rout:
"Stand fast! stand fast! and see it out!"
Our leader shouted. Oh! the shout,
As Rosy rode along the line.

As quickening vengeance draws its breath
To leap to the embrace of death,
Awhile they paused, then all aflame,
On, on the hounding rebels came.
"Stand by the flag!" our chieftain cried;
Like rooted oaks our columns bide;
But tide on tide the flood o'erflowed,
The broken line fell back the road.
"Hurrah!" we heard the foeman cry—
Yet stood our chief, not ours to fly;
But blazed the tiger in his eye
As Rosy rode along the line.

Where now within the battle-blast
Our ragged standards fluttered fast,
A cheer broke in, and then the drum—
"The Hawkeyes, Buckeyes, Hoosiers come!"
We stood to win, nor thought to stir,
Each man an executioner;
Heard o'er the hills in gathering gloom
The deep gun's last despairing boom—

Then ranged our cannons to the breach
With haughty purpose, each to each,
And silent still we stood for speech,
Till Rosy rode along the line.

Uprose our gunners, grim and bare,
To light the torch of victory there!
Now close the charging foemen surge,
To mock the awful lightning's verge;
Down to the front our leader darts—
"Aim low! aim low! my flinty hearts!"
And soon about the colors true
Our drummer beats his wild tattoo!
Then but to see the chieftain's look;
The word he gave—that word we took—
"Give them a blizzard!" Lord, it shook!
As Rosy rode along the line.

Back rolled the flood, and in its track
We drove their quailing legions back;
As horse and foot we followed on,
With bloody cost the day was won!
Then homeward Rosy took his course,
Our wounded drummer on his horse;
"Well done!" said he; "well done, brave men,
Please God, we'll do as well again."
Then marched we in with three times three
For Murfreesboro, the victory.
Ah! 'twas a sight for men to see,
When Rosy rode along the line.

KANE O'DONNELL.

THE "MONITOR" AND HER CHILDREN.

AN ODE.

DEDICATED TO THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES.

"The gale at this time was raging furiously. The water had succeeded in rising up to the grate-bars of the furnaces, and was gradually extinguishing the fire. The vessel was now sinking. The moon, which up to this time had been giving some light, was shut in by masses of black clouds; and at three quarters of an hour past midnight, on the morning of the last day of 1862, the Monitor's light disappeared beneath the waves."—*Account by a gentleman on the Rhode Island.*

A ship foundering at midnight!—the Monitor!—ho!
The mistress of ocean in whelming waves!
Deep—deeper and stronger the terrible flow
Is sweeping the struggling to watery graves;
The conqueror peerless, now yielding to one
Who can turn into peril our glory and bliss—
Make "coating metallic" and "monster gun"
A sinker for sounding the dark abyss.

Yea, sinking! like soldier of ancient date,
When suddenly launched upon waters mad
In his death-defying scales and plate—
His impervious armor—"iron-clad."
Oh! we think of the day when, from havoc of blood,
The Devourer* fled, wounded, away in her shame,
And duels and tournaments since the world stood,
Took their place out of sight, hardly claiming a name.

Yet one more agony for the relief—
Yet one more desperate yearn to save!
'Tis in vain. Alas! But a moment brief—
And the plunge—the gurgles—the closing grave.
Over "turret" a prouder boast of mind,
Sublimar symbol—for ever gone!—
Than towers colossal of towns refined,
That crash and vanish in earthquake's yawn.

*The great rebel iron-clad, the Merrimac or Virginia.

For ever gone with thy guardian power?
And thy country, bereft of thee,
So easy a prey, in an ill-starred hour,
To some hostile giant ruling the sea?
"We are here!" the Monitor's Children cry,
And the voices are looming athwart the gloom:
"Ne'er mother went down, to be raised so high—
Left such an example—so honored a tomb.

"We are many. In us she lives, and more,
As mother in stalwart and filial band;
In her faith we have sworn, on sea and shore
To fulfil her counsel—her loyal command.
We are one—as our country must ever be—
In our heavenly trust and our glorious cause,
Dealing death upon treason and tyranny,
For Union, Liberty, and Virtue, and Laws.

"We are ready! All clad in our heaviest mail,
Yet buoyant to breast the "heaviest" gale.
We are ready! To pour our iron hail,
Till inimical bulwarks tremble and fail—
Till Rebellion has uttered its dying wail,
And tyrants, "admonished," no more shall assail—
'And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall
wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the
brave." SUSQUEHANNA.

THE AMERICAN NATION.

BY JAMES S. WATKINS.

The American Nation!
She knows not her strength,
Whose armies are millions, through
Her breadth and her length;
Her Union is strength—
She dreads not the world,
Though at her, unjustly,
They've thunderbolts hurled.

With her navy of iron,
And sailors of steel,
She scorns haughty Europe,
Whose tyrannic heel
Would crush with oppression
(If crush it they could)
That birthright her freemen
Have purchased by blood.

The American Nation!
A light to the world,
Where Liberty's emblem,
By freemen unfurled,
Waves aloft, in its glory,
O'er steeple and dome,
Protecting and granting
The oppressed a home.

The American Nation!
All freemen we have!
No serfs, à la Russia,
The nobleman's slave!
But a land where the poor
The sceptre can wield,
And rule with the wealthy,
'Neath Liberty's shield.

The American Nation!
Independent and free!
God grant she, through ages,
United may be:

Ay, grant that her banner
Of starry-gemmed blue
Shall now and for ever
Wave over the true.

EMERALD GROVE, Mo.

THE SOLDIER'S DREAM.

Lines suggested after the Alarm and Bloody Contest of Major
Osle's Command on London Heights.

BY A CONNECTICUT SOLDIER.

A soldier reclines in the noisy camp,
Dreaming of home and the loved ones there,
Unheeding alike the measured tramp
And the martial music which fills the air.

Oh! how delicious that beautiful dream!
With tremulous joy, in a fond embrace
He folds to his heart his loved ones again,
And looks with delight in each radiant face.

Sweet voices, like melody, fall on his ear,
And baby-lips prattle in welcoming glee;
On the cheek of his wife there's a glittering tear,
As she whispers: "Beloved, I've been praying
for thee."

She tells him how oft, in the watches of night,
Her prayers were breathed forth to the Father
above,
That He, in his infinite goodness and might,
Would spread o'er her husband a mantle of love.

The soul of the sleeper is thrilling with joy,
But his dream is dispelled by the tones of com-
mand:
"To arms!" shouts the captain; "brave soldiers, to
arms!"

And fight for your country—the foe is at hand!"

'Mid that terrible conflict, 'mid carnage and strife,
The soldier is calm, and his spirit is free;
He thinks of his children—he thinks of his wife—
And murmurs: "I know they are praying for
me."

And with a strong arm that is nerved for the right,
And with a true heart for his country and God,
He's a hero that day in the midst of the fight,
And wins a proud name to be sounded abroad.

Few knew of the talisman worn in his breast—
Love, blended with faith, is inciting him on;
He thinks not of danger, he seeks not for rest,
Till the battle is ended—the victory won.

ERWIN.

LOOKOUT.

GENERAL BOOKER TO HIS MEN—LOOKOUT VALLEY, NO-
VEMBER 24, 1863.

Left—Right! Left—Right!
Left—Right!—March!
Steady men!—so!
For silent we go
To rescue our country from tyrant and foe.

Not a word my good men—not a sound,
Save the tramp of your tread,

Till you win the mountain's topmost head,
Where trenches and breastworks stand circling them
round.

Not a shout! no hurrah!
Not a musket-shot;
Nor the scream of a shell,
As nearer you draw.

Not a trumpet's blast,
Not a bugle's note,
Till blind with the daze
Of your bayonet's blaze
Your loud hurrah shall sound their knell.

Left!—Right!—Left!—Right!

Steady ye freemen!—so!

Now forward we go—

Rushing o'er abattis, breastwork, and wall,
Victorious! in triumph o'er Slavery's fall!
Shouting psalms. To! to our glorious stars;
Hurrahing loud anthems to the Red, White, and Blue,
As they fly with their bright constellation of light,
Proclaiming to traitors and tyrants in flight,
That Victoria Apteryx* dwells ever with you.

C. D. MAUGS, M.D.

BLACK TOM.

Hunted by his rebel master
Over many a hill and glade,
Black Tom, with his wife and children,
Found his way to our brigade.

Tom had sense and truth and courage,
Often tried where danger rose—
Once our flag his strong arm rescued
From the grasp of rebel foes.

One day Tom was marching with us
Through the forest as our guide,
When a ball from traitor's rifle
Broke his arm and pierced his side.

On a litter white men bore him,
Through the forest drear and damp,
Laid him, dying, where our banners
Brightly fluttered o'er our camp.

Pointing to his wife and children,
While he suffered racking pain,
Said he to our soldiers round him,
"Don't let them be slaves again!"

"No! by Heaven!" outspoke a soldier,
And that oath was not profane—
"Our brigade will still protect them—
They shall ne'er be slaves again."

Over Old Tom's dusky features
Came and staid a joyous ray;
And with saddened friends around him,
His free spirit passed away.

"PEACE ON EARTH."

Peace! when over every land and sea
Is heard no more the cry of Slavery;
When bondmen are no longer bound, but free,
And freedmen shout aloud—"Sweet Liberty!"

* "Victoria Apteryx"—the Wingless Victory."

When brother's heart no longer burns with strife,
His hand no longer takes his brother's life;
When the sweet wild rose shall bloom and bud
Where battle-fields were drenched with human blood.

ANECDOTE OF GENERAL WADSWORTH.—The following is one of the most beautiful and pathetic stories of the war. It is told by Mr. Wilkinson,

Paymaster Rochester, feeling his lips to be unsealed by the death of General Wadsworth, tells that he always paid him from his entry into the service, and that when the General called on him for money on the eve of starting to the Mississippi Valley on a special mission connected with the arming and organization of the slaves of that region, he casually remarked to him that when he got to New-Orleans he would find there Paymaster Vedder, to whom he would recommend him as a gentlemanly officer to apply for any moneys he might need. "No, sir," said General Wadsworth; "I shall not apply to Major Vedder. While I am in the service I shall be paid only by you. And my reason for that is, that I wish my account with the Government to be kept with one paymaster only; for it is my purpose at the close of the war to call on you for an accurate statement of all the money I have received from the United States. The amount, whatever it is, I shall give to some permanent institution founded for the relief of disabled soldiers. This is the least invidious way in which I can refuse pay for fighting for my country in her hour of danger."

HOW SECRETARY STANTON SETTLED A POINT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3, 1864.—The town is laughing at an amusing story of a recent interview between the Secretary of War and the President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. It is too good to be lost, and I give it as I find it aloft:

"The draft has fallen with great severity upon the employes of our Company."

"Indeed?"

"If something is not done to relieve us, it is hard to foresee the consequences."

"Let them pay the commutation."

"Impossible! the men can't stand such a tax."

"They have a rich Company at their back, and that's more than other people have."

"They ought to be exempted, because they are necessary to the working of the road for the Government."

"That can't be."

"Then I will stop the road."

"If you do, I will take it up and carry it on."

The discussion is said to have been dropped at this point, and the very worthy President is still working the road as successfully as ever

JEFF DAVIS IN WAX.—A London correspondent says:

"It was written of old that 'Jeshurun waxed fat and kicked.' Jefferson (President of the confederates) kicked and now waxes. In other words, Madame Tussaud has added him to her wax figures. He stands comfortably near McClellan, who waxed here as he waxed in America, and was the last addition but one to her wonderful gallery—that one being Hunt, the murderer of his wife and children in the cab. Madame Tussaud has artists hard at work on the five pirates of the Flowery Land who were lately hanged."

A PATRIOTIC FATHER.—An officer from Louisville led one of Rosecrans's regiments into battle, his superior having been called to other duty. In the advance, this man's son fell by a rebel bullet. The father saw him fall, but could not stop to care for him. Narrating the circumstances, the bereaved father said, with tears in his eyes: "My boy, you know, is gone. I was in temporary command of the regiment, and as we were pressing on I saw my boy fall. I could not turn back to help him, so I said to a soldier, 'Look to Johnnie,' and went on, and we did the work we went to do."

"Do you still hold to the idea you expressed when you and I talked over the question of this war before? Do you feel now as you did then?"

"Certainly; I feel we are doing this work for ourselves and children, and for those who are to come after us. Of course, I am very sad, but the cause is just the same as before—only more sacred than ever."

ANECDOTES OF GENERAL BUFORD.—Major-General Buford, than whom probably no commander was so devotedly loved by those around him, was offered a major-general's commission in the rebel army when in Utah. He crushed the communication in his hand, and declared that he would live and die under the flag of the Union. A few hours before his death, and while suffering from delirium, he roundly scolded his negro servant; but recovering himself temporarily, he called the negro to his bedside and said to him: "Edward, I hear I have been scolding you. I did not know what I was saying. You have been a faithful servant, Edward." The poor negro sat down and wept as though his heart was broken. When General Buford received his commission as Major-General, he exclaimed: "Now, I wish that I could live." His last intelligible words, uttered during an attack of delirium, were: "Put guards on all the roads, and don't let the men run back to the rear." This was an illustration of the ruling passion strong in death, for no trait in General Buford's character was more conspicuous than his dislike to see men skulking or hanging on the rear.

BISHOP POLK.—Of General Bishop Polk, the Nashville Times speaks in the following terms:

He was a selfish, egotistical, vain-glorious, shallow man, who had no sympathy whatever with those who were outside of his aristocratic circle. He looked on his slaves in the same light that Fielding's Parson Trullaber looked on his fat hogs, and prized their bodies a good deal more than the souls of his sheep. Indeed, the sheep of his pastorate grazed on tender grass, or succulent clover, but *polk weed*. Of them it might be said in the words of Milton's Lycidas:

"The hungry sheep look up, and are not fed,
But swola with wind, and the rank mist they draw,
Rot inwardly, and foul contagion spread:
Besides what the grim wolf with privy paw
Daily devours apace, and nothing sed."

His preaching was, of course, execrable. Those who have unfortunately been compelled to listen to his discourses say that they would rather be shot at by his cannons in the field than listen to his church canons in the pulpit.

In his rubric, self was God, the slave code was the Bible, large revenues the chief end of man, and poverty the unpardonable sin.

A NEGRO SOLDIER'S SPEECH.—At a celebration of Christmas by a negro regiment at New-Orleans, one of the men made the following speech:

"Fellow-soldiers ob de Sebenth Regiment: I is mighty glad to enjoy dis 'portunity for enjoying dis fust free Christmas in dis world what we live in. A year ago, where was we? We was down in de dark land of slavery. And now where are we? We are free men, and soldiers of de United States. And what have we to do? We have to fight de rebels so dat we never more be slaves. When de day of battle come, what will we do? I speak for me, and I say for myself, I go and fight de rebels till de last man die. Yes, under de flags what was presented to us from New-York, we fight till de last man die; and if I be de last man, what will I do? I hold up de flags, and if I die, den I go to my grave couisified for doing my duty. De President of de United States is one great man what has done more good dan any oder man whatever was borned. I bless de Lord we fight for so good commander. I have no more to say now and evermore.—Amen."

A CAMP CELEBRATION.—A Maine regiment celebrated their flag-raising, near Beaufort, S. C., with a wild entertainment, consisting of foot-races, mock parades, climbing of greased poles, etc. One part of it is thus described:

The next comical feat was performed by several small colored boys, who were to hunt with their heads for a piece of money in a tub of meal, with their hands tied behind their backs. The tub, filled with meal, was placed on the ground, and the boy on his knees commenced his explorations, with his mouth open to seize the money. As he would bring up his head to regain his breath and puff out a mouthful of meal, and show to the crowd a mealy face with little stripes and spots of black in fine contrast, and the back of his head appearing through, the effect was so ludicrous that there was a universal shout of laughter, and when the boy at last appeared with the money between his teeth, the cheering was vociferous. Two other boys made the attempt, but were unsuccessful; they were rewarded for their exertions, however, and left the field, "the observed of all observers."

A RESIDENT in the town of Camillus, N. Y., Almon Wilber, was enlisted at Syracuse. He stated that he is the oldest of twelve brothers, sons of William and Electa Wilber, of Camillus, and that now they had all entered the service of the United States. This brother is now between forty-four and forty-five years of age; and none of the twelve brothers weigh less than two hundred pounds. His son enlisted at the same time he did.

GENERAL LEE AND OLD JOHN BROWN.—A letter to the *Pittsburgh Chronicle*, from Harper's Ferry, contains the following:

"It was not known to me until yesterday, and may possibly be unknown to you, that Colonel Robert E. Lee, United States army, now General Lee of the confederate forces, was one of the chief actors in the prologue to the tragic national drama, the different acts of which the whole country has been watching with such exciting interest for the past three years. It is, nevertheless, the fact, however. Let me tell you about it briefly. "Old John Brown" had not only worked at the arsenal at Harper's Ferry, but was intimately

acquainted with all the details of the works, and knew, besides, what building among the ruins of some fifty now remaining was the strongest for defence. This was the engine-house, and after making a little raid to Halltown, and capturing Colonel Lewis Washington, among other slaveholders of the Shenandoah Valley, he moved back to the Ferry, and ensconced himself with his twenty followers in this engine-house. The alarm throughout Harper's Ferry that night was terrible, and during the whole of the following live-long day Brown held his position, and having made port-holes through the brick walls, shot several citizens who had the temerity to show themselves about the building. The lookers-on were terror-stricken, and the two thousand Virginia militiamen, with their captains, colonels, and generals, who had assembled in the vicinity of John Brown's stronghold, not knowing the force that he really had, were completely nonplussed, and waited anxiously for the Government troops from Washington, who had been sent for.

By three o'clock the following morning, sixty marines, under the immediate command of Lieutenant Green, but directed by Colonel Robert E. Lee, reached the Ferry by cars from the capital. Colonel Lee ordered his detail to stand under arms in the public street till sunrise, when he conducted the men, he himself leading them, to the front of the building fortified and occupied by Brown. The lookers-on viewed this soldierly movement with astonishment and awe, expecting to see Colonel Lee shot down as other leaders had been. But not a shot was fired. Lieut. Green was ordered to demand a surrender. He knocked at the door of the engine-house, and John Brown asked: "Who goes there?" "Lieut. Green, United States Marines, who, by authority of Colonel Lee, demands an immediate surrender." "I refuse it," said Brown, "unless I, with my men, am allowed to cross the bridge into Maryland, unmolested, after which you can take us prisoners if you can." Lee refused to allow this, and ordered Lieut. Green to renew his demand for immediate and unconditional surrender. John Brown refused these terms, and four of the marines, who had got tremendous sledge-hammers from the works, began battering at the door of the engine-house. The engine had been moved against the door, and it would not yield. "Ten of you," said Lee, "take that ladder and break down the door." Five on each side, the soldiers drove the ladder against the door, and at the third stroke it yielded and fell back. Colonel Lee and the marines jumped in—one man John Brown shot through the heart—and then was overpowered and surrendered. Colonel Washington, with other citizens, was released, and John Brown handed over to the civil authorities, after which Colonel Lee took the train to Washington again.

And such is the historical episode which I listened to last night from a citizen who was himself a witness to it. Who knows how much it may have influenced Robert E. Lee to forsake the flag of the United States and become a chieftain in the rebel cause?

MARKED ARTICLES.—Some of the marks which are fastened on the blankets, shirts, etc., sent to the Sanitary Commission for the soldiers, show the thought and feeling at home. Thus—on a home-spun blanket, worn but washed as clean as snow, was pinned a bit of paper which said: "This blanket was carried by Milly Aldrich (who is ninety-three years old) down hill and up hill one and a half miles, to be given to some soldier."

On a bed-quilt was pinned a card, saying: "My son is in the army. Whoever is made warm by this quilt, which I have worked on for six days and most all of six nights, let him remember his own mother's love."

On another blanket was this: "This blanket was used by a soldier in the war of 1812—may it keep some soldier warm in this war against traitors."

On a pillow was written: "This pillow belonged to my little boy, who died resting on it; it is a precious treasure to me, but I give it for the soldiers."

On a pair of woollen socks was written: "These stockings were knit by a little girl five years old, and she is going to knit some more, for mother says it will help some poor soldier."

On a box of beautiful lint was this mark: "Made in a sick-room, where the sunlight has not entered for nine years, but where God has entered, and where two sons have bid their mother good-by as they have gone out to the war."

On a bundle containing bandages was written: "This is a poor gift, but it is all I had; I have given my husband and my boy, and only wish I had more to give, but I haven't."

On some eye-shades were marked: "Made by one who is blind. Oh! how I long to see the dear Old Flag that you are all fighting under!"

A REBEL TRACT.—A New-Hampshire soldier in Sherman's army sent to his family a tract picked up on the battle-field of Resaca, June fifteenth. Its title is as follows:

"Evangelical Tract Society, Petersburg, Va. No. 214. 'I Die in a Just Cause.' By Rev. John O. Robinson, Rogersville, Tenn."

The first paragraph is as follows:

"Confederate soldiers! you bear a proud name, and one that posterity will honor. Despite your homely garb, your coarse shoes, and hard fare, your country applauds the heroism, the daring valor, the patient endurance of her soldiers, even when the besotted editors of Federal newspapers style them, in derision, 'butternuts' and 'ragamuffins.' There can be no question that Southern troops are unsurpassed in valor and patriotism by any body of soldiers in the world. They have every thing to make them so, for, like the Jews in the days of Nehemiah, they 'fight for their brethren, their sons, their daughters, their wives, and their houses.' Your enemies strive for conquest and plunder. Your cause is the cause of right, of justice, of great principles; yea, of every thing a man holds dear in this life. Your enemies are grasping at shadows—pursuing phantoms—urged on by the wildest fanaticism."

SONGS OF THE REBELS.

THE DEAD CAVALIER—GEN. J. E. B. STUART.

The drums came back muffled, that beating loud,
Went out in the morning all thrill to the fight,
For the hero lies dead in his battle-flag shroud,
And his steed is led groomed without rider to-night.
Then beat the drums muffled, and play the fife low,
And march on the *cortège* to cadences slow.

Who saw him that morning as gaily he rode
At the front of his troopers, who filed proudly after him,

Though to look on to-night the visage that showed
The pale death relapse, and the eye sunk and dim.
Then toll the bell sadly, solemnly toll,
A hero is passing to glory's last goal.

Come, stand by the corpse, look down on that face,
Mark where the bullet burst its way through,
See where the death-pang left its last trace
As the lead messenger struck, unerring and true.
Then hushed, gather round, let our tears be like rain,
A truer cavalier we shall ne'er see again.

Ah! the story he wrote with the point of his sword,
How it thrilled through the cities, how it stirred up the land;

Who can forget how the hireling horde
Ran blating for mercy when he did command.
At the North though they mock, and rejoice at his fall,
With grief-laden flowers will we cover his pall.

Oh! how like the besom of fate in their rear,
Came the wave of his plume and the flash of his blade,

When, bursting from covert, to his troopers will cheer,
The bugle, it sounded the charge in the raid.
Now his plume is at rest, his sword in its sheath,
And the hand that should grasp it is nerveless in death.

Make his grave where he fought, nigh the field where he fell,
In blossoming Hollywood, under the hill,

In sight of the hearth-stones he defended so well,
That his spirit may be guardian sentinel still,
And there let a finger of marble disclose
The spot where he lies—point the skies where he rose.
J. MARSHALL HANNA.

THE CONTRABAND'S RETURN.

HERMINE.

Don't you know me, Massa William?
Don't you know me, Missus dear?
Don't you know old Aunt Rebecca,
Who went away from you last year,
With Peter, Phil, and Little Judy,
To join the wicked Yankee crew?
But I've come back, my dear old Missus,
To live and die with you.

I never knew the old plantation
Was half so dear a place to me.
As when among that Yankee nation
The robbers told me I was free;
And when I looked around for freedom,
(We thought it something bright and fair,)
Hunger, misery, and starvation,
Was all that met us there.

How often, when we used to shiver,
All through the long cold winter night,
I used to study 'bout my cabin,
The hearth all red with pinewood light!
I saw they would not make us happy,
And yet they would not let us go—
Ah! 'twas hatred of our white folks,
Not love for us, I know.

"And Peter?" Ah! old Massa Peter
Has gone from this cold earth away—
He was too old to be a soldier,
They worked him hard both night and day:

He was not used to so much labor,
And soon the poor old man broke down,
He found, alas! their boasted freedom
A cross and not a crown.

They made my poor boy, Phil, a soldier,
And took him from me far away;
He stood through many a bloody battle,
Was wounded often, many a day;
He did not wish to be a soldier,
He only wanted to be free—
They only loaded him with irons,
Or lashed him to a tree.

Before him once, in line of battle,
He saw our fine young master Jim,
Then dropped poor Phil his Yankee musket,
He could not, would not, fire on him;
For they had played, been raised together,
Young master Jim had cried for Phil—
The Yankees gave the onward order,
But my poor boy stood still.

And then his more than cruel masters,
White men, with hearts and deeds all black,
Struck him down with gun and sabre,
And left him dying on their track.
O missus! my old heart is broken,
My lot all grief and pain has been;
For little Judy, too, is ruined,
In their dark camps of sin.

O Massa William! see me kneeling,
O Missus! say one word for me!
You'll let me stay? Oh! thank you massa;
Now I'm happy! now I'm free!
I've seen enough of Yankee freedom,
I've had enough of Yankee love!
As they have treated the poor negro,
Be't done to them above.

CONFEDERATE SONG OF FREEDOM.

BY EMILY M. WASHINGTON.

March on, ye children of the brave,
Descendants of the free!
On to the hero's bloody grave
Or glorious Liberty!
On, on—with clashing sword and drum,
The foe!—they come! they come!—strike
home,

For more than safety, or for life,
For more than mother, child, or wife,
Strike home for Liberty!

Charge, charge! nor shed the pitying tear,
Too long hath mercy plead!
Charge, charge! and share the hero's bliss,
Or strike the foeman dead!

Charge, charge! for more than vital gains,
Strike home and rend the freeman's chains,
For more than safety, or for life,
For more than mother, child, or wife,
Strike home for Liberty!

Draw, draw—by every hope this hour
That animates the brave!
Draw!—strike!—and rend the foeman's power
Or fill the patriot's grave!
Strike—die—or conquer with the free,
Strike home, strike home, for Liberty—

For more than glory, safety, life,
For more than mother, child, or wife,
Strike home for Liberty!

OUR MONEY.

Our treasury is furnished with rags,
So thick even Jeff cannot thin 'em.
Jeff's torn up his old money bags,
Having nothing like cash to put in 'em.
Our farmers are ashamed up by dozens,
But this is all nothing they say;
For bankrupts, since Adam, are cousins,
But 'tis all in a family way.

Our debts not a shilling take from us,
As statesmen the matter explain;
Bob owes it to Tom, and then Thomas
Just owes it to Bob back again.
Since all thus have taken to owing,
There's nobody left that can pay;
And that is the way we keep going,
All just in a family way.

Our congressmen vote away millions
To put in the huge Southern budget,
And if it were billions or trillions,
The generous rogues would not grudge it.
'Tis naught but a family hop,
And Jeff began dancing they say—
Hands round! Why the deuce should we stop?
'Tis all in a family way.

Our rich cotton-planters all tumble—
The poor ones have nothing to chew,
And if they themselves do not grumble,
Their stomachs undoubtedly do.
For sure to be hungry *en famille*,
Is as good for the soul as to pray,
And famine itself is but genteel
When one starves in a family way.

But I've found out a secret for Jeffy—
A secret for next budget-day—
Though he spurn my advice in a jiffy,
As he too's a sage in his way:
When next for the treasury scene, he
Announces the devil to pay,
Just write on the bill, *nota bene*,
For it's all in a family way. CONVEN.

A.D. 1862.

SPECIMENS OF "SOUTHERN LITERATURE."—There are some signs that "the South"—meaning by that the slave-drivers and woman-whippers, who so long claimed this name for themselves—will presently have something of "a literature of its own." The Parisians have just been edified with a work on "The Condition of the Confederate States," by one Charles Girard, "formerly Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington." To give his book an apparent importance and character, Dr. Girard has addressed it, as a memoir or report, to the Emperor Napoleon, though it nowhere appears that he was commissioned or requested to make any report of any kind to the Emperor.

The value of this writer's report may be gathered from the following remarkable "incident" which he relates:

"I one evening, at General Cooper's, heard the Governor of North-Carolina tell how, in their numerous incursions into his State, the enemy carried off, by force,

whole families of negroes; that on several occasions, being surrounded at the moment of embarkation by the local militia, the negroes took the opportunity of escaping to return to their masters, and that then the Yankees turned their fury on the negro children, whom they tore from their mothers' arms and flung into the water. On other occasions they drowned the negroes by wholesale when they resisted the attempt to carry them off.

"The Yankees exercised similar cruelty on the whites. In one detachment of prisoners, of whom a great part were ill of small-pox, caught in the miserable huts in which they had been lodged, they amused themselves with fastening them two and two, a sick man to a healthy one, to spread the disease; and then, when the disease reached its height, they would throw them overboard with loud cheers."

A DISINTERESTED PATRIOT.—A Boston journal, quoting the allusion of another paper to the fact that Mr. Whiting, Solicitor of the War Department, worked without pay, says:

The statement that, "Mr. Whiting is a rich man, and can afford to do all he has magnanimously agreed to," somewhat detracts from the merit of the sacrifice he has actually made. We happen to know that upon entering the service of the Government he was compelled to reduce his establishment here, which had been supported by a princely income from his profession, and practise the economy which many wealthy men who claim to be patriots only preach.

HOW THE REBELS BRAND.—Branding deserters, as performed at Castle Thunder in Richmond, is described as a beautiful operation, and as humane as beautiful. The culprit is fastened to a large table, with his face downward, and a large "D" scarred on his posteriors. A plain bar of iron, about an inch in diameter, narrowed down a little at the point, is heated to incandescence, and used as a sign-painter would use his brush in lettering, only in a very slow and bungling manner. A greasy smoke with a sickly stench arises, accompanied with crackling sounds and the groans of the victim as the hot iron sinks deep into the flesh. On pretence of rendering the mark of disgrace plain and indelible, but in reality to torture the unfortunate culprit, the hot iron is drawn many times through the wound, making it larger and deeper, until the victim, unable to endure the excruciation longer, faints, and is carried away. The operation is always performed by old Keppard, the executioner of Kellogg, the greatest demon in human form outside of Pluto's realm.—*Louisville Journal, January 12.*

CONCERNING "YANKS."

The following letter appeared in a number of the *Charleston Courier*:

"To the Editors of the *Charleston Courier* :

"I agree with you in the main in the remarks you make in your issue of the fourteenth, in relation to your use of the terms 'Yankee' and 'Yankeedom.' But as we ought to have a descriptive designation of that people that can give no offence to the many worthy and true men amongst us of Yankee birth, I propose that we as a people adopt the term 'Yank' for our insane enemies; so that we may talk of the 'Yank Government,' 'Yank army,' 'Yank Congress,' 'Yank news,' etc., etc. It is short, contemptuous, and descriptive of the thing signified.

"I am sorry to see you fall into the mistake of calling Yanks 'Federals,' and of talking of 'Northern news.' Northern and Southern are very well, as allusive to different sections of our Confederacy, or one country; but they are expressions calculated to mislead when applied to countries so entirely distinct as our Confederacy and the 'Yank country.' Let, then, the term 'Yank' be applied to that seething mass of Vandalism that blindly drives forward for our subjugation, utterly ignoring the principles of the government formerly established over them, and utterly regardless of those grand landmarks with which alone all good practical popular governments can consist. Let it be 'Yank States,' 'Yank people,' 'Yank navy,' etc., etc., 'Yank flag,' etc., etc., 'a Yank,' 'Yanks,' etc., etc. "Z"

BARBARITIES OF THE REBELS.—A correspondent of the *Chattanooga Gazette* furnished the following horrible account of rebel cruelties practised upon an Alabama Unionist:

In 1861 a Unionist was forcibly arrested by a mob at his house in Randolph county, Ala., and marched off in an adjoining thicket; the mob here rifled him of his pocket-book, boots and coat, tied him, and held a consultation to determine his fate. It was soon determined to "put him in the tories' yoke," but first of all to try to make him acknowledge to having done and said things of which he was innocent.

After trying some time to accomplish their object, by questioning and threatening, they resorted to more severe measures. Untying him, they took off his clothing, laid him down upon a log, lashed him firmly to it, and with large hickory switches commenced lacerating him. Four let in on him at once, and the number soon increased to six. They continued to beat him there for a long time, pausing occasionally and asking him if he would confess, and upon his refusing would let in on him more vigorously.

The blood trickled from his back in streams. His piteous appeals in behalf of mercy were totally disregarded. Nature finally yielded, and the poor man swooned and was lost to consciousness for several minutes. As soon as he revived, these hellish tormentors resumed their tortures. They split the ends of green sticks, and twisting them in his hair, and pulling violently caused the most excruciating pain. This and other fiendish operations were continued for some time. They then cut off his fingers at the second joint, as also his ears, close up to his head.

The next step was to cut off his arms at the elbows, and the legs at the knees. After this operation the wretched victim fainted, and failing to recover for several minutes, the murderers pronounced him dead and began to prepare to leave, but at this moment their victim showed signs of life.

They now tied a rope around his neck, and hung him to a limb near by, and instantly decamped, leaving him suspended between the heavens and the earth.

The third day afterward the body was discovered, taken down, and decently interred by friends.

Mr. Editor, this no myth, 'tis no exaggeration. It is worthy of remark that it is an impossibility to belie a rebel, unless you say he is honest, a gentleman, of a humane being.

At the time of the above murder I was engaged in school-teaching in Calhoun county, not more than twenty-five miles from the murdered man's house, and I took considerable pains to find out all about the matter. You have the result. SCOUR.

SHERMAN'S FLANK MOVEMENTS.—General Sherman's strategy in flanking the rebels out of their strong positions, puzzles the natives a good deal. A young woman said it was not fair to fight the Southern soldiers "on end." She then went on to say that the day before General Bragg had formed "two streaks of fight" in their door-yard with "walking soldiers," and General Wheeler formed "one streak of fight with crither soldiers"—meaning cavalry—behind the house, but that Joe Hooker had come up and flanked Bragg, and made him fall back, which he did in such a hurry, that he "upset dad's ash-hopper plant," which cost two dollars and fifty cents in Atlanta; and "dad was a-goin' to sue Bragg for waste." This a fair specimen of the way these poor people think and talk. They do not generally display half the intelligence the slaves do.

THE DRUMMER-BOY OF THE EIGHTH MICHIGAN INFANTRY.

Charles Howard Gardner was a school-boy thirteen and a half years old, in the city of Flint, Michigan, when the war commenced. His father was connected with a military organization of long standing, and under the first call for seventy-five thousand troops, immediately left for the defence of the national capital. Soon there came a second call for three hundred thousand more, when Charlie's teacher, S. C. Guild, a most exemplary young man, soon to enter the ministry, joined the army. Between Charlie and him there existed a very ardent attachment, and Captain Guild seconded Charlie's earnest entreaties that he might go with him as a drummer. He had been famous from his babyhood for his musical ability, and had acquired a good deal of merited notoriety for his skillful handling of the drumsticks. "If I can go to the war with my drum, and thus take the place of a man who can handle a musket," was Charlie's persistent plea, "I think it is my duty to go, especially as you, mother, do not greatly need me at home." So, reluctantly, the poor mother, who had surrendered her husband, consented that her boy should join the Eighth Michigan Infantry.

The regiment was ordered to Port Royal, and on their way thither, Charlie met his father in Washington. As they were returning from the Navy-yard where they had been for their arms, he saw his father a little way off, and forgetting military rule, he broke from the ranks, and with child-like joy ran to his father's arms. It was their last earthly meeting, as the November following Mr. Gardner died of typhoid fever at Alexandria. Charlie's letters to his mother after this bereavement, written from Port Royal, are exceedingly touching, and remarkably thoughtful for a boy not yet fourteen. "I am near broken-hearted," he writes: "I try to be cheerful, but it is of no use, my mind continually runs in the direction of home, a fresh gush of tears comes to my eyes, and I have to weep. But, mother, if this is so hard for me, what must it be for you? Don't take it too much to heart, for remember that you have me left, and I will do my best to help you. I shall send you all my money hereafter, for I do not really need money here."

This promise he fulfilled to the letter. Always cheerful, he was a great favorite with the officers and men, for whom he never did a favor, but they would compel him to receive some small compensation in return. These small gains he carefully husbanded, and increased them by peddling papers and periodicals, making enough for his little extra expenses, and inva-

riably, on every pay-day, he sent his money to his widowed mother. None of the vices of the camp clung to him, and amid the profane and drunken and vulgar, he moved, without assailing the whiteness of his young soul. His teacher and Captain guarded him like a father; he shared his bed and board with Charlie, and the two loved one another with an affection so unusual that it was everywhere the subject of comment.

By and by we hear of the fearless little fellow, small beyond his years, on the battle-field with the surgeon, where the grape and canister were falling like hail around them, pressing forward to the front, during an engagement, with the hospital flag in his hand, to aid in the care of the wounded. Only a peremptory order from a superior officer was able to turn him back to the rear, and there, when the wounded were brought in, he worked all night, and the next day, carrying water and bandages and lint, and lighting up the sorrowfulness of the hour by his boyish but unflinching kindness. Never was he more serviceable than during a battle. At the terrible battle of James's Island, in an assault on the fort, his beloved Captain, always foremost in the fight, had climbed to the parapet of the fort, when a shot struck him, and he fell backward, and was seen no more. Now was Charlie indeed bereaved—his teacher, captain, friend, father, lover, dead on the battle-field, and even the poor satisfaction denied his friends of burying his remains. His letters after this event, are one long wail of sorrow—he could not be comforted—and yet, always thoughtful for others, he writes: "Oh! how I pity his poor mother!"

Months passed, and the Eighth Michigan was ordered to Vicksburg to reinforce Grant, who had beleaguered that doomed city. Battle after battle ensued—*nineteen of them*—in all of which Charlie more or less participated, often escaping death as by a miracle. Something of the fierce life led by this regiment may be inferred from the fact that one thousand six hundred and fifty-three men have enlisted in it since it first took the field; of these, only four hundred survive to-day, all but eight of whom have just reenlisted. Through all battles, all marches, all reconnoissances, all campaigns, Charlie kept with the regiment, crossing the mountains with them to Knoxville, in Burnside's corps, on rations of three ears of corn per day, and then for weeks shut up in that city, besieged by Longstreet's force, and subsisting on quarter-rations. Yet not one word of complaint ever came from the patriot boy, not one word of regret, only an earnest desire to remain in the service till the end of the war.

At last, there came a letter from the surgeon. During the siege of Knoxville, Charlie had been wounded for the first time. A chance shot that passed through the window of the house in which he was, struck him on the shoulder, and entered the lung. "He has been in a very dangerous condition," wrote the surgeon, "but he is now fast recovering. He is a universal pet, and is well cared for in the officers' quarters." The next tidings were more joyful. The regiment were on their way to Detroit, on a thirty days' furlough, and would remain to recruit. Now the telegraph notified those interested that they were in Louisville—then in Indianapolis—in Michigan City—at last in Detroit.

With a happy heart the good mother telegraphed to have her boy sent to Chicago as soon as possible, and then she watched the arrival of the trains. "He will be here to-night—he will be here to-morrow"—she said, and every summons to the door she was sure was her Charlie. Every thing was in readiness for the

darling—his room—his clothes—the supper-table set with the luxuries he loved—and there sat mother, sister, and brother, waiting for him. A knock at the door—all start—all rush—'tis Charlie! No, on a telegram. God help the poor broken hearts, as they read it—*"The regiment has arrived, but Charlie is dead!"* And this was all.

OUR COUNTRY'S CAUSE.

BY MRS. M. J. M. SWEAT.

War's cruel ploughshare cleaves the land,
In furrows wide and deep;
Each furrow is a hallowed grave,
Where our loved heroes sleep.
But costly seed we're planting now,
In weariness and pain,
Shall, at the harvest-time, bring forth
Fair fields of priceless grain.

Our hearts are saddened by the sight
Of sick and wounded men;
It seems as if God's summer air
Could ne'er be pure again.
But side by side with war's dark sins
Man's noblest virtues shine,
And woman's sweet compassion beams
With lustre half divine.

Sweet mother earth, with tender care,
Covers her wounds with flowers,
And we would learn her loving art
For these deep wounds of ours.
For though our tears fall sadly now,
They, like the summer rain,
May bring rich blessings for the time
When sunshine comes again.

Only for thee, dear native land,
Could we thus bear our woe;
Only for thee, see, day by day,
Our brave men thus laid low.
But though our griefs must inly bleed
Through many a coming year,
Each sorrow makes our country's cause
To patriot hearts more dear.

OUR FLAG IN '64.

BY D. BETHUNE DUFFIELD.

Fling, fling our banner out,
With loyal song and shout,
O'er every home and hill,
By each deep valley's mill;
And let its heaven-lit beam
Round every hearthstone gleam,
And fill the passing hour—
This pregnant, fateful hour—
With all its stirring voices
And the thunder of its power.

The foe is striking hard;
But in the castle-yard
Uprise fresh traitor bands
To snatch from out our hands,
From fortress and from sea,
This banner of the free,

To give it coward flight,
That anarchy's dark night,
With all its muttering thunders,
May swallow up its light.

Ay! when our soldiers brave,
On bloody field and wave,
Sprang forth with deadly stroke
Through battle's blazing smoke
Our standard to uphold,
And save its every fold,
These home-born traitors cry,
"God grant no victory!"
Though scores of gallant heroes
Round the old flag bravely die.

Rise, then, each loyal man,
Your home horizon scan,
And plant the nation's flag
On hill-side and on crag;
And let your swelling soul
In earnest tones outroll
That brave resolve of old,
When our fathers, true and bold,
Swore a fealty to the flag
Which never once grew cold.

The flag, the flag bends low,
For whirlwinds round it blow,
And wild, chaotic night
Is veiling it from sight.
So let us every one,
While yet the winds rage on,
Cling round the straining mast
And hold the banner fast,
Till stormy treason's rage
Be safely overpast.

DEAD—EN BIVOUAC.

BY CAPTAIN GEORGE P. BURNHAM, U. S. A.

During the advance of the army of the Potomac south of the Rapidan, on those very cold nights the troops and guards suffered terribly. Several had limbs frost-bitten, and one man, in the Second corps, froze to death while on picket duty.—*Telegraph despatch in December to New-York papers.*

By the margin of the river,
'Midst the plunging snow and sleet,
On the picket-post they shiver,
As they pace their lonely beat!
Of the loved ones (calmly sleeping
Safe from cold, alarm, or fight)
They are thinking, whilst they're keeping
"Watch-in-watch" this bitter night.

Near the Rapid Ann we rested—
After weeks and months of toil—
(Faith and valor meanwhile tested!)
On Virginia's "sacred" soil.
By the lonely weird camp-fire,
Hard upon the foe's man's track,
'Mid the gloom and dampness dire
We lay down—*en bivouac.*

"All is well!" the sentry uttered,
Far away upon the right;
"All is well!" the centre muttered—
Then the left. 'Twas dead of night.
Still the storm was fiercely raging;
Biting blasts came down the vale;

And the elements were waging
Ruthless war—amid that gale.

But the sentinels kept pacing—
Pacing—up and down their track ;
While the storm-king still kept tracing
Snowy ridges—front and back.
Ah ! that air was deathly frigid,
And the sleet came tempest-tost !
But the orders out were rigid—
"Not a man must quit his post."

For, in front, (we'd had the warning.)
Massed, in force, the rebels lay,
Yet we looked for—*prayed for* morning,
Though 't should prove our final day !
Hours passed *One* watcher, weary—
Faltered, halted, breathed a moan ;
Then, amidst the darkness dreary,
Falled—and sank to earth, alone.

When the gray light broke, at dawning,
Calm, beneath a friendly tree—
Blanched, and still, lay Harry Corning !
Sleeping on his post—was he ?
Surely, no ! A soldier braver
Never met or charged the foe.
Such true hearts are few ! And never
Could he fail in duty so.

"Forward !" came the word. We lifted
Quickly up his stiffened form,
Round it wreaths of snow had drifted,
But his heart no more was warm.
He had frozen, dead—on picket.
Dreadful fate was this, alack !
And we laid him 'neath the thicket,
Where he died—*ex bivouac*.

IN CAMP, NEAR THE RAPIDAN, VA., FIRST DIVISION, SECOND
CORPS, JANUARY, 1864.

THE AFRICAN COLOR-SERGEANT.

Glares the volcano breath,
Breaks the red sea of death,
From Wagner's yawning hold,
On the besiegers bold.
Twice vain the wild attack,
Inch by inch, sadly, slow,
Fights the torn remnant back,
Face to the foe.

Yet free the colors wave,
Borne by yon Afric brave,
In the fierce storm wind higher ;
But, ah ! one flashing fire :
He sinks ! the banner falls
From the faint, mangled limb,
And droop to mocking walls
Those star-folds dim.

Stay, stay, the taunting laugh !
See ! now he lifts the staff,
Clenched in his close-set teeth,
Crawls from dead heaps beneath,
Crowned with his starry robe,
Till he the ranks has found :
"Comrades, the dear old flag
Ne'er touched the ground."

O dead so pure, so grand,
Sydney might clasp thy hand !

O brother ! black thy skin,
But white the pearl within !
Man, who to lift thy race
Worthy, thrice worthy art,
Claspe thee, in warm embrace.
A nation's heart !

RELIEVING GUARD—MARCH 4, 1864.

BY FRANK EARL HARTE.

Came the relief. "What, sentry ho !
How passed the night through thy long waking ?"
"Cold, cheerless, dark—as may befit
The hour before the dawn is breaking."

"No sight ? no sound ?" "No ; nothing, save
The plover from the marshes calling ;
And in yon western sky, about
An hour ago, a star was falling."

"A star ? There's nothing strange in that."
"No, nothing ; but above the thicket
Somehow it seemed to me that God
Somewhere had just relieved a picket !"

THE REFUGEES.

By the mountain springs of the Cumberland,
Under the leafless trees,
With faces lit by the midnight brand,
And hand close clasped in trembling hand,
Sat the hundred refugees.

A woman, one with untimely frost
Creeping along her hair ;
And a boy whose sunny locks had lost
Small store of the gold of childhood, tossed
By a mother's kisses there.

The clouds hung thick on the mountain's brow,
And the stars were veiled in gloom,
And the gorges around were white with snow,
But below was the prowling, cruel foe,
And the light of a burning home.

"Mother, the wind is cold to-night,"
Said the boy in childhood's tone ;
"But oh ! I hope in the morning's light,
That the Union lines will come in sight,
And the snow will soon be gone."

"I am very weary, mother dear,
With the long, long walk to-day,
But the enemy cannot find us here,
And I shall slumber without a fear
Till the night has passed away."

"So tell me now, ere I sleep once more,
The message that father gave
To his comrades for you and me before
The glorious fight on the river's shore
That made a soldier's grave."

Then the mother told, with tearless eye,
The solemn words again :
"Tell her I shall see her standing by,
When the calm comes on of the time to die,
And the wounds have lost their pain."

"And teach my boy for ever to hold
In his heart all things above—"

The wealth of all earth's unbounded gold,
Or life with its sweet, sad joys untold—
The worth of a patriot's love."

As his blood the message quicker stirred
The boy's bright arteries through—
"I well remember every word,"
He said; "and the angels, who must have heard,
They will remember too."

Then clasped as a mother clasps who stands
Alone between love and death,
Unfelt where the spectral chilly hands
That softly tighten the soothing bands
Over the falling breath.

Mother and child, as the fire burned low,
Slept on the earth's cold breast;
The night passed by, and the morning arow
Broke the veil of cloud o'er the stainless snow,
But never their perfect rest.

THE DOG OF THE REGIMENT.

"If I were a poet, like you, my friend,"
Said a bronzed old sergeant, speaking to me,
"I would make a rhyme of this mastiff here;
For a right good Union dog is he.
Although he was born on 'secesh' soil,
And his master fought in the rebel ranks.
If you'll do it, I'll tell you his history,
And give you in pay, why—a soldier's thanks.

"Well, the way we came across him was this:
We were on the march, and 'twas getting late
When we reached a farm-house, deserted by all
Save this mastiff here, who stood at the gate.
Thin and gaunt as a wolf was he,
And a piteous whine he gave 'twixt the bars;
But, bless you! if he didn't jump for joy
When he saw our flag with the Stripes and Stars.

"Next day, when we started again on the march,
With us went Jack, without word or call;
Stopping for rest at the order to 'halt,'
And taking his rations along with us all,
Never straggling, but keeping his place in line,
Far to the right, and close beside me;
And I don't care where the other is found,
There never was better drilled dog than he.

"He always went with us into the fight,
And the thicker the bullets fell around,
And the louder the rattling musketry rolled,
Louder and fiercer his bark would sound;
And once when wounded, and left for dead,
After a bloody and desperate fight,
Poor Jack, as faithful as friend can be,
Lay by my side on the field all night.

"And so when our regiment home returned,
We brought him along with us, as you see;
And Jack and I being much attached,
The boys seemed to think he belonged to me.
And here he has lived with me ever since;
Right pleased with his quarters, too, he seems.
There are no more battles for brave old Jack,
And no more marches except in dreams.

"But the best of all times for the old dog is
When the thunder mutters along the sky,

Then he wakes the echoes around with his bark,
Thinking the enemy surely is nigh.
Now I've told you his history, write him a rhyme—
Some day poor Jack in his grave must rest—
And of all the rhymes of this cruel war
Which your brain has made, let his be the best."

THE VETERAN VOLUNTEERS.

BY H. C. BALLARD.

Our hope and faith are cheered anew;
Our hearts are strong once more.
The brave and war-worn men in blue,
Tried in the conflict's roar,
Now rally at the Nation's call.
With purpose true and brave,
The dear old banner shall not fall
Their comrades died to save!

Bold heroes of the mighty North!
No doubts our hearts can chill;
Ye bear the hopes of millions forth,
And execute their will;
No terrors check, no dangers daunt
The men of many scars,
Who go o'er all the land to plant
The banner of the stars!

The East and West, the border lands,
Join in one loyal song,
With willing hearts and ready hands
They bear the flag along;
They see the mounds where comrade braves
Sleep by each river's side,
No flag shall float above their graves
Save that for which they died!

Behold the ranks of iron men,
With faces toward the foe,
Press boldly to the front again
Where only heroes go;
And brave and true, come woe or weal,
They dare the fearful strife,
For on their gleaming lines of steel
They bear the Union's life!

They leave their fireside joys again
For war's destroying blast,
To tread the bloody battle plain,
Where they may sleep at last;
Yet honor's hand will wreath with bays
Their brows in coming years;
And unborn millions bless and praise
Our veteran volunteers!

THE STOLEN STARS.

At a dinner, at which were present Major-General Lewis Wallace, Thomas Buchanan Read, and James E. Murdock, a conversation sprang up respecting ballads for soldiers. The General maintained that hardly one had been written suited for the camp. It was agreed that each of them should write one. The following is that of General Wallace:

When good old Father Washington
Was just about to die,
He called our Uncle Samuel
Unto his bedside nigh:
"This flag I give you, Sammy dear,"
Said Washington, said he;
"Where'er it floats, on land or wave,
My children shall be free."

And fine old Uncle Samuel
He took the flag from him,
And spread it on a long pine pole,
And prayed and sung a hymn—
A pious man was Uncle Sam
Back fifty years and more;
The flag should fly till judgment-day,
So, by the Lord, he swore!

And well he kept that solemn oath;
He kept it well, and more:
The thirteen stars first on the flag
Soon grew to thirty-four;
And every star bespoke a State,
Each State an empire won:
No brighter were the stars of night
Than those of Washington.

Beneath that flag two brothers dwelt;
To both 'twas very dear;
The name of one was Puritan,
The other Cavalier.
"Go build ye towns," said Uncle Sam
Unto those brothers dear;
"Build anywhere, for in the world
You've none but God to fear."

"I'll to the South," said Cavalier,
"I'll to the South," said he;
"And I'll to the North," said Puritan—
"The North's the land for me."
Each took a flag, each left a tear
To good old Uncle Sam;
He kissed the boys, he kissed the flags,
And doleful sung a psalm.

And in a go-cart Puritan
His worldly goods did lay;
With wife, and gun, and dog, and axe,
He, singing, went his way.
Of buckskin was his Sunday suit,
His wife wore linsey-jeans;
And fat they grew, like porpoises,
On hoe-cake, pork, and beans.

But Cavalier a cockney was;
He talked French and Latin;
Every day he wore broadcloth,
While his wife wore satin.
He went off in a painted ship—
In glory he did go;
A thousand niggers up aloft,
A thousand down below.

The towns were built, and I've heard said,
Their likes were never seen;
They filled the North, they filled the South,
They filled the land between.
"The Lord be praised!" said Puritan;
"Bully!" said Cavalier;
"There's room and town-lots in the West,
If there isn't any here."

Out to the West they journeyed then,
And in a quarrel got;
One said 'twas his, he knew it was;
The other said 'twas not.
One drew a knife, a pistol t'other,
And dreadfully they swore:
From Northern Lake to Southern Gulf
Wild rang the wordy roar.

And all the time good Uncle Sam
Sat by his fireside near,
Smokin' of his kinnikinick,
And drinkin' lager beer.
He laughed and quaffed, and quaffed and
laughed,
Nor thought it worth his while,
Until the storm in fury burst
On Sumter's sea-girt isle.

O'er the waves to the smoking front,
When came the dewy dawn,
To see the flag, he looked—and lo!
Eleven stars were gone!
"My pretty, pretty stars!" he cried,
And down did roll a tear.
"I've got your stars, Old Foggy Sam;
"Ha, ha!" laughed Cavalier.

"I've got your stars in my watch-fob;
Come take them if you dare!"
And Uncle Sam he turned away,
Too full of wrath to swear.
"Let thunder all the drums!" he cried,
While swelled his soul, like Mars:
"A million Northern boys I'll get
To bring me home my stars."

And on his mare, stout Betsey Jane,
To Northside town he flew:
The dogs they barked, the bells did ring,
And countless bugles blew.
"My stolen stars!" cried Uncle Sam—
"My stolen stars!" cried he.
"A million soldiers I must have
To bring them home to me."

"Dry up your tears, good Uncle Sam;
"Dry up!" said Puritan.
"We'll bring you home your stolen stars,
Or perish every man!"
And at the words a million rose,
All ready for the fray;
And columns formed, like rivers deep,
And Southward marched away.

And still old Uncle Samuel
Sits by his fireside near,
Smokin' of his killikinick
And drinkin' lager beer;
While there's a tremble in the earth,
A gleaming of the sky,
And the rivers stop to listen
As the million marches by.

BILL ARP ON CONFEDERATE CURRENCY.—The following, published in a rebel paper, shows the manner in which the depreciated confederate currency operated on the rebels themselves:

MR. EDITOR, SIR: At this time I ain't as much in favor of soft money as I was. I don't want to raise no rumpus nor hurt nobody's feelings, but somehow I'm injuced from pekuliar sirkumstances to express my opinyun about the way my finances have been managed by other people. I would hav writ something about it before, but I thought maybe Guvner Brown would think I was a leaning up to him, and he might insist on makin' me one of his side. Now I'm agin Joseph, and I'm agin all his messagges, and cab-

bagges, and proklamashuns, and aspirations, and abominations. I hain't seen his last great bill of inditement, but from the sillybust of it which appeared in your paper, I'm prepared to say that I would like to experiment on him, and see if Solomon writ the truth in the 22d verse and 27th chapter of Proverbs. I would make the juice fly till I was satisfied, sartin.

But I started to write a few paragraphs on the currency. Mr. Trenhome, I suppose, are a mity smart man, and knows how to run the money macheen, but shorely he don't know how the last currency bill affects me and my naburs. I don't know nothing about bankin' nor finesheering, nor the like of that, but I can't be honeyfugged as to how my money comes and as to how it goes. I know how proud I was of the first confederate bill that crossed the feel of my fingers. How keerfully I put it low down in my breeches pocket, and kept my hand on it all the way home. I felt proud because the Confederacy owed me. Think, says I to myself, this is a big thing sartin, and I'll invest my bottom dollar in this kind of money, and lay it away for hard times.

Well. After while, Mr. Memminger, or Congress, or somebody, got up a bill, the substance of which were about as follows: "Mr. Arp, Sur: I bought sum supplies from you for my army, and I give you my notes. Now, if you will consolidate 'em and wait twenty years for the money, I'll pay you four per cent interest. If you won't do it, I'll repudiate one third of the debt, and I won't take any of it for what you owe me for taxes." Mr. Editur, it didn't take two to make that bargain—it only took one. I hurried off to the Agency and consolidated. They took my money and give me a little sickly scrap of yaller print-in' about the size of a thumb-paper, and I kep it, on-till I was obliged to have some change, and I sold it to a white man for fifty cents in the dollar. I took my pay in a passel of hundred dollar bills, drawin' intrust at two cents a day, and having a pickter of an ingine pullen a train of kars rite under a telegraph wire, and the steam a bilin' out all over it. Think, says I to myself, this here is a big thing sartin and shore, for it's the right size, and it's drawin' intrust, and it's good for taxes durin' the war, for it says so on the upper left-hand corner.

Now, Mr. Trenhome, N. B., take notis. You came into ofis, and then you, or Congress, or somebody, fixed up a bill which says in substance: "Oh! see here, Mr. Arp. We forget about them intrust notes when we made you fund your other money. You must come up in a few days and fund them too. If you don't you can keep 'em, but we won't pay you any more intrust after the first of January, 1865, and we will tax 'em five per sent, and we won't take 'em for any thing you owe us." Well, I concluded to hold on to 'em, intrust or no intrust, tax or no tax, for I've got to spend 'em very soon and they are more convenient than thum papers, I put 'em on the market, and the very best offer I could git was fifty cents on the dollar and the intrust thrown in. I thought that the merchants had combined to swindle me, but I got hold of a paper containin' your last big currency bill, and its language to me are in substance as follers:

"Mr. Arp, Sur: Since the seventeenth day of February, 1864, we've borrowed a heap of money, and give our notes called the new isshew. Now we want to make the holders come up and fund those notes, and we are going to mortgage cotton and corn enuf to secure 'em. As for them intrust bills of yours, we can't do any thing for 'em—the fact is, we have left 'em out in the cold. It will take all the cotton and

corn to sekure the new isshew. Oh! see here, Mr Arp, you'll have to bring over your cotton and grain to help us out, for we are bound to have it. Good morning, sur."

That's it, exactly, Mr. Trenhome. That's the way it works me and my nabura. We can't help ourselves, but it's a hurtin' us way down in our buzzums. I had six hundred dollars of the old isshew, and I promised Mrs. Arp some of it to buy her a cow. The fundin' business rejuced it to three hundred in them intrust notes. Your currency bill has put them down to one hundred and fifty, and it won't buy the hide and taller of a flatwoods heifer. I never hear my off-spring cry for milk, but what I think of you affectionately, and exclaim, "Hard, hard, indeed, is the contest for freedom and the struggle for liberty," and I hav also thought at sich times, that if a man, a *living man*, had treat me in that way, if I couldnt whip him, I would sue him in the big cowrts, and the little cowrts, and all other cowrts. I would sue him all over with warrants, and summonses, and subpenas, and interrogatories. He could get into jail for swindlin' just as the captain of the forty thieves got into the robbers' cave.

Then agin I git over it, and conclude that maybe it couldnt be helped, but my deliberate opinyun are, that it is just as easy for a government to be honest as it is for a man, and it's a heap more important. If Mr. Trenhome thinks so, he'll buy Mrs. Arp a cow, and show his faith by his works. In the language of Mr. Milton: "I don't want nothin' but what's right."

Yours trooly,

BILL ARP.

P. S.—Mr. Editur: If you think the above will be any comfort to Joe Brown, just leave all the last part out of the paper you send to him.

B. A.

WIGFALL ON HONESTY.—In the rebel Senate, on the eighteenth of January, during the consideration of the impressment bill, Mr. Wigfall took occasion to give his views on the question of honesty. It was clear, he said, that if the prices of provisions, from the cupidity of producers, continued to increase, and the currency to expand at its present rate, the government would be confronted with the necessity of repudiation on the one hand, or of bankruptcy to the whole producing interest on the other. He then added:

"If repudiation is to be the result, he was prepared to lay down his arms and surrender at once, for the loss of liberty would be more tolerable than the loss of honor. If the country is ruined by the incontinent madness of the people, every man of them will be ruined; if it is dishonored, they will all share the dishonor. Let the leaders of the people and the press explain these matters to the people, instead of telling them that they will gain their independence but lose their liberties. Let Congress pass such a bill as he had indicated, and let the members, when they return home, tell their constituents the object of the bill, and they will receive the plaudit: Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

A SCOTCH traveller, who visited the United States, furnished to the *Edinburgh Scotsman* the following anecdote of General Grant:

"The day before Grant attacked Fort Donelson, the troops had had a march of twenty miles, part of it during a bitter cold night. Grant called a council of war, to consider whether they should attack the

fort at once, or should give the troops a day or two's rest. The officers were in favor of resting. Grant said nothing till they had all given their opinion; then he said: 'There is a deserter come in this morning—let us see him, and hear what he has to say.' When he came in, Grant looked into his knapsack. 'Where are you from?' 'Fort Donelson.' 'Six days' rations in your knapsack, have you not, my man?' 'Yes, sir.' 'When were they served out?' 'Yesterday morning.' 'Were the same rations served out to all the troops?' 'Yes, sir.' 'Gentlemen,' said Grant, 'troops do not have six days' rations served out to them in a fort if they mean to stay there. These men mean to retreat—not to fight. We will attack at once.'"

AN ANXIOUS WIFE.—Literal copy of a letter received in the summer of 1863, at the Headquarters of General J. E. Johnston, Mississippi, addressed to him:

to General Johnson

Will you do me an favor— inquire of General Jackson for my husband P. N. Smith. he joind Balentins Caveldry last fall in Hatocha then Chalmers—then you sent him to Jackson Caveldrey the twenty-fourth of last June. you mind he caim to you in Canten under A rest by order of Dr Baker in penoley (Panola) you sent him back to get his horse and give him A free pass. he brout me And my Boy—I was in Ward No 2 as matron under Dr right—if you can find aney thing pleas rite to me—my husband is none by Capt Brown—he rides A dark bay horse he cales stonewall Jackson—himself wares A green shirt with yelow braid on it—he has red hair small black hat tied by a string—I no that you will Laf at me. All right. I want to no And I no you will tell me all you no And do All you Can

ye humble suvant

Sarah Ann Smith

Matron Dr J. Buffington
enterprise

PRICES IN RICHMOND.—The following advertisement appeared in the *Enquirer*:

PAPER—PAPER.—Just received, 100 Reams of superior Brown Colored paper, suitable for envelopes or wrapping purposes. Size 24 by 38—40 lbs. to the ream. Price, \$80 per ream. Apply at the *Enquirer* office.

RICHMOND MARKETS.

Oysters are selling in Richmond for \$16 per gallon.
Flour, \$120 a \$150 per barrel.
Wheat, \$16 to \$20 per bushel.
Apples, \$80 per barrel.
Bacon, \$2.25 per pound.
Butter, \$5.50 per pound.
Beans, \$28 per bushel.
Cheese, \$7 per pound.
Coffee, \$11.50 per pound.
Whisky, \$35 per gallon.
Sugar—Brown, \$3.40; crushed, \$5.50.
Vinegar, \$6 per gallon.

AN AFFECTING INCIDENT.—The State Military Agent at Nashville, L. B. Willard, Esq., in a letter to his wife in Detroit, relates the following affecting incident. He says:

"Last evening, as I was passing by the post hospital, my attention was arrested by the singing, in a rather loud tone, of 'Rally 'round the Flag, Boys,' by one of the patients inside. While listening to the beautiful music of that popular song, I observed to a nurse standing in the doorway, that the person singing must be in a very merry mood, and could not be very sick. 'You are mistaken, sir,' said he; 'the poor fellow engaged in singing that good old song is now grappling with death—has been dying all day. I am his nurse,' he continued, 'and the scene so affected me that I was obliged to leave the room. He is just about breathing his last.' I stepped into the ward, and, true enough, the brave man was near his end. His eyes were already fixed in death. He was struggling with all his remaining strength against the grim monster, while at the same time there gushed forth from his patriotic soul incoherently the words, 'Rally 'round the flag, boys,' which had so often cheered him through his weary march, and braced him up when entering the field of blood, in defence of his country. Finally he sank away into his death-slumber, and joined his Maker's command, that is, marching onward to that far-off, better land. The last audible sound that escaped his lips was: 'Rally, boys, rally once again!' As his eyes were closing, some dozen of his comrades joined in a solemn yet beautiful hymn, appropriate to the occasion. Take it altogether, this was one of the most affecting scenes I have ever witnessed in a hospital. It drew tears copiously from near one hundred of us. It occurred in the large ward which occupies the entire body of the church on Cherry street. The deceased was an Illinoisan, and had been wounded in one of the recent skirmishes."

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FAT VOLUNTEERS.—*Richmond, January 27.*—Many of the fattest and bravest men in the Confederacy are afraid to go into the army lest they should be unwieldy or incapable of rendering service. This is a mistake. Some exceedingly fat men are now in the service. General Humphrey Marshall served for two years. But to set the matter at rest, we need only cite the example of Chiapin Vitelli, one of the ablest generals who accompanied Alva to the Netherlands. Strada says of him: "He was equally distinguished for his courage, his cruelty, and his corpulence. The last characteristic was so remarkable, that he was almost monstrous in his personal appearance. His protuberant stomach was always supported in a bandage suspended from his neck; yet, in spite of this enormous impediment, he was personally active on the battle-field, and performed more service—not only as commander, but as subaltern—than many a younger and lighter man." Be of good cheer, therefore, fat men; procure your bandages, and go in.

NEGRO RECRUITING IN KENTUCKY.—"Going to try soldiering, are you?" I inquired of an intelligent contraband whom I met in the road, hurrying on to the rendezvous.

"Yes, boss, I thought I'd go 'long with the rest of the boys."

"Why did you leave your home? Didn't your master treat you kindly?"

"Yes, sah, master allus treated his people very well. Plenty to eat, and good cloze. But you see, boss, it's mighty hard for poor nigger to work from one year's end to another, and nothin' to show for it."

We didn't used to think nothin' of it; but, you see, there's been so much talk lately, we got to thinkin' about it. Our master told us he'd give us all a hoss apiece and a new suit o' cloze if we'd stay with him, and I thought I'd stay; but, you see, the others left morn'n a week ago, and it was kind o' lonesome like, and I cut out too."

"Do you think it was right to leave your master, who always treated you kindly, with no help?"

"Well, boss, it does look like a ———— trick; but then, you know, we must look out for number one. White folks does it, and nigger will too. We's done got in the crop, and the women and children must take it off. Besides, nigger's been at the bottom of this fuss from the start, an' it's nothin' more'n right for nigger to have a hand in the fightin'."

"Suppose you get killed? A grape shot would make an ugly hole in that hide of yours."

"Well, I've thought o' that; I'll have to run the chances. But if I stay at home, a tree might fall on me."

My shining colored friend smiled audibly at this sally of fatalistic wit, displaying a formidable row of ivories, competent to the pulverization of the hardest of hard tack, and I passed on. In a few moments I was arrested with:

"I say, boss, has you been a soldier man?"

I pleaded guilty to a limited military experience, when my colored friend was urgent in his request that I should "tell a poor nigger all about it." I gave him an idea of what he might expect, for which he expressed his thanks, and struck off for the rendezvous, expressing a determination to see it through.

I asked another recruit if all the negroes in Kentucky were going soldiering. "Pretty much all of 'em that are able, sah," was the reply. "There ain't none left in our neighborhood."

People who don't own slaves, and are subject to the draft, appear to be delighted with the movement. "No more draft in Kentucky!" is the gratified exclamation with which they accompany the rubbing of their hands. Slave owners are generally sullen, and have little to say. One, however, whom I have met, appears to take a rational and philosophic view of the matter.

"Confound their black hides," said he, "let 'em go. If they want to go and get riddled with canister or filled full of buckshot, why, let 'em. Mine have been more bother than they were worth for the last three years, and I am glad they're gone. They think there's hell now; but wait till the shells begin to fly around their ears, and they'll wish they was back on the old farm. I'd a sight rather a nigger would be killed than me, any how, and I wouldn't care if every nigger in Kentucky, male and female, would go." And he gave a gratified snort of self-approval, a look out of the stage window at a passing flock of blackbirds en route for Camp Nelson, and felt in his coat pocket for a small package of Bourbon.

GENERAL BEAUREGARD AND THE BLACK FLAG.—It was stated by Governor Letcher, in a speech at Danville, that Stonewall Jackson was in favor of the black flag. It appears, from the following private letter written by General Beauregard while recruiting his health at Bladen Springs, Alabama, after the retreat from Corinth, that he coincided in opinion with General Jackson. We find the letter in *The Columbia Guardian*, which obtained the writer's permission to publish it:

BLADEN, ALA., Aug. 8, 1862.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I regret much to hear of ——— being wounded. I hope he will soon be able to face the Abolitionists. In this contest we must triumph or perish; and the sooner we make up our minds to it, the better. We now understand the hypocritical cry of "Union and the Constitution," which means, and always did mean, "spoliation and murder."

We will yet have to come to proclaiming this war "a war to the knife," when no quarter will be asked or granted. I believe it is the only thing which can prevent recruiting at the North. As to ourselves, I think that very few will not admit that death is preferable to dishonor and ruin.

Our great misfortune is, that we have always relied on foreign intervention "and peace in sixty days." No nation will ever intervene until it is seen that we can maintain alone our independence; that is, until we can no longer require assistance. England is afraid to admit that she cannot do without our cotton, for then she would virtually be in our power. France is unwilling to interfere, for fear of the treachery of the latter. She always remembers her as "*la perfide Albion*."

But if France concludes to take Mexico, she will require the alliance of the Southern Confederacy to protect her from Northern aggression. Nations as well as individuals always consult their own interests in any alliance they may form. Hence, our best reliance must be in our "stout hearts and strong arms."

I have been very unwell for several months, but could not rest until now. I hope shortly to return to duty, with renewed health and vigor. I know not yet to what point I shall be ordered. I hope to do something shortly by taking the offensive with a well-organized army. However, "*l'homme propose et Dieu dispose*;" hence, I shall go with alacrity wherever I am ordered.

With kind regards, etc., I remain yours, sincerely,
G. T. BEAUREGARD.

Gen. WM. E. MARTIN, Pocotaligo, S. C.

ANECDOTE OF GENERAL GRANT.—A gentleman from the front tells the following good story of General Grant: A visitor to the army called upon him one morning, and found the General sitting in his tent smoking and talking to one of his staff-officers. The stranger approached the chieftain, and inquired of him as follows: "General, if you flank Lee and get between him and Richmond, will you not uncover Washington, and leave it a prey to the enemy?" General Grant, discharging a cloud of smoke from his mouth, indifferently replied: "Yes, I reckon so." The stranger, encouraged by a reply, propounded question number two: "General, do you not think Lee can detach sufficient force from his army to reinforce Beauregard and overwhelm Butler?" "Not a doubt of it," replied the General. Becoming fortified by his success, the stranger propounded question number three, as follows: "General, is there not danger that Johnston may come up and reinforce Lee, so that the latter will swing round and cut off your communications, and seize your supplies?" "Very likely," was the cool reply of the General, and he knocked the ashes from the end of his cigar. The stranger, horrified at the awful fate about to befall General Grant and his army, made his exit, and hastened to Washington to communicate the news.

A REMINISCENCE OF DONELSON.—A correspondent of the *Memphis Appeal* made the following statement, on the authority of a member of Congress who was one of the Fort Donelson Investigation Committee:

On Saturday night, before the surrender, a council of war was called. Pillow, Floyd, Buckner, and a number of brigadiers, composed this body. There was much confusion and exciting debate for a while. Some thought it necessary to surrender, and some did not. It was midnight, and no definite understanding was come to. General Floyd, seeing this, dismissed the council, requesting Pillow and Buckner to remain. The three sat down gloomily by the fire, to ponder over the sad aspect of affairs. A long silence ensued. At last Floyd said:

"Well, gentlemen, it remains with us to decide this matter, and we must do it at once. It is now midnight, and if we retreat we haven't got a minute to lose."

"I say retreat," said Pillow.

"I say surrender! We have shed enough blood already to no purpose," said Buckner.

"Well, gentlemen," said Floyd, "I see you are still divided; and as I have the casting vote, I will settle the matter at once. I favor a surrender myself, provided the duty does not devolve upon me. I cannot surrender, because the United States Government have indicted me for treason, and the probability is that if they were to get me they would hang me. So, you see, the thing is impossible. I transfer the command to you, General."

"Well, gentlemen," said Pillow, "I'm in the same fix as yourself. The Yankees have got me indicted for shipping guns and munitions of war to the confederate government. So, you see, I can't surrender either. They would hang me as quick as they would you; and if you are excusable, I guess I am, too. So I transfer my right of command to you, General Buckner."

General Buckner bowed, but said nothing. At that moment a noise was heard without. The door opened, and the courier announced an officer who desired admittance. He was ordered to show him in; and the next moment Colonel Forrest, all splashed with mud and water, with high-topped boots and an old slouched hat, made his appearance. He walked to the fireplace, and seated himself without saying a word. After a few moments, Floyd said:

"Well, Colonel, have you any thing important to communicate, that you come here at this late hour, or has your curiosity led you to pay us this visit in order to find out what we have decided upon?"

"Both," replied Forrest dryly; then rising from his chair, he said:

"But is it possible, gentlemen, as I have already heard whispered this night, that you intend to surrender?"

"Yes," was the reply. "We have just arrived at that conclusion."

"But," said Forrest, "there is no occasion for it, gentlemen. The whole army can easily escape, without the loss of a man. Not an hour ago I crossed the river, on my horse, where it was not waist-deep. I crossed it going on horseback, and waded it coming back. It is free from Yankee pickets also, and there is no danger to be feared."

"Yes; but, Colonel," said General Floyd, "my scouts have reconnoitred the entire river, and an officer who arrived not half an hour ago told me that

he had tested the river everywhere, and no spot had been found that was fordable."

"I don't care, General, if he did," said Forrest; "he told you a d—d lie, as I am ready to swear that I waded the river not half an hour ago, as my wet clothes will testify. And now, gentlemen, as it is getting late, it is high time you should be acting. Will you take my advice, and make your escape?"

"No," was the reply, "it is too late."

"I have one request to make," said Forrest; "I have a fine regiment of cavalry here, and I want permission to take it out. Grant me this much, and I'm off."

General Buckner nodded his head, when Forrest bolted out of the house, took his command, crossed the river at the aforesaid place, and made his escape without the loss of a man.

A GOOD JOKE.—I must tell a good thing that occurred here, *apropos* of General Smith. On his arrival he made his way to General Magruder's office. But one staff-officer happened to be in, and, as young men sometimes will do, he was occupying a position more comfortable than elegant, with his back to the door, singing "Dixie." General Smith interrupted him with: "Is this General Magruder's office?" The young officer broke off his song only enough to reply: "Yes, sir."

General S.—Is the General in?"

Officer—"No, sir."

General S.—"Will he be in soon?"

Officer—"Don't know, sir."

General S.—"How long has he been gone?"

Officer—"Don't know, sir."

General S.—"Where is he?"

Officer—"Don't know, sir. It is not my work to keep him."

General S.—"Ahem! My name is Smith."

Officer—"Yes. Good many Smiths about—several been to see the General."

General S.—"They sometimes call me Lieutenant-General Smith."

Officer—"The deuce you say!"

The officer turned a very rapid summerset, and disappeared in a twinkling.—*Mobile Advertiser*.

A GALLANT FEMALE SOLDIER.—Doctor Mary E. Walker writes from Chattanooga an account of a singular case of female martial spirit and patriotic devotion to the flag:

Frances Hook's parents died when she was only three years old, and left her, with a brother, in Chicago, Illinois. Soon after the war commenced, she and her brother enlisted in the Sixty-fifth "Home Guards," Frances assuming the name of "Frank Miller." She served three months, and was mustered out, without the slightest suspicion of her sex having arisen. She then enlisted in the Ninetieth Illinois, and was taken prisoner in a battle near Chattanooga. She attempted to escape, and was shot through the calf of one of her limbs while said limbs were doing their duty in the attempt. The rebels searched her person for papers, and discovered her sex. The rascals respected her as a woman, and gave her a separate room while in prison at Atlanta, Georgia.

During her captivity, she received a letter from Jeff Davis, offering her a Lieutenant's commission if

she would enlist in their army. She had no home and no relatives; but she said she preferred to fight as a private soldier for the Stars and Stripes, rather than be honored with a commission from the rebels. About two weeks ago she was exchanged. The insurgents tried to extort from her a promise that she would go home, and not enter the service again. "Go home!" she said; "my only brother was killed at Pittsburgh Landing, and I have no home—no friends!"

Dr. Walker describes Frank as of about medium height, with dark hazel eyes, dark brown hair, rounded features, and feminine voice and appearance. Dr. W. is well versed in human nature, as well as anatomy, and she believes that justice to the young woman in question requires that she should be commissioned a lieutenant in the army. The Doctor also argues that Congress should assign women to duty in the army, with compensation, as well as colored men, averring that patriotism has no sex. Whether the President will commission Miss Hook as a lieutenant, or Congress will draft Mrs. Walker's countrywomen into the service, we know not; but we are certain that the "Doctor" is thoroughly in earnest, and that the story of her new *protégée* is an interesting one.—*Washington Republican*.

OUR PRESIDENT.

1864.

Abram Lincoln knows the ropes!

All our hopes

Centre now about the brave and true;

Let us help him as we can,

He's the man,

Honest for the country through and through.

Others good, perhaps, as he

There may be;

Have we tried them in the war-time's flame?

Do we know if they will stand,

Heart in hand,

Seeking for the Right in Heaven's name?

Let the Nation ask him, then,

Once again

To hold the rudder in this stormy sea;

Tell him that each sleepless night,

Dark to light,

Ushers in a morning for the Free.

Let us not forget our rude

Gratitude!

But lend our servant the poor crown we may!

Give him four more years of toil,

Task and toil,

Knowing God shall crown him in His day!

THE ARMY TO THE PEOPLE.

Men of the North! ye are true, ye are strong!

Give us a watchword to cheer us along;

Write on our banners, in letters of fire,

Words that shall hearten, ennoble, inspire—

Words that shall strike to the heart of the foe

Terror and trembling wherever we go;

Give us *this* watchword to hear through the fight:

"Freedom and Fatherland, God and the Right!"

"Freedom," for all that are weak and oppressed—

"Fatherland, God and the Right!" For the rest,

Leave that to us! With a watchword so true,
What shall be lacking that brave hearts can do?
Soon, from the Gulf to the Border, o'er moat,
O'er battlement, fortress, that banner shall float,
Blazoned all over with letters of light:

"Freedom and Fatherland, God and the Right!"

Men of the North! ye are firm, ye are leal—

Firmer than granite, and truer than steel!

Loving and loyal, this only remains:

Strike from the bondsman his fetters and chains!

Then, *then* shall our legions go forth to the fray,

Invincible, clad in their battle-array;

And conquering angels shall lead on the fight

For Freedom and Fatherland, God and the Right!

FITCHBURGH, MASS.

CAROLINE A. MASON.

THE LAST STAR.

A REMINISCENCE OF MINE RUN.

BY E. J. ADAMS.

"Here, Sergeant, take this star. It is the last of thirty-four from our old flag; the remainder are shot away in the eleven battles through which I have borne it—Malvern Hill, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, first and second Fredericksburgh, Gettysburgh, Falling Waters, Bristol Station, Rappahannock Station, and Mine Run. And if I am not permitted to take it to the ladies who gave it, perform the duty for me, and tell them it never left the field disgraced!"—Color-Sergeant JEFFERSON FOSTER, of the Fifty-ninth New-York volunteers, to Orderly G. S. ADAMS, of the Sixth New-York artillery.]

All quiet now the battle clash;

No more the cannon's sound

Peals forth a requiem to the dead,

Or shakes the corpse-strewn ground;

But gentle night hath drawn her veil

O'er this sad scene of woe,

As if to hide from mortal ken

A sight they dare not know.

From dawn of day till eve set in,

The fearful contest waged;

Still vict'ry perched on neither flag,

But brooded where the "tug" had raged.

Begrimed and weary, wet with gore,

The separate armies lay

Upon their arms that solemn night,

Early to start the strife next day.

Beneath a charred and shattered oak

A color-sergeant lay,

And many a wide and gaping wound

Told of his work that day.

But not alone upon the plain

Was this youthful warrior left,

To be butchered by some thieving band

Of humanity bereft.

"Squad, halt! and see who this man is."

"Friends!" the soldier yelled, "'tis I!

Color of the Fifty-ninth,

And not afraid to die!"

"Here's brandy, Jeff, 'twill do you good,

Then p'haps you'll know your friends;

But on keeping calm and quiet now,

Your recovery depends.

"Here, sergeant," said the bleeding man,

"This star is all I've got

That yet remains of that old flag,

I've borne through battles hot.

If I should die of this slight wound—
The trust is not misplaced—
Carry it back to those who gave,
And say 'twas ne'er disgraced.

"Just there we met the 'Catamounts'"*
From Alabama's wild,
Who dashed upon old Fifty-nine
As if she were a child.
But soon they found us foemen good,
Who worked with might and will,
And would not give one inch of ground—
It was not in our drill!

"My poor old flag was torn to shreds,
But still I held it high,
Determined that this tree itself
Should run as soon as I.
Wounded and faint at last I fell
Upon the reeking ground,
And feeling round for my dear flag,
This, alas! is all I found.

"I crawled away to this old tree,
To lay me down and die,
And thought of you all, my comrades,
But did not think you nigh.
How good it is to meet once more
Before I go away,
To march and carry a different flag,
In the endless realms of day!

"Tell them I held—" his head bowed down,
As if nature claimed her own,
And they carried off the soldier,
Thinking life had flown.
But he recovered slowly
From wounds—a sad array—
And says he'll yet meet foemen
To fight another day.

WILKESBARR, April 13, 1864.

THE AMERICAN WAR.

Hark to the sound of the war-charger prancing
The red gory field of yon mighty domain;
Where kinsmen and brothers to death are advancing,
And father and son swell the ranks of the slain.

Their trumpets are sounding slave emancipation!
What genius awoke that harmonical strain,
Or charmed it to slumber in vile degradation,
Till union extinction had kindled the flame?

Ye sons of Columbia, your rigor surrender,
The sun of your glory descends into night;
Your grandsires, who bled for your freedom and splendor,
In union combined ye—then why do ye fight?

Your maidens are sighing amidst their devotion,
For loved ones laid low in the flower of their bloom;
Hearts that responded each tender emotion
Lie silent and cold in the warrior's tomb.

The daisies may wave where the pale lips were parted,
In hateful reproach, or in anguish to pray;

* The Fourth regiment of Alabama infantry style themselves the "Catamounts;" and many other chivalry regiments have assumed corresponding "highfalutin" names, such as "Tigers," "Squirrels," "Dare-Devils," etc.—*Weekly Herald*.

And spirits unfettered their prison deserted,
Surveyed them with horror, and fled in dismay.

Be still, little baby, your mother is weeping—
In secret she whispers the name of her dear,
Your father, so young and so noble, is sleeping—
The wail of his darling falls dead on his ear.

Oh! when shall Columbia her freedom inherit,
And peace, like an angel, descend with a smile;
Or fate send a hero, with Washington's merit,
To stay the red surge that o'erwhelms the soil?

—From *Glasgow (Scotland) Penny Post*.

ENLISTED.

BY W. A. KENDALL.

"You've donned the peerless uniform
Of good old Uncle Sam"—
Around my neck her arms she threw,
And to her breast my own she drew—
With tears her fond eyes swam.

"You're dearer to me than I thought—
Since in this steadfast hue
Your form was draped, its impress takes
A depth such as a hero's makes—
All hail, my own true blue!

"Prouder am I to see you thus—
Though it precludes good-by—
Than were you crowned perchance a king,
Whose name in action ne'er did ring,
Whose soul gives fame the lie,

"Your stature seems to gain in height
From your high motive's aim;
And to such eminence my heart
Is lifted, I am strong to part—
Oh! to reserve were shame!

"Go, save our country! she is first—
Stand guard until you fall;
Or till the danger overcome
Shall respite the alarm-drum—
I will delay recall.

"Go, where along the lurid front
The Union vanguards tramp!
Do your whole duty, danger spurn,
When Freedom's laurelled, then return—
These arms shall be your camp!

"As I would ask, so you have done—
'God shield you!' is my charm:
Should you survive, redeem this kiss,
And should you perish, one will miss
From life its sweetest balm.

"These tears attest the grief I feel—
God's and my own true blue!
For every one speed thou a shot;
When *quietus* the foe has got,
Valor for love may sue."

So spoke my own brave girl, and fled,
Fearing her heart's dread pain
Would traitor prove unto her will,
And rising with rebellious thrill,
Persuade me to remain.

To die for her were sweeter far
Than loved by less to live;
Such natures wear an aspect grand,
As with an unreserving hand
They answer Duty's "give!"

O woman! how much patriot fire
Thy breath has woke to flame!
How many heroes were not such
But for thy consecrating touch,
None less than God can name!

SAN FRANCISCO, April 1, 1864.

FORT PILLOW.

Ah! just as long as history owns a record,
This foulest shame upon the South shall rest,
That writ in blood and flame, the fiendish motto,
No pity, none, upon the rebel crest.

Not for the wounded, and the sick and dying!
Not for brave prisoners craft but forced to yield!
Nor women and young children! then, O Southron!
Go, blazon Chivalry upon your shield!

Is this the foe whose wounded we have tended?
Is this the foe whose prisoned we have fed?
Whose women and whose children we have succored,
When their own soldiers robbed them of their bread?

O the brave hearts they riddled with their bullets!
O the sick forms they mangled where they lay!
Their murdered blood cries up to God, Avenge us!
Cries out to you, O brothers! night and day.

Then grasp your muskets and belt on your sabres,
For fiercely burns the hate of desperate men;
But go not forth to murder and to pillage,
Nay, leave such bandit-deeds to such as them.

Brave hearts ne'er yet were cruel to the vanquished;
Ye will not stain the dear old flag ye bear
With crimes that would disgrace the martial manhood,
That took that flag from fingers young and fair.

Let none at home prate peace and compromising,
When rebel tactics is to butcher men!
Nay, rally, freemen, in one grand uprising,
For the world wills that we should conquer them!

O bearded faces, brown but kind and tender!
Through weary marches, our prayers march with you,
And sweet lips cry from home: Dear braves, re-
member,
As you to country, we to you are true.

LIZZIE P.

SEDNEY, OHIO, April 26.

THE HERO OF SUGAR PINE.

"Oh! tell me, Sergeant of Battery B,
O hero of Sugar Pine!
Some glorious deed of the battle-field,
Some wonderful feat of thine;

"Some skilful move when the fearful game
Of battle and life was played
On yon grimy field, whose broken squares
In scarlet and black are laid."

"Ah! stranger, here at my gun all day,
I fought till my final round
Was spent, and I had but powder left,
And never a shot to be found.

"So I trained my gun on a rebel piece;
So true was my range and aim,
A shot from his cannon entered mine,
And finished the load of the same!"

"Enough! O Sergeant of Battery B,
O hero of Sugar Pine!
Alas! I fear that thy cannon's throat
Can swallow much more than mine!"

LOUISVILLE JOURNAL ADDRESS.

NEW YEAR, 1864.

Beside my quiet hearth to-night
A Pilgrim sits, with locks of white,
With drooping head and folded hands,
As one who dreams of far-off lands;
As one all conscious that the hour
Is bearing from him wealth and power,
And looks to sunset shores attained,
Where blessings lost may be regained.
Oh! weird and strange the old man seems,
As though I saw him in my dreams—
His garments stained with moss and dust,
His eyes like graves of buried trust,
His lips all trembling, pale, and still,
A worker he, of good or ill.

"O Stranger! tell me whence thy flight,
To rest beside my hearth to-night;
Tell me thy hope—thy eager quest,
That I may honor thee, my Guest!"

He answers not, but turns to go,
Over his worn staff bending low.

"O weary Pilgrim! go not forth,
The wind is shrieking from the North;
And pallid Snow, a phantom, steals,
Attendant on its chariot-wheels;
The freezing night broods o'er the street—
'Tis dark and cold for aged feet.
Wait till the morn, when, from the towers,
Deep-throated bells, with iron powers,
Shall usher in to lands of cheer
And lands of gold, the brave New Year
Then, when the day new promise brings,
When mirth and song the loudest rings—
When sunlight gilds the forest ways,
And strikes the hoar frosts' troubled mane,
Thou canst go onward at thy will,
Thy secret purpose to fulfil."

"Maiden, most kind, I may not see
The morn that brings such hope to thee;
But if thou canst, with pitying eye,
Look on, and see an old man die,
I will not cross again thy door,
But tarry till my work is o'er."

His very tones, so soft and low,
O'er-ran his lips with silvery flow,
And leave such echoes as we find
Dropped from the flying April wind;
Or lingering after summer showers
Midst swaying vines in forest bowers;

Or the low sound that sometimes springs,
Like murmurous clash of unseen wings,
Moaning from trees or vines, or both,
In the swift struggle of their growth—
A strange commingling of all tones,
Or sweet or sad, that Nature owns.
The old man rests again, and seems
To gather up anew his dreams.
From 'neath his mantle, gray and torn,
He draws a book, with pages worn,
And turning o'er its leaves so thin
With frequent seconds entered in,
He strives all eagerly to find
Some thought peculiar to his mind,
As one may take from dusty shelf
Some precious tome, as dear as self,
And turning o'er, with lingering touch,
The leaves full freighted, holding much
Of earnest thought, and won desire,
That kindle passion into fire—
Read here and there some loving rhyme;
Some echo of a far-off time;
Some thought entrapped in mystic words,
(A fowler's mesh holds struggling birds;)
And note, with acquiescent smile,
The working of the poet's will:
So, here and there, the old man reads
Of grand endeavor, toil, and deeds;
Of purposes of high surprise—
Of visions granted to the wise—
Of struggles long, and victories won—
Of wonders wrought, and labor done—
Of men who rule the age of gold,
Possessing treasures manifold—
Of life and death—of war and peace—
Loud bursts of song in many keys,
And mournful wails of low regret—
Of graves that yawn uncovered yet—
Till we who list are fain to think
That Memory gives him gall to drink.

He reads the wooing of the Spring,
When, in the meadows wandering,
He met the maid, her work begun,
And found her fair to look upon.
He reads the fitting of the May,
That bore his maiden-bride away;
And sighs, in mem'ry of the hour
When first he trod her vacant bower,
(Its slender pillars twined across
With orange lichens and green moss,)
And found her buds, no more subdued,
Decking with bloom their solitude.
He murmurs o'er the self-same tune
He heard the south wind play in June,
And finds some lingering of the haze
That tangled in its misty maze
The falling leaves and blossoms sweet,
Beneath the Indian Summer's feet.

"Oh! sweet as Love, but dearer far,"
The old man sighs, "these memories are;
But sadder still, with longing pain,
For they may never come again!
But one short June my life may know—
May see its roses blush and blow—
Its lilies whiten to the sky,
And then in conscious splendor die;
But with no dream of smiling hope,
That when, o'er yonder snowy slope,
The Summer fitteth down, that she
Will bring those blossoms back to me!"

But now he reads a darker page—
With records stained of hate and rage—
Of hosts drawn up in brave array
To fight each other's lives away!
Of clash of sword and noise of gun—
Of corpses stiffening in the sun—
Of hissing shot and booming shell,
Confusion like to that of hell!
Of men, whom mothers once wept o'er,
To devils turned—like men no more!
Of the dread silence afterward,
That steals along the trodden sward,
And settles down o'er faces white,
That never more shall greet the light;
Of passions maddened to excess—
Of blood that flowed in plenteousness—
Of all the hopes and treasures lost,
To crown the dreadful holocaust!

"O shrine of Death!" the old man cries,
"Whose greedy flames in triumph rise,
Fed by the dread Iconoclast,
Who, heralded by trumpet blast,
Has drained our land of hopes and cheers,
And sowed its fallow ground with tears,
The bleaching bones of dead desires,
The ashes of Ambition's fires,
The royal wine of human life
Spilled over in unholy strife—
The vilest passions 'neath the sun,
Whose work of evil just begun
May never more on earth be done—
A harvest dread of blood and groans,
These are thy temple's altar-stones!"

Again he reads—of lofty rooms
Where warm airs tremble with perfumes;
Where music answers beauty's laugh,
And red wine waits for all to quaff;
Where roses, blushing with delight,
Press closer to the carpet white
In dumb, red passion, faint and sweet,
Beneath the tread of dancing feet;
Where costly flowers, in blooming bands,
Drop fragrance on the jasper stands;
Where pictures deck the broad, high walls,
And curtains, in their silken falls,
Brush marble forms that hold, like saints,
Life's semblance in their cold restraints—
So pure, so holy, that they seem
The incarnation of a dream!

"What matters it," the old man sighs,
"If lamps flash radiance o'er young eyes;
What matters it, if fires be warm,
And music drowns the shrieking storm,
That the cold winter night without
Waves its white, frozen wings about,
And pallid in its icy wrath
The swift snow hurries o'er the path,
And strives with eager haste to meet
Some weary, faint, and haggard feet—
That it may drain some veins of life,
And ease some aching heart of strife!"

Another page he turneth o'er,
And reads, more sadly than before—
Within the shadows floating wide
From yon high palaces of pride,
Are lowly cots, all bare and black,
Gaping with many a wide-mouthed crack;

Where Poverty, so gaunt and worn,
Sits ever waiting and forlorn;
Where no strange perfumes fill the gloom;
Where no buds tremble into bloom;
Where no songs ring, but tears and sighs;
And little children's hungry cries
Make terrible the echoes there,
Already burdened with despair;
Where mothers, mad with woes like these,
Watch their young children starve and freeze,
And pray that Death would bear them far
To realms beyond the morning star;
Where, in the heavenly courts above,
Their voices, loud in songs of love,
By grief and woe no more controlled,
Will say no longer, "I am cold!"

"O wonder strange!" the old man cries,
"A riddle for the learned and wise,
That for the lack of bread and wine,
God's image, likeness so divine,
Should find on this broad earth He gave,
His only heritage—a grave!
The sick pray loud with fast-closed palms,
For added wealth and soothing balms—
They drink rare wines from cups of gold,
And yet their neighbor dies of cold!
Oh! when will Charity anointed be?
Greatest of all the blessings three!"

The old man's words are faint and low—
His falling voice is trembling so—
And mystic names and low sweet calls
Drop from his lips at intervals,
As if some long-forgotten thought
Stirred in its channels all unsought.
How pale he seems—oh! very pale;
How suddenly his pulses fail!
But, more distinct these last words come
From lips fast growing white and dumb:
"Though death and darkness o'er me fall,
God's blessing shineth over all!"

What ho, without! bring in your shroud and pall,
And cover up the glare of these dead eyes!
Fold closely o'er the breast the meek, still hands,
And scatter incense where the pale corpse lies;
And as you carry out your precious dead,
Soft let the censer o'er him swing and wave,
And lay him where the flowers will soonest bloom
In fragrant beauty, o'er the Old Year's grave.

With joyful peals of melody and song,
The blessed chimes ring out, with sudden start;
Alike on high and low their music falls,
And some sweet promise bear to every heart;
Some precious hope they breathe of wrongs redressed,
Of sunbeams that shall lighten sorrow's glooms;
Of violets that yet may blush and grow,
In modest fragrance, o'er some barren tomb.

INVOCATION.

O New Year! radiant One!
Come with the trembling of the morning light
Through the vast portals, glittering and white,
That open to the Sun,
And glorious in the promise of thy youth
Scatter the seeds of light and truth!

Oh! let thy coming prove
A resurrection to our buried hopes,
That we may raise again on sun-barred slopes
The altars of our love,
And the quenched fires revive, though spent and cold,
With offerings manifold.

Oh! glide on, snowy ships,
Down the broad rivers reaching to the sea;
And bear a message to the bond and free:
That the long-mourned eclipse
Of peace shall with thy dawning pass away,
Ne'er to resume its away.

And as (foreshadowed fate!)
The blessed Saviour came upon the earth
To bring the promise of a second birth
To man regenerate;
So, like a bow of promise, wilt thou rise,
Within our troubled skies!

O happy New Year! go
From lands of shade to lands of sun;
And count thy victory duly won
If tears have ceased to flow,
And mourners shout from bloody graves that yawned:
"A better day hath dawned!"

AFTER THE FIGHT.

One of the boys lies dead in his tent,
All alone.
Soldier, go in, go in,
And smooth back his hair,
And close the dead eyes,
So dreamily blue,
That are staring straight through
The night, toward the skies,
Where his soul has gone!

Ay, and we made a desperate charge
Through the smoke,
And the terrible roar, for the guns
That had growled all day
From the rebel right—
Rank after rank,
On our wearied flank,
Had gone down in the fight,
When those cannons spoke.

Scorching hot, from their grinning jaws,
With a shout,
Came the whirling shot
And the bursting shell,
And the air grew gray
With the drifting smoke,
That quivered and broke
And heaved and fell,
When the roar burst out.

And Death rode over the battle-field,
Through the storm,
Like the withering breath of a curse;
And his voice rang out,
With a shrill report,
When the rifles flashed
And the bayonet gashed
The quivering heart,
And the knife struck home.

Up through the smoke and the driving shot,
And the strife,
Ring the bugle-notes sounding a charge;
And the spurs strike deep,
And away we plunge,
With a deaf'ning shout,
And our swords are out,
For the ghastly lunge
At the foe's man's life.

Still are the guns, for a space, as though
Without breath;
And our men go gallantly down,
With unbroken ranks,
And a shout for the "Stars."
There's a swift, bright flash
From the guns, and a crash,
And the red earth jars
'Neath the thunder of death.

And many a brave boy fell when that fire
Burst out.
Yet we hurled the foe heavily back,
In the fierce, wild fight,
And the victory was won;
But the dead lay white,
In the ghastly light,
As the sinking sun
Looked in on the rout.

This one came from the fight with a ball
In his side;
And he sleeps so peacefully now
That we'll leave him to rest,
By our camp on the hill.
Yet never will come,
To the loved ones at home,
Who watch for him still,
The Soldier who died.

THE STORY OF A DAY.

A SOLDIER slept, as the morning uprolled
O'er the white tents pitched on the pleasant plain.
The bayonets' gleam was the gleam of gold,
Where the sunlight poured on the height and the wold,
And the fields of yellow grain.

Then the soldier arose, when his rest was done,
And he merrily sang in his joyous glee;
He sharpened his sword and he brightened his gun,
And he smiled, as he thought of the laurels won,
That yet on his brow would be.

The couriers rode when the noontide came,
And told of grim lines advancing fast,
So the camp was filled with a wild acclaim,
And the soldier's heart was kindled with flame
As the hurrying squadron passed.

But the glen full soon was the place of blood,
With the hissing of shot and the clang of steel
And men lay dabbled and stained in the wood,
Though the soldier's comrades in valor stood
Till they made the foemen reel.

When the night came down the corpses were strewn,
And the soft dews fell on the face of the dead;
But the soldier's song had changed to a moan,
As, faint and pale, where the sad moon shone,
He lay with his bleeding head.

'Tis morning again on the tents and the spears,
But the soldier's voice is for ever still;
There's a form that's missed from the cavaliers,
There's a sweet face blurred with bitter tears—
There's a nameless grave on the hill.

CAMP CHASE, OHIO, October, 1864.

GEN. BUTLER AND THE "PERFECTIONISTS."

IN Norfolk there is a society called "Perfectionists," and in their behalf some ten or twelve of this number addressed a letter to the Commanding General of that department, setting forth their objections to swearing allegiance to any earthly government. The subject was disposed of by General Butler in the following characteristic manner:

"HEADQUARTERS OF EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, }
FORT MONROE, VA., January 18, 1864. }

"J. F. Dozier, E. H. Beasley, and others:

"GENTLEMEN: I have read your petition to General Barnes, setting forth your objections to swearing allegiance to any earthly government.

"The first reason which you set forth is that 'all human governments are a necessary evil, and are continued in existence only by the permission of Jehovah until the time arrives for the establishment of his kingdom, and in the establishment of which all others will be subdued unto it, thus fulfilling that declaration in the eighth of Daniel, fourteenth verse,' etc.

"You therein establish to your own satisfaction three points:

"First. The government, although an evil, is a necessary one. Second. That for a time it is permitted to exist by the wisdom of Jehovah. Third. That the time at which a period is to be put to its existence is not come.

"Therefore you ought to swear allegiance to the government of the United States:

"First. Because, though an evil, you admit it to be necessary. Second. Although an evil, you admit that it is permitted by the wisdom of Jehovah, and that it is not for his creatures to question the wisdom of his acts. Third. You only claim to be excused when Jehovah's government is substituted, which period, you admit, has not yet arrived. Your obedient servant,

"BENJ. F. BUTLER."

LETTER FROM THREE GOOD LITTLE BOYS.

THE Richmond *Whig* of the twenty-ninth of January, published the following "Letter from Three Good Little Boys," in which, under cover of a facetious style, the desperation of the rebel army was disclosed, and the "government" condemned for its inefficiency and retention of incompetent agents:

"OUT IN THE FIELD, }
January 26, 1864. }

"DEAR PA: We take our Pen in Hand to write You a letter. We have Got something to say to You. It is Bad News, and we are sorry to say it. But it is the Fact. And we Hope You won't get Very Madd with us for telling it, for It is the Real Truth, and we don't mean to Hurt your Feelings by telling it. Because, if we could help telling It, we wouldn't Tell It. Dear Pa, the truth is this. Us Boys that You sent into the Field to Fight the Yankees are getting Mighty Hungry, and the Reason of it All is that we don't get Enough to Eat.

"Now You Know that Boys that don't get a Plenty to Eat can't Fight. They can Fight some. But

they can't Fight Good. Because It takes Strength to Fight, and No Man is Strong that Don't get Enough to Eat. We All are willing not to Eat as Much as You All at Home, and we All Don't never get as Good Vittles as You All do, but we Enjoy what we do Get more than You All do, just Because we are so Pleg-taken Hungry All the Time, but we have Got to Fight, and Fiting is Hard Work, and them that have to Fite are obliged to Eat. If they don't they Can't Fite Hard.

"We know that You Love us as Much as any Pa ever loved any Boys. And we know it Herts You to Hear that we are Suffering. We would knot say Anything about it, but we have kept it Back until we Can't keep it Back any longer. If we Did, we would soon get so Poor and Lean that the Yankees would Run Over us like a Big Fat Horse running over Tim-mid little Gearls, and Dog on 'em they Shan't Do it if we can help it, which we can if you will give us Enough to Eat. Because if the Yankees run Over us, what will Be come of You and the Balance of the Fokes at Hoam? This is a Important Question, don't You think so, Pa?

"Dear Pa, Please don't get Fretted with us for telling you the Reason we don't get Enough to Eat. You have got a Great Deal more Wisdom than we all Have, but then You have not Got a Bad Pane in Your stum-mack because it is Empty, and Consequently Your Mind ain't turned to the Subject All the time like Ours is. You have got so Many things to attend to that You can't be Expected to Think on this Subject as Often as we do, this is the Reason we make Bold to tell you something which perhaps you Don't Know, and we Beg you to pardon and Forgive us for Writing you a letter about it. Indeed, indeed we don't mean any Harm by it, or to Go out of our Place by Doing it.

"Dear Pa, the Cause why we don't get Enough to Eat is that old man, Mr. Northup. They say He Ain't Got Good sense. We don't say it, but Everybody says it. You told him to Feed us Well, and we Ain't Well Fed, that is certain. He is to blame for it. Now if you was to get Another Man and tell him to Feed us Well, may be He would Do it. If he did not Do it, then nobody can Blame You for keeping a Man in office that has not Got Good sense. We feel sorry for that Old Man, and wish he had his Right Mind and Enough sense to do the Bisness you told him to do. But we cant wait any longer, the Pane in our Stum-mack is so Bad and we are getting-so Weak in our Joynts.

"We know that the Fellows in old Mr. Northup's office says the People is to Blame. But that is the way all fellows do that Neglect their Bisness. They try to throw the Blame on somebody Else, Because if they did not throw the Blame on somebody Else, they would have to be Punished for their Faults and at the same time to confess that their Punishment was Just. But this Goes Against the Grain, especially of the Fellows that Does Wrong. Either old Mr. Northup and his fellows aint got the sense to Manage their bisness or else they have neglected it. Any way, they Ought to Quit and Make room for a New Sett. If they dont, us Boys will Starve, the Yankees will whip us, and then You all Hoam Fokes will Ketch the Verry Devil.

"Hoping, dearest Pa, that you will Atend to this Right Away, we sign our names, with all love and Duty. Your affectionate sons,

"To	"Bob Lee
"Mr Deff Jarvis Esq	"Gus Bowrygard
"Richmond,	"Joe Jonasing.
"Virginia."	

"SCYUGLE."—While artillery thunders all along the front, and the line closes hard up against the enemy, while the minutes are hours, for fatal musketry may break 'out at any moment and open the battle of Richmond, to kill the time and relieve the terrible suspense that wears on a man more than work or danger, permit me to write a general, gossip letter, on all sorts of topics—a letter that shall waive the "situation," and deal with things other than "the latest from the front." A Sixth corps staff-officer dismounted near me a moment ago. I inquired where he had been riding. He informed me that he had been sent out on a general "scyugle;" that he had "scyugled" along the front, where the Johnnies "scyugled" a bullet through his clothes; that on his return he "scyugled" an ice-house; that he should "scyugle" his servant, who, by the way, had just "scyugled" three fat chickens for a supply of ice; that after he had "scyugled" his dinner he proposed to "scyugle" a nap—and closed by asking me how I "scyugled." The word originated at these headquarters, and is supposed to be derived from two Greek words. Army libraries do not contain "Liddell and Scott," or I should endeavor to ascertain what the two words are. The word "scyugle," it will be perceived, has any meaning any one chooses to attach to it; has not only a variety, but a contrariety of meanings. It is synonymous with "gobble" and with "skedaddle;" it is used for any other word and for want of any other word. To fully define it would require the thirty-nine volumes the German *savant* gave to a discussion of Greek particles.

"Scyugle" is respectfully commended to persons curious and learned in orthoepy. The general public is, at the same time, informed with a smack of Delphic oracularity which it is hoped will be appreciated, that newspaper correspondents with the army being "scyuglers," "scyugle" !—*Cor. New-York Tribune.*

"YANKEE" ATROCITIES IN NORTH-ALABAMA.—A colonel, and for the last campaign a brigade commander, furnishes the following facts, which stamp with eternal infamy the atrocious conduct of the enemy in North-Alabama. About twenty-five Yankees, headed by one Ben Harris, a Tory from Madison County, crossed the Tennessee River into Beech Island, and captured Benjamin Raden—an old man—his son, his nephew James Raden, and his son, and another man whose name is forgotten—all private citizens—and shot them, killing four, and threw them into the river, three of whose bodies were afterward found. The fifth caught hold of some bushes, when Harris ordered them to cut his head off with their sabrea, which they attempted, but could not reach him; he then ordered them to knock his brains out with a fence-rail; and failing in this, they fired two guns, and he dropped his head in the water as if dead, and the fiends, supposing him dead, departed. The same crowd went to the house of Madison Ritchie, the conscripting officer, and took him out of his bed and drove him in front of them some two or three miles to Paint Rach River, and made him wade in about mid-way, and shot him, putting seven balls through his body. These were all unoffending citizens. Benjamin Raden was an old man, sixty-three years old. They hung an overseer—who had formerly taken the oath to Lincoln—his sole offence consisting in assisting his employer to get his stock across the river. They put a notice on the tree, that it would be death for any one

to take his body down. They went to P. Rallins, formerly a captain in Colonel Hale's regiment, who had resigned in consequence of ill-health, and robbed him of several thousand dollars, giving him ten minutes to cross the Tennessee River, and threatening to hang him, and leave him hanging till the buzzards should pick his eyes out, if he ever returned. They have issued an order for all to take the oath or leave their lines. Such are a few of the many atrocities these Yankee fiends—the representatives of "the best government the world ever saw"—are inflicting on the people of North-Alabama.—*Richmond Whig, January 27.*

GENERAL GRANT—A "LITTLE" INCIDENT.—The Nashville correspondent of the *Chicago Journal* relates the following:

Speaking of Grant's campaign, I wish here to put on record a little incident, which I have never yet seen in print, and which was communicated to me by an officer some time since, and which might have been contraband once, but is not now, since the plans of the Eastern campaign have been developed.

While General Grant was in front of Vicksburgh, he was conversing with several officers on the subject of the capture of Richmond. "Can it be taken, General?" asked one of these. "With ease," was the response. "By the Peninsula?" continued the querist. "No," replied the General. "If I had charge of the matter, I would want two large armies; one to move directly on Lee, and the other to land at City Point, and cut communications to the southward. Lee would be then compelled to fall back, and the army from the North could press, and, if possible, defeat him.

"If he would open up communications again with the Cotton States, he must fight the army south of the James; and to do this, he must cross his whole force, otherwise he could be defeated in detail. If he did so cross, the Northern army could take Richmond; if he did not, that from the South could move up the heights south of the James, and shell and destroy the city."

I communicated this fact to two confidential friends the day Grant was first called to Washington, and now for the first time make it public. At the time the remarks were made, the General had no thought of being called to the position he now occupies.

REBEL TERMS OF PEACE.—Save on our terms, we can accept no peace whatever, and must fight till doomsday rather than yield an iota of them; and our terms are:

Recognition by the enemy of the independence of the confederate States.

Withdrawal of the Yankee forces from every foot of confederate ground, including Kentucky and Missouri.

Withdrawal of the Yankee soldiers from Maryland, until that State shall decide, by a free vote, whether she shall remain in the old Union or ask admission into the Confederacy.

Consent on the part of the Federal Government to give up to the Confederacy its proportion of the navy as it stood at the time of secession, or to pay for the same.

Yielding up of all pretensions on the part of the Federal Government to that portion of the old territories which lies west of the confederate States.

An equitable settlement, on the basis of our absolute independence and equal rights, of all accounts of the public debt and public lands, and the advantages accruing from foreign treaties.

These provisions, we apprehend, comprise the minimum of what we must require before we lay down our arms; that is to say, the North must yield all—we nothing.—*Richmond Examiner.*

SECRET ADDRESS TO REBEL SOLDIERS.—The following address was procured from some rebel soldiers in Calhoun County, Alabama, a few days past. I was on secret service for the Government, and was therefore in disguise, and the rebels gave me the address, supposing me to be a rebel soldier. There is no mistake as to its genuineness, and I know that it has circulated to a considerable extent among the dissatisfied rebel soldiers. The following is the address:

"**FELLOW-SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE!** Three years ago we were called upon to volunteer in the confederate army for a term of *three years*; and we all nobly responded to the call, with the express understanding that we were to be discharged as soon as our term of service expired. Indeed, we were *faithfully assured* by all of our officials that such a course would be pursued. The Secretary of War proclaimed that those who volunteered for *three years* or during the war would have to be discharged from the army at the end of three years. But to our utter surprise, we are now told that we *must* be conscripted and *forced* to enter the army for *another term of three years!* Our feelings are not to be consulted—*WE MUST BE CONSCRIPTED!*

"Was such a thing ever heard of before? Do the annals of war furnish a single instance of volunteer soldiers being forced to continue in the service after the expiration of their term of service? Surely not. If we search the history of the world from the days of Adam down to the present, we will find that in every instance a volunteer soldier was discharged as soon as his term of service expired, unless he, of his own accord, reenlisted as a volunteer. And are we *Americans*, once the boast and pride of the world, *ARE WE* to be treated worse than the heathens of the dark ages of the world treated their soldiers? Are we to be made the worst slaves ever known to the world? And are we to become the laughing-stock of the world?

"**FELLOW-SOLDIERS!** Is it not clear to every rational mind that our pompous and merciless rulers are daily *stealing away our rights and liberties*, and reducing us to the most abject slavery ever known to the world? And shall we *cowardly submit* to this palpable infringement upon our *most sacred rights*? We were told that we must come out to fight for *our rights*; yet our *inhuman leaders* are gradually robbing us of every right *inherited by nature or transmitted to us by our predecessors!*

"The Federals did not hesitate to discharge *all* their nine months' troops whose term of service expired last summer—they were *promptly discharged*, and their places filled up by new levies; and shall we suffer ourselves to be treated worse than our enemies are treated? No, brave comrades; *let us assert our rights, and unflinchingly maintain them!* Let us show our beastly rulers that they *cannot thus enslave us* because we are *private soldiers*. They have already *cunningly* led us to the very *threshold of destruction*; they have practised one *deception* after another upon

us; they have told us *lies*—HORRIBLE LIES—to induce us to become their ABJECT SLAVES!

"Among the *innumerable lies* promulgated by these *unmitigated scamps*, we call your attention to the following: They told us that the war would not last *three months*; that *foreign nations* would recognize us as an independent people and help us fight; that the Yankees could not fight; that one of us could whip *ten Yankees*; that Chattanooga could *never be taken*; that Vicksburg could *never be taken*; that the *Peace party* of the North would force LINCOLN to MAKE PEACE with the South; THAT WE SOLDIERS SHOULD BE DISCHARGED AS SOON AS OUR TIME EXPIRED; and that we would not be heavily taxed.

"These are but a few of the many hypocritical lies proclaimed by those conspirators who have precipitated us into irretrievable revolution. *Shall we submit to be beguiled by these UNPARDONABLE USURPERS*, and permit our families to STARVE to DEATH, through want of our labor at home? Are we not aware that if our absence from our families be protracted another term of three years, many of them will suffer wretchedly for the necessities of life, if they do not starve entirely to death? And are we not bound by the MOST SACRED LAWS known to man to provide for our families?

"And should we permit a set of *usurping profligates* to prevent us from complying with this DIVINE LAW? By the late laws of Congress, our families are to be taxed to an almost *unlimited extent*; and if we submit to become conscripts, the last ray of hope will have to be *expelled* from our hearts, for we can hope for nothing but AN UNTIMELY STATE OF ABJECT SLAVERY, NOT ONLY OF OURSELVES BUT ALSO OF OUR FAMILIES.

"NOW IS THE TIME TO ASSERT OUR RIGHTS, for if we wait longer our DOOM WILL BE FOR EVER SEALED! We who write this address are determined to demand our rights, and, if necessary, we will DEMAND THEM AT THE POINT OF THE BAYONET! We are not enemies to the South, but we are lovers of our rights, liberties, and families, and if we must lose our sacred rights, and permit our families to starve in order to sustain our wicked leaders in their deceptive course, we prefer to return to our ALLEGIANCE to the OLD GOVERNMENT, ACCEPT OF LINCOLN'S PARDON, and let the leaders and their CONFEDERACY go to HELL TOGETHER! This may be hard language for men who have fought in many a hard battle to use; but *silent endurance* ceases to be a VIRTUE, and confident are we that the Government of the United States can treat us no worse than we are being treated by our heartless officials in the field as well as in Richmond.

"But we are told that if we let the authorities CONSCRIPT us, the war will soon close, favorably to our side. Can any rational man credit such a *perfidious lie*? Does not this conscripting business plainly say to the world we are *fast playing out*? that our weakness is rapidly manifesting itself even to our own deluded minds? Fellow-soldiers, we have been too often deceived by these wily liars to place the slightest confidence in anything they tell us! They are but INVENTED LIES to enable them to tie the cord of DESPOTISM tighter around our wrists! Every intelligent soldier among us knows that we are already whipped, and why not acknowledge it at once?

"Why not show our leaders that we know we are whipped as well as they do? President DAVIS virtually ACKNOWLEDGES THIS FACT; so does the SECRETARY OF WAR, and the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY. What use is there for us to contend against A DEAD CURRENCY

and an EMPTY COMMISSARY in the face of the best army ever marshaled for combat? Think of these things, fellow-soldiers, and decide what shall be *your course*. WE HAVE MADE UP OUR MINDS TO GO HOME AS SOON AS OUR TIME IS OUT.

MANY SOLDIERS."

The italics and capitals are the author's; the punctuation is mine. I have the original in my possession.
—*Cincinnati Commercial*. U. S. SCOUT.

THE PENALTY OF DISLOYALTY.

HEADQUARTERS NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH, }
NORFOLK, VA., Feb. 25, 1864. }

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44.—[Extract.]

IV. It having been reported to the General commanding that S. H. Wingfield, of Portsmouth, is an avowed secessionist, and that he takes every opportunity to disseminate his traitorous dogmas, much to the annoyance of his loyal neighbors, and that on one occasion, at a place of worship, while prayer for the President of the United States was being read, his conduct was such as to annoy and disgust the loyal portion of the congregation; and believing that a wholesome example is necessary for the benefit of Mr. Wingfield in particular, and the class in this community he represents in general—men of education and ability, who use the talents God has given them, for the purpose of stirring up strife against the Government of the United States; it is therefore ordered that the Provost-Marshal arrest Mr. S. H. Wingfield, and that he be turned over to Colonel Sawtelle to work for three (3) months cleaning the streets of Norfolk and Portsmouth, thus employing his time for the benefit of that Government he has abused, and in a small way atone for his disloyalty and treason.

By command of Brigadier-General E. A. WILD.
GEORGE H. JOHNSTON, Captain and A. A. G.

GALLANT EXPLOIT OF SEVENTY HOOSIERS.—We have advices from North-Mississippi and West-Tennessee of a late date; but as the greater portion of our information relates to movements, we are obliged to withhold it from the public; but we can assure our readers that every thing relative to the Sherman expedition and the coöperating force is progressing better than the authorities expected.

One instance of Hoosier gallantry we are permitted to record. A company of seventy men, belonging to the Seventh Indiana regiment, entered the town of Bolivar, Tennessee, and supposing it was occupied by our forces, took no precaution to throw out scouts, as is usual on such occasions, but moved along leisurely, and in some disorder, until they suddenly found themselves confronted by two regiments of Mississippians. "Who are you?" demanded the Hoosier captain. "Mississippians," was the response.

Here was an excellent opportunity—Indians against Mississippians—to obtain revenge for the slanders uttered by Jeff Davis, years since; and at once the gallant seventy raised a shout of defiance, and charged upon the chivalry, routing and scattering them in less than an hour, with a loss of twenty or thirty killed, wounded, and prisoners. Our loss was one killed and three wounded. This is one of the most gallant affairs on record; and we only regret we are unable to give the names of any of the heroes—not even the commanding officer.—*Nashville Union*, February 18.

CAPTURE OF DUNCAN COOPER.

PULASKI, March 5, 1864.

In these troublous times in Tennessee, there are here and there daring and reckless guerrilla chiefs, who are, for a time, the dread of peaceful citizens and a constant trouble to Union troops. One of these, Colonel Duncan Cooper, who operated a long while west of Columbia, was recently captured, to the great joy of Colonel Mizner, commanding at Columbia, who has sent scouts and parties innumerable after him.

As the capture was reported in the Nashville papers as made by Colonel Mizner's command, I desire to do justice to a private soldier by stating who made the capture, and also give your readers an incident of the war, which will lose none of its interest by being told by another, who was a party to the story he tells so well:

"On an afternoon, a week or two ago," says my informant, who, by the way, was one of a number of recruiting officers for colored regiments, "six or eight of us were riding leisurely along a half-mile in advance of the foraging detail, on Swan Creek, twenty miles west of Columbia, when we discovered four guerrillas, riding as carelessly as we, along a by-way to our right. Our boys fired at them, but instead of returning the fire, they galloped off. My revolver had failed me—missed fire. Private Stovall, of the Fiftieth Illinois, dashed out after them. The rest held back, or their horses and mules did, I don't know which. I determined Stovall should not be alone, and let old gray do her best after him. None of the others could keep in sight of the rebels. Stovall and I had the chase to ourselves, he being some twenty yards ahead of me.

"The path the rebels took led up a rough stony creek—right in the creek half of the time. Just as Colonel Cooper's horse got into the creek, about forty yards in advance of Stovall, he fell, and threw Cooper plump into the water. The horse got up and ran away. Cooper tried to get on behind one of his men, but the saddle turned, and they both fell into the creek, when, Stovall having arrived, he presented his pistol so dangerously that they deemed 'discretion the better part of valor,' and surrendered. He disarmed them, waved his pistol over his head, gave a shout of triumph, and dashed on after the other two, who were by this time entirely out of sight.

"I staid and held the prisoners until Sergeant Craig came riding leisurely up at a trot, when I turned the prisoners over to him, and followed Stovall, who did not see where the rebel horse-tracks left the path, and so kept on. I saw the tracks, and followed them like a greyhound through the brush; and just as old gray brought me triumphantly to the top of a high hill, I caught sight of my men—the guerrillas. They had stopped to fix their saddles. I confess I felt rather dubious about encountering two rebels, so far away from assistance; but I knew it was best to put on a bold front, so I spurred on as big as though I had a dozen trusty pistols, and demanded, 'as they valued their lives,' a surrender. They couldn't see it in that light, but galloped off. I followed, and finally succeeded in sending one shot somewhere in their neighborhood, when they separated. I followed the one who had two loose horses with him, determining to make the most valuable capture I could. I shot again at him at close quarters, but it only added to his speed. At last I determined to ride alongside and knock him off his horse with the butt of my revolver. I got

nearly close enough to do it, when, seeing my intention, he threw up his hands and cried: 'I surrender.'

'I made him catch the two horses, and we returned as quickly as possible. On my way back I met a fellow recruiting-officer, who had heard my firing and come up, and was peeping over the brow of the hill, between his mule's ears, to see what had become of me. After riding three or four miles, we joined the rest of our party.

"Of the four guerrillas we saw, Stovall captured the Colonel (Cooper) and one man—I, another man and three horses. One escaped. We heard of him again that evening. He had reported that we killed Cooper and captured the rest, and that he had a hole shot through his own hat. In his hand he held his pistol, still cocked, which he had forgotten to use while we were after them.

"If there is such a thing as a guerrilla, I suppose Colonel Cooper is one. I have his saddle and bridle as a trophy."

I may add that Stovall and my informant (whose pardon I humbly beg for here informing the reader he was Lieutenant Joseph K. Nelson, of the Third Alabama infantry, colored troops) turned over the prisoners to Sergeant Craig, who was in command of the foraging party, and he delivered them to Major Fitzgibbons, of Colonel Mizner's command. Hence the report that Colonel Cooper was captured by Colonel Mizner's command.

WASHBURN ON COX.—The following is the full text of the remarks of Mr. Washburne, in reply to Cox, in the House of Representatives:

MR. WASHBURN, of Illinois. I wish to make an excuse for the author of the pamphlet from which the gentleman from Ohio has read such copious extracts. I think that author has been corrupted by my friend from Ohio. I think he must have been reading a book which the gentleman from Ohio has written, which I now hold in my hand, and which I have read with great pleasure. The gentleman from Ohio said that he had heretofore answered this book in the House, and that I had heard his speech. I always liked to hear the speech he made to-day. [Laughter.] I have listened to it several times. [Laughter.] We shall not probably have the pleasure at the next Congress of hearing my friend from Ohio rehearse this speech here, because I think, in the light of the recent elections in Ohio, and particularly in the district of the honorable gentleman, I can say to him, in the language of Watts, and in the spirit of the utmost kindness:

"You living man, come view the ground
Where you must shortly lie."

I desire to show the House what the gentleman from Ohio has written in regard to the "African," in a book entitled "A Buckeye Abroad; or, Wanderings in Europe and in the Orient. By S. S. Cox." He is describing St. Peter's, and says: "In the mean time, seraphic music from the Pope's select choir ravishes the ear, while the incense titillates the nose. Soon there arises in the chamber of theatrical glitter"—what?—"a plain unquestioned African! [laughter] and he utters the sermon in facile Latinity, with graceful manner. His dark hands gestured harmoniously with the round periods, and his swart visage beamed with a high order of intelligence." [Laughter.] What was he? Let the gentleman from Ohio answer: "He was an Abyssinian. What a commentary was here

upon our American prejudices! The head of the great Catholic Church, surrounded by the ripest scholars of the age, listening to the eloquence"—of whom?—"of the despised negro; and thereby illustrating to the world"—what?—"thereby illustrating to the world the common bond of brotherhood which binds the human race." [Roars of laughter.]

Mr. Speaker, I appeal to the House if it does not appear that the author of that pamphlet must have been corrupted by reading the work of my friend from Ohio.

But the gentleman goes on to say: "I confess that, at first, it seemed to me a sort of theatrical mummery, not being familiar with such admixtures of society." That was the first impression of my young and festive friend from Ohio, as he wandered through the gilded corridors of St. Peter's. [Laughter.] "But," says he, "on reflection, I discerned in it the same influence which, during the dark ages, conferred such inestimable blessings on mankind. History records that from the time of the revival of letters the influence of the Church of Rome had been generally favorable to science, to civilization, and to good government. Why?" Why, asks my friend from Ohio, is the Church of Rome so favorable to science, to civilization, and to good government? Let the gentleman answer: "Because her system held them, as it holds now, all distinctions of caste as odious." [Great laughter.] "She regards no man—bond or free, white or black—as disqualified for the priesthood. This doctrine has, as Macaulay develops in his introductory chapters to his English history, mitigated many of the worst evils of society; for where race tyrannized over race, or baron over villain, Catholicism came between them and created an aristocracy altogether independent of race or feudalism, compelling even the hereditary master to kneel before the spiritual tribunal of the hereditary bondman. The childhood of Europe was passed under the guardianship of priestly teachers, who taught, as the scene in the Sistine Chapel of an Ethiop addressing the proud rulers of Catholic Christendom teaches, that no distinction is regarded at Rome save that which divides the priest from the people.

"The sermon of the Abyssinian"—that is, of this colored person, this Roman citizen of "African descent"—"in beautiful print, was distributed at the door. I bring one home as a trophy and as a souvenir of a great truth which Americans are prone to deny or contemn." [Laughter.]

Now, I ask my friend from Ohio if he has still got that trophy and souvenir to bring into this Hall?

A STIRRING APPEAL TO THE WOMEN.—From copies of Savannah and Columbus (Ga.) papers is taken the following:

TO THE WOMEN OF GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Feb. 5, 1864.—A report has been put in circulation in various portions of the State, that the socks knit by the ladies of Georgia for this department have been sold by me to the troops on the field. Without entering into the details of this vile and malicious report, I hereby pronounce the whole tale to be a malicious FALSEHOOD! I deny, and challenge the world for proof to the contrary, that there has ever been a sock sold by this department to a soldier of the confederate army since my first appeal to the women of Georgia to knit for their destitute defenders. I hereby bind myself to present ONE THOUSAND

DOLLARS to any person—citizen or soldier—who will come forward and prove that he ever bought a sock from this department that was either knit by the ladies or purchased for issue to said troops.

This report has been invented, on the one hand, by the enemies of our noble boys, who rejoice in their sufferings, and are delighted when they suspend the efforts of our noble women in their behalf; on the other hand, by servile opponents of this department, who forget that in venting their unprovoked spite upon us, they are causing the troops of their State to march over frozen ground and the drifting snow with uncovered and bleeding feet.

Women of Georgia! again I appeal to you. This time I call upon you to frown down these vile falsehoods. Demand of them who peddle the tale, the evidence I call for above. Until that testimony is produced, I implore you, stay not your efforts. I assure you, in the name of all that is holy and noble—on the honor of a man and an officer—that myself or any of my assistants have never sold a pair of socks that were knit by you. Every pair has been issued to the destitute troops as a gift, as about seventeen thousand gallant sons of the Empire State will gladly bear testimony.

Daughters of Georgia, I still need socks. Requisitions for them are daily pouring in upon me. I still have yarn to furnish you. I earnestly desire to secure a pair of socks for every barefooted soldier from Georgia. You are my only reliance. Past experience teaches me I will not appeal to you in vain.

ISAAC R. FOSTER,
Quartermaster-General of Georgia.

COLONEL LEWIS BENEDICT.

BY ALFRED B. STREET.

[The following lines on the death of Colonel Lewis Benedict, who fell while leading his brigade at the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, April 9, 1864, were recited by James K. Murdock, before the New-York Legislature, on the second of February, 1865.]

We laid him in his last and patriot rest;
Dark Death but couched him on Fame's living breast.
We twine the sorrowing cypress o'er his grave,
And let the star-bright banner loftier wave
At mention of his deeds! In manhood's prime,
Blossoms the pinions waved by smiling Time,
He left life's warbling bowers for duty's path,
Where the fierce war-storm flashed its reddest wrath;
Path proud, though rough; outrang the trumpet's
blast:

"To arms, to arms! down to the dust is cast
The flag, the dear old flag, by treason's hand!"
And the deep thundering sound rolled onward through
the land.

In the quick throngs of fiery life that rushed
To smite for native land till wrong was crushed
And right stood planted firm upon its rock,
None rose more glad, none bore the battle shock
More brave. At blood-stained Williamsburgh he drew
First his good sword; his eagle daring flew
Into the storm so deep it wrapt him round;
But, scorning still to yield, he strove, till bound
Fast by the grasp of the admiring foe,
Struggling though in the toil, still striking blow on
blow.

Pent in close prison-walls long, long black hours,
Yet the strong, skyward-pinioned spirit cowers

To naught; that steel-nerved will the loftier towers,
Treading the painful thorns like pleasant flowers.
Free once again, war's trumpet-clangors ring
The warrior to the birthplace of the Spring.
Where the stern Mississippi sea-like sweeps,
To summer flowers, pine cones of wintry steepes,
Into Death's eyes again he fixed his gaze.
Lo! where Port Hudson's deadly batteries blaze,
Whose that tall form that towers when all lie low,
Brow to the sun and bosom to the foe?
Brow to the sun, his brave sword in his hand,
Pointing "There—up and onward, patriot band!"
Again! red batteries' hurling awful hail
Like the fierce sleet that loads the thundering gale.
Ranks crushed beneath showered shot and shell, like
grain

By that same sleet, across the heaped-up plain
Full in the fort's hot, gaping hell, he leads
His stormers; slaughter drives his flashing steeds
Trampling broad lanes amid the serried night;
But on, bathed deep in battle's awful light,
On that tall form with lightnings all around;
Firm his proud step along the streaming ground,
Quaking with cannon-thunders; up his tread,
Up to the parapet, above his head
The starry flag borne by a hand that falls,
Death-struck; he grasps the flag—the rebel walls
See the waved stars in that strong clutch, till back
The ebbing conflict drags him in its track.

Once more in other scenes he meets the foe.
O'ermatched, our columns stagger to their blow;
Vain on their squares bold Emory's files are hurled;
Backward the dashing cataract is whirled
Splintered to spray. O banner of the skies!
Flag of the rising constellations, dyes
Of dawn not sunset! shalt thou trail in dust?
Shall blind, dead darkness hide our blazing trust?
On, braves! but no—they pause—they reel—they
break!

Now like some towering crag no storm can shake,
Like some tall pine that soars when all the wood
Bows to the winds—some rock amid the flood,
Our hero stands! he forms each tottering square.
Through them the blazing thunderbolts may tear,
But vain: the bulwark stands, a living wall,
Between the foeman and that banner's fall.

Then, the dread last—O woful, woful day!
Ah! the dimmed glory of that trophied fray!
Ah! the fell shadow of that triumph's ray!
Hurling the foeman's might back, back, at last
Onward he sweeps—on, on, as sweeps the blast!
On through the keen, red, hissing air—ah! woe!
That ruthless fate should deal such cruel blow!
On, through the keen, red, hurtling air—but see
That form—it reels—it sinks! that heart, so free
To dare the battle-tempest's direst might,
Winged with the quick, fierce lightning of the fight,
And soaring through the victory's gladdening light,
Up to untroubled realms, hath passed in instant flight!
Death, where he fell, in roses red inurned*
His form—war's hue and love's—and they were turned
To laurels at the touch, and one green twine
From them the land hath wrought to deck the hero's
shrine.

He fell in conflict's fiercest, wildest flame;
And now his loved and laurelled ashes claim

Our heartfelt sorrow! for among the brave,
None braver; and when battle left his eye,
None softer! Let the stricken nation sigh
For such as he who perish by the way,
While up on crimson feet she toils to greet the day.

Ah! the bright hour he came, though weak and low
With prison languors! Cheerily on were borne
The merry clang of the bells. Clang, clang, they rang!
Joy in our hearts in jocund music sprang!
And all shone pleasurable. One long, long toll,
One long, deep, lingering sound that tells the goal
Of some spent life, then moans along the air
As sorrowing hands our hero's ashes bear
To lie in honored state. We saw his form
Sprinkled with blossoms breathing fresh and warm;
That form so still, so peaceful to our gaze,
That soared so grand amid the battle's blaze,
Scorning the shrieking shell, the whizzing ball,
Sleeping so still beneath his warrior-pall!

We bore him to his sylvan home; there flowers
Should o'er him smile; but chief, the oak that towers
Unbent by blasts, and breaks but to the dart
Of the red bolt, from that heroic heart
Should spring; for, 'mid his kindly graces soared
A firm-knit will—a purpose strong that warred
In deep disdain of Fortune's fitful breath,
And only bowed its rock-clutched strength to Death.
There shall he lie. When our new-kindled sun
Shall dawn, his first rejoicing rays shall run
In gold o'er graves like his—Fame's gold—that Time
Shall brighten—and his monument sublime,
Oh! seek it not in stone, but in piled hearts
That loved him! The carved marble soon departs,
But the heart's token, sent through ages down,
Warm in its living might, mocks Time's most wither-
ing frown.

Blessed is he who suffers,* and we know
A solemn joy, that one whose manhood's glow
Faded so soon, should die to mark how grand
Above all fleeting life, to die for Native Land.

OUR FLAG IN '64.

BY D. B. DUFFIELD.

Fling, fling our banner out,
With loyal song and shout,
O'er every home and hill,
By each deep valley's mill,
And let its heaven-lit beam
Round every hearth-stone gleam,
And fill the passing hour—
This pregnant, fateful hour—
With all its stirring voices,
And the thunder of its power.

The foe is striking hard;
But in the castle-yard
Uprise fresh traitor bands
To snatch from out our hands,
From fortress and from sea,
This banner of the free,
To give it coward flight,
That Anarchy's dark night,
With all its muttering thunders,
May swallow up its light.

* Colonel Benedict fell literally on a bed of crimson roses—the wild Louisiana rose.

* *Benedictus qui patitur.* Motto of the Benedict family.

Ay! when our soldiers brave,
On battle-field and wave,
Sprang forth with deadly stroke
Through battle's blazing smoke,
Our standard to uphold,
And save its every fold,
These home-born traitors cry,
"God grant no victory!"

Though scores of gallant heroes
Round the old flag bravely die.

Rise, then, each loyal man,
Your home-horizon scan,
And plant the nation's flag
On hill-side and on crag;
And let your swelling soul
In earnest tones outroll
That brave resolve of old,
When our fathers, true and bold,
Swore a fealty to the flag
Which never once grew cold.

The flag, the flag bends low,
For whirlwinds round it blow,
And wild, chaotic night
Is veiling it from sight;
So let us every one,
While yet the winds rage on,
Cling round the straining mast
And hold the banner fast,
Till stormy Treason's rage
Be safely overpast.

THE HYMN OF FREEDOM.

OUR FLAG SHALL STAY UNFURLED.*

BY J. F. WEISHAMPEL, JR.

All hail the land where Freedom dwells and lifts her
starry shield!
Here gaze all nations, bond and free—this is their
battle-field!
Humanity and Liberty throughout the struggling
world,
Proclaim her cause their own, and cry, Our Flag shall
stay unfurled!
Our Flag shall stay unfurled,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!
Though Freedom's foes may plot her death,
Yet while a patriot holds his breath,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!

What hands dare strike that hopeful Flag, for which
our fathers bled?
Who mocks the wisdom of the past, the counsels of
the Dead?
Shall Faction spoil our heritage? Nay, shout it to
the world—
The progress of our race depends—Our Flag shall stay
unfurled!
Our Flag shall stay unfurled,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!
Though Freedom's foes may plot her death,
Yet while a patriot holds his breath,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!

* Written in 1861. The authorities of Baltimore city had forbidden the display of the American flag, but in many instances it was kept aloft, till torn down by the police. After several weeks of trouble and anxiety, the Union people prevailed, the rebel ensigns were secreted or destroyed, and the beautiful Flag of our Nation was flung out on the breeze from a thousand windows and spires all over the city.

Here God has smiled—here Peace has reigned—all
tongues have utterance here;
Here Faith is free to choose her creed—no despot's
stake is near;
Here reigns an empire without walls, a wonder to the
world:
And shall this fabric be dissolved? Columbia's Flag
be furled?

Our Flag shall stay unfurled,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!
Though Freedom's foes may plot her death,
Yet while a patriot holds his breath,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!

Float on, thou emblem of the age—defence on land
and sea!
O God of hosts! in humble faith, we trust our cause
to thee!
Then traitor's plots and tyrant hordes against us may
be hurled—
Yet shall our Flag victorious wave, the hope of all the
world!

Our Flag shall stay unfurled,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!
Though Freedom's foes may plot her death,
Yet while a patriot holds his breath,
Our Flag shall stay unfurled!

— — —

THE TATTERED FLAGS.

FEBRUARY 22, 1864.

Stirring music thrilled the air,
Brilliant banners fluttered there,
Pealed the bells and rolled the drum,
And the people cried: "They come!"
On they came with measured tramp—
Heroes proved in field and camp.
Banners waved more proudly then;
Cheered the children, cheered the men;
Beauty, lover of the brave,
Brightened with the smiles she gave;
While the sun, in golden jets,
Flowed along the bayonets,
As upon each laurel crown
Heaven had poured a blessing down.
All was stirring, grand, and gay,
But the pageant passed away
When, with proud and filling eye,
I saw the tattered flags go by!

Fancy then might faintly hear
Hosts advancing, battle cheer,
Sightless bullets whiz along—
Fit refrain for battle-song;
Cannon, with their sulphurous breath,
Hurling messages of death;
Whirring shot and screaming shell
Fluttering where in wrath they fell,
Opening graves—while purple rills
Scar the fields and streak the hills.
See the serried columns press—
Bold, defiant, merciless—
On the long and slender line
Where the starry banners shine;
With demoniac yells they come,
Fiercely drive their bayonets home,
And the arching heavens resound—
God! our men are giving ground!
Shouts, and cries of wild despair,
Mingle in the murky air.

Now they rally! And our foes
Reel before their vengeful blows,
While the wounded pause to cheer
As they stagger to the rear,
And the dying catch the sound,
Clutch their weapons from the ground,
Struggle up ere life be gone,
Smile, and wave their comrades on,
Falling with a joyful cry
As the dear tattered flags go by!

PHILADELPHIA, March, 1864.

E. H. M.

IS 'THIS THE LAND OF WASHINGTON?

BY I. Q. A. WOOD.

Is this the land of Washington,
For which our patriot-fathers bled,
Whose mighty strides to freedom shook
The continent beneath their tread?
Is the land of Knox and Green—
Of Marion, Stark, and mighty Wayne,
Who hurled the despot from our shores,
And dashed to earth his galling chain?
Were these our sires—are we the sons
Of men whose fame hath filled the earth?
And have we dwarfed and dwindled thus,
To mock the majesty of birth?
Arise! ye heroes of the past!
Where mould your bones by many a steep,
Behold the sons that heir your fame—
Behold your progeny and weep!
Were such, with old Laconia's son,*
The men who fought at Bennington?

Is this the land of Washington,
That warmed the patriot's sanguine dreams,
Where Liberty made bright her shield,
And nursed her eaglets in its gleams?
Where Bunker Hill and Monmouth field
Shot terror to the oppressor's soul,
And wrote, with many a flying pen,
Their protests on a bloody scroll?
And shall hour-born oppression spurn
These creeds to alien tyrants taught,
And Freedom's beauteous limbs enthrall,
Or bind the lightning of her thought?
Shall her unwilling hands be made
To forge the insignia of her shame;
Her tongue to speak, her pen to write,
A flaming falsehood on her fame?
Say, ye who stood on Trenton's height,
Shall thus Columbia's freemen write?

No! never while one spark remains
Unquenched of freedom's altar-fires,
Which still may shoot aloft in flame,
Fanned by the memory of our sires;
No! not till every patriot's blood
Is poured upon the sword to rust,
And Liberty, without her shield,
Trails her bright garments in the dust;
Not till the mother fails to teach
Her offspring, with a zeal divine,
The foeman's rights, baptized in blood,
At Bunker Hill and Brandywine;

* *Laconia's Son*.—In the early days of the discovery and settlement of New-Hampshire, it was called *Laconia*. At the famous battle, or battles, of Bennington (for two were fought on the same day and on the same field) General Stark, of New-Hampshire, commanded.

And not till this, and not till then,
Shall dawn that black and hateful hour
That dooms the patriot's tongue and pen
To bide the weight of bigot power;
And then to shame our father's graves,
We shall deserve the brand of slaves.

OWENSBORO, KY., 1864.

THE MANTLE OF ST. JOHN DE 'MATHA.

A LEGEND OF THE "RED, WHITE, AND BLUE."
A. D. 1154—1864.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

A strong and mighty angel,
Calm, terrible, and bright,
The cross in blended red and blue
Upon his mantle white!

Two captives by him kneeling,
Each on his broken chain,
Sang praise to God who raiseth
The dead to life again!

Dropping his cross-wrought mantle,
"Wear this," the angel said;
"Take thou, O Freedom's priest! its sign—
The white, the blue, and red!"

Then rose up John De Matha
In the strength the Lord Christ gave,
And begged through all the land of France
The ransom of the slave.

The gates of tower and castle
Before him open flew,
The drawbridge at his coming fell,
The door-bolt backward drew.

For all men owned his errand,
And paid his righteous tax;
And the hearts of lord and peasant
Were in his hands as wax.

At last, outbound from Tunis,
His bark her anchor weighed,
Freighted with seven score Christian souls
Whose ransom he had paid.

But, torn by Paynim hatred,
Her sails in tatters hung;
And on the wild waves rudderless,
A shattered hulk she swung.

"God save us!" cried the captain,
"For naught can man avail:
Oh! woe betide the ship that lacks
Her rudder and her sail!"

"Behind us are the Moormen;
At sea we sink or strand:
There's death upon the water,
There's death upon the land!"

Then up spake John De Matha:
"God's errands never fail!
Take thou the mantle which I wear,
And make of it a sail."

They raised the cross-wrought mantle,
The blue, the white, the red;
And straight before the wind off shore
The ship of Freedom sped.

"God help us!" cried the seamen,
 "For vain is mortal skill:
 The good ship on a stormy sea
 Is drifting at its will."

Then up spake John De Matha:
 "My mariners, never fear!
 The Lord, whose breath has filled her sail
 May well our vessel steer!"

So on through storm and darkness
 They drove for weary hours;
 And lo! the third gray morning shone
 On Ostia's friendly towers.

And on the walls the watchers
 The ship of mercy knew—
 They knew far off its holy cross,
 The red, the white, and blue.

And the bells in all the steeples
 Rang out in glad accord,
 To welcome home to Christian soil
 The ransomed of the Lord.

So runs the ancient legend
 By bard and painter told;
 And lo! the cycle rounds again,
 The new is as the old!

With rudder foully broken,
 And sails by traitors torn,
 Our Country on a midnight sea
 Is waiting for the morn.

Before her, nameless terror;
 Behind, the pirate-foe;
 The clouds are black above her,
 The sea is white below.

The hope of all who suffer;
 The dread of all who wrong;
 She drifts in darkness and in storm,
 How long, O Lord! how long?

But courage, O my mariners!
 Ye shall not suffer wreck
 While up to God the freedman's prayers
 Are rising from your deck.

Is not your sail the banner
 Which God hath blest anew,
 The mantle that De Matha wore,
 The red, the white, the blue?

Its hues are all of heaven—
 The red of sunset's dye,
 The whiteness of the moon-lit cloud,
 The blue of morning's sky.

Wait cheerily, then, O mariners!
 For daylight and for land;
 The breath of God is in your sail,
 Your rudder is his hand.

Sail on, sail on, deep-freighted
 With blessings and with hopes;
 The saints of old, with shadowy hands,
 Are pulling at your ropes.

Behind ye holy martyrs
 Uplift the palm and crown;
 Before ye unborn ages send
 Their benedictions down.

Take heart from John De Matha!
 God's errands never fail!
 Sweep on through storm and darkness,
 The thunder and the hail!

Sail on! the morning cometh,
 The port ye yet shall win;
 And all the bells of God shall ring
 The good ship bravely in!

THE CONFLICT OF AGES.

BY B. HATHAWAY.

All good awaits the ripened years:
 Above the Present's cry and moan,
 We catch the far-off undertone
 Of coming Time, undimmed with tears;
 And more this frailer life endears
 The life to nobler being grown.

Though sore begirt with peril-days,
 Faith shapes anew the promise-song
 Of—Right shall triumph over Wrong;
 And Evil's subtle, darkened ways
 Be set in light. Yet still delays
 The golden year, delaying long.

While shrouded in impending gloom,
 Hangs dim the nation's beacon star:
 Like deepening thunders, boding far,
 Comes up the cannon's awful boom;
 Like near resounding tramp of doom,
 Wide bay the hungry hounds of war!

Alas! but discord's clang and jar
 May Freedom nurse to larger growth;
 But fiercest mortal strife, in sooth,
 Can drive the embattled hosts afar,
 That, mad with maniac frenzy, bar
 The gates to wider realms of truth.

Yet speed the earthquake shock that cleaves
 The fetters from a shackled race;
 The mountain rive, from crown to base,
 Of crime that all the land bereaves;
 The whirlwind lightning-wing, that leaves
 To Freedom broader breathing-space!

It is not all a godless strife
 That sets the longing captive free;
 More dread than battle-thunders be
 The despot's rod, the assassin's knife—
 The dungeon's gloom, the death in life,
 Of Peace, whose price is Liberty!

THE YOUNG PATRIOT.

ONE more absent,
 The battle done;
 One more left us,
 Victory won.

One more buried
 Beneath the sod;
 One more standing
 Before his God.

Lay him low, lay him low,
 Ere the morning break;
 Sorrow not, sorrow not,
 He minds not heart-ache.

He is one, he is one
Of that noble band
Who have fought, who have died,
For their fatherland.

He needs no tears;
An angel now,
A saintly crown
Upon his brow.

We should not weep
That he is gone;
With us 'tis night,
With him 'tis morn.

A BRAVE DRUMMER-BOY.—Orion P. Howe, of Waukegan, Illinois, drummer-boy to the Fifty-fifth volunteers of that State, was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Naval School at Newport. The following extract from a letter written by Major-General Sherman to Secretary Stanton, detailing an incident which transpired during the assault upon the rebel works at Vicksburg, on May nineteenth, doubtless secured the boy's promotion:

"When the assault at Vicksburg was at its height on the nineteenth of May, and I was in front near the road which formed my line of attack, this young lad came up to me wounded and bleeding, with a good, healthy boy's cry: 'General Sherman, send some cartridges to Colonel Malmberg; the men are nearly all out.' 'What is the matter, my boy?' 'They shot me in the leg, sir, but I can go to the hospital. Send the cartridges right away.' Even where we stood the shot fell thick, and I told him to go to the rear at once, I would attend to the cartridges, and off he limped. Just before he disappeared on the hill, he turned and called as loud as he could: 'Calibre 54.' I have not seen the lad since, and his Colonel, Malmberg, on inquiry, gives me his address as above, and says he is a bright, intelligent boy, with a fair preliminary education.

"What arrested my attention then was, and what renews my memory of the fact now is, that one so young, carrying a musket-ball wound through his leg, should have found his way to me on that fatal spot, and delivered his message, not forgetting the very important part even of the calibre of his musket, 54, which you know is an usual one.

"I'll warrant that the boy has in him the elements of a man, and I commend him to the Government as one worthy the fostering care of some one of its national institutions."

LITTLE JOHNNY CLEM.—A pleasant little scene occurred last evening at the headquarters of General Thomas. Of course you remember the story of little Johnny Clem, the motherless atom of a drummer-boy, "aged ten," who strayed away from Newark, Ohio; and the first we knew of him, though small enough to live in a drum, was beating the long roll for the Twenty-second Michigan. At Chickamauga, he filled the office of "marker," carrying the guidon whereby they form the lines; a duty having its counterpart in the surveyor's more peaceful calling, in the flag-man who flutters the red signal along the metes and bounds. On the Sunday of the battle, the little fellow's occupation gone, he picked up a gun that had fallen from some dying hand, provided himself with ammunition, and began putting in the periods quite on his own ac-

count, blazing away close to the ground, like a fire-fly in the grass. Late in the waning day, the waif left almost alone in the whirl of the battle, a rebel Colonel dashed up, and looking down at him, ordered him to surrender: "Surrender!" he shouted, "you little d—d son of a —!" The words were hardly out of his mouth, when Johnny brought his piece to "order arms," and as his hand slipped down to the hammer, he pressed it back, swung up the gun to the position of "charge bayonet," and as the officer raised his sabre to strike the piece aside, the glancing barrel lifted into range, and the proud Colonel tumbled from his horse, his lips fresh-stained with the syllable of vile reproach he had flung on a mother's grave in the hearing of her child!

A few swift moments ticked on by musket-shots, and the tiny gunner was swept up at a rebel swoop and borne away a prisoner. Soldiers, bigger but not better, were taken with him, only to be washed back again by a surge of Federal troopers, and the prisoner of thirty minutes was again John Clem "of ours;" and General Rosecrans made him a sergeant, and the stripes of rank covered him all over, like a mouse in a harness; and the daughter of Mr. Secretary Chase presented him a silver medal appropriately inscribed, which he worthily wears, a royal order of honor, upon his left breast; and all men conspire to spoil him; but, since few ladies can get at him here, perhaps he may be saved.

But what about last night? Well, like Flora Mo-Flimsey, the Sergeant "had nothing to wear;" the clothing in the wardrobe of loyal livery was not at all like Desdemona's handkerchief, "too little," but like the garments of the man who roomed a month over a baker's oven, "a world too wide;" and so Miss Babcock, of the Sanitary Commission, suggested to a resident of your city, that a uniform for the little Orderly would be acceptable. Mr. Waite and other gentlemen of the "Sherman House" ordered it, Messrs. A. D. Titworth & Company made it, Chaplain Raymond brought it, Miss Babcock presented it, and Johnny put it on. Chaplain Raymond, of the Fifty-first Illinois—by the by, a most earnest and efficient officer—accompanied the gift with exceedingly appropriate suggestion and advice, the substance of which I send you. This morning I happened at headquarters just as the belted and armed Sergeant was booted and spurred, and ready to ride. Resplendent in his elegant uniform, rigged *cap-a-pie*, modest, frank, with a clear eye and a manly face, he looked more like a fancy-picture than a living thing. Said he to the Chaplain: "You captured me by surprise, yesterday." Now, he is "going on" thirteen, as our grandmothers used to say; but he would be no monster if we called him only nine. Think of a sixty-three pound Sergeant—fancy a handful of a hero, and then read the Arabian Nights, and believe them! Long live the little Orderly!

A FEMALE REBEL.

"HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE FRONTIER,
FORT SMITH, ARK., February 17, 1864."

"SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45:

"Miss Cecilia De Jeunne, a resident of Fort Smith, having admitted to the General Commanding that she is disloyal to the Government of the United States; that she gave utterance to exclamations of joy when she heard that Major-General Blunt and all his staff were killed; that she has expressed sentiments of dis-

loyalty to the Government of the United States, at various times since the occupation of Fort Smith by the Federal forces; that she has not lived at her father's house for two years, he being a Union man; and, it not being advisable that she should be sent through our lines at present, nor reside longer at Fort Smith, or on the south side of the Arkansas River, but it being advisable that she should reside on the north side of the Arkansas; and it being desirable also that the war should not cause the separation of members of the same family more than is really necessary;

"It is therefore ordered, That the said Cecilia De Jeunne leave Fort Smith to-morrow at twelve M., under charge of the Provost-Marshal, and be taken to Van Buren, and remain there until further orders; that she be restricted to the limits of her father's residence, and to intercourse with her father's family only, all other persons being forbidden to communicate with her.

"Any manifestations of disrespect to the Government and military authorities of the United States will be promptly and properly attended to.

"The Provost-Marshal at Van Buren will see that this order is complied with.

"By command of Brigadier-General J. M. THAYER.

"WM. S. WHITTEN,

"Assistant Adjutant-General."

A DIALOGUE.

Q. What cause do the rebels claim to have for trying to destroy our Government?

A. None.

Q. What pretext?

A. The fugitive slave code of some of the Northern States.

Q. What effect could a law in Maine or Massachusetts have upon a citizen of Georgia or Alabama?

A. Not any whatever.

Q. Why, then, did the rebels make this a pretext?

A. Because they had not any other.

The leaders well knew that this was no rightful pretext, but they knew also that they could not divert the mind of the general masses without urging some excuse for secession; and as they could hatch up nothing else, they were forced to urge this.

Q. Upon whose shoulders does this war rest?

A. The poor man's.

Q. Whose soul is stained with the blood spilled?

A. The rich man's.

Q. Who, then, is to blame for this war?

A. The rich men of the South.

Q. Upon whom, then, should the punishment rest?

A. Upon the rich men.

Q. What should be done with the poor man?

A. He should be pardoned.

Q. Who are the supporters of the rebel army?

A. The slaves.

Q. How do the slaves support the rebel army?

A. By raising supplies in food and clothing.

Q. What, then, ought Uncle Sam to do with them?

A. Liberate them.

Q. Is it right to make soldiers out of slaves?

A. It is just as proper and right for them to uphold the flag of the Union by fighting as it is for them to uphold the rebellion by working. If the Union troops have the right to use a rebel battery against its original owners, they certainly have the right to use their slaves against them. Their being property does not destroy this right, for batteries are property also. A

traitor is not any too good to be shot by a negro, though he be as black as hell. ***

ADVENTURES OF A LONG-ISLAND GIRL.

The Memphis (Tennessee) Times, of August fifth, 1864, tells this story of a woman's adventures;

"Miss Fanny Wilson is a native of Williamsburgh, Long Island. About four years ago, or one year prior to the war, she came West, visiting a relative who resided at La Fayette, Indiana. While here her leisure moments were frequently employed in communicating, by affectionate epistles, with one to whom her heart had been given, and her hand had been promised, before leaving her native city—a young man from New-Jersey. After a residence of about one year with her Western relative, and just as the war was beginning to prove a reality, Fanny, in company with a certain Miss Nelly Graves, who had also come from the East, and there left a lover, set out upon her return to her home and family. While on their way thither, the two young ladies concocted a scheme, the romantic nature of which was doubtless its most attractive feature.

"The call for troops having been issued, and the several States coming quickly forward with their first brave boys, it so happened that those two youths whose hearts had been exchanged for those of the pair who now were on their happy way toward them, enlisted in a certain and the same regiment. Having obtained cognizance of this fact, Fanny and her companion conceived the idea of assuming the uniform, enlisting in the service, and following their lovers to the field. Soon their plans were matured and carried into effect. A sufficient change having been made in their personal appearance, their hair having been cut, and themselves re clothed to suit their wish, they sought the locality of the chosen regiment, offered their services, were accepted, and mustered in. In another company from their own of the same regiment, (the Twenty-fourth New-Jersey,) were their patriotic lovers, 'known though all unknowing.' On parade, in the drill, they were together—they obeyed the same command. In the quick evolutions of the field, they came as close as they had in other days, even on the floor of the dancing-school—and yet, so says Fanny, the facts of the case were not made known.

"But the Twenty-fourth, by the fate of war, was ordered before Vicksburgh, having already served through the first campaign in Western Virginia, and here, alas! for Fanny, she was to suffer by one blow. Here her brave lover was wounded. She sought his cot, watched over him, and half revealed her true nature in her devotion and gentleness. She nursed him faithfully and long, but he died. Next after this, by the reverse of fortune, Fanny herself and her companion were both thrown upon their hospital cots, exhausted, sick. With others, both wounded and debilitated, they were sent to Cairo. Their attendants were more constant and more scrutinizing. Suspicion was first had; the discovery of Fanny's and Nelly's true sex was made. Of course, the next event in their romantic history was a dismissal from the service. But not until her health had improved sufficiently was Fanny dismissed from the sick-ward of the hospital. This happened, however, a week or two after her sex had become known. Nellie, who up to this time had shared the fate of her companion, was now no longer allowed to do so; her illness became serious, she was detained in the hospital, and Fanny and she parted—their histories no longer being linked. Nellie we can

tell no further of; but Fanny, having again entered society in her true position, what became of her?

"We now see her on the stage of a theatre at Cairo, serving an engagement as ballet girl. But this lasts but a few nights. She turns up in Memphis, even as a soldier again. But she has changed her branch of the service; Fanny has now become a private in the Third Illinois cavalry. Only two weeks has she been enlisted, when, to her surprise, while riding through the street with a fellow-soldier, she is stopped by a guard, and arrested for being 'a woman in men's clothing.' She is taken to the office of the detective police, and questioned until no doubt can remain as to her identity—not proving herself, as suspected, a rebel spy, but a Federal soldier. An appropriate wardrobe is procured her, and her word is given that she will not again attempt a disguise. And here we leave her. Fanny is a young lady of about nineteen years; of a fair face, though somewhat tanned; of a rather masculine voice, and a mind sprightly and somewhat educated—being very easily able to pass herself off for a boy of about seventeen or eighteen."

It may be interesting to know the state of General Hayes's thoughts and feelings just before entering upon that desperate conflict in the Wilderness, where he lost his life. In a letter written upon the morning on which the march commenced, he says:

"This morning was beautiful, for

'Lightly and brightly shone the sun,
As if the morn was a jocund one.'

"Although we were anticipating to march at eight o'clock, it might have been an appropriate harbinger of the day of the regeneration of mankind; but it only brought to remembrance, through the throats of many bugles, that duty enjoined upon each one, perhaps, before the setting sun, to lay down a life for his country."

JOSIAH VAVASSEUR & Co., of London, take credit to themselves, of course through the columns of the *London Times*, for providing the steel shot for the rebels by which the Keokuk was sunk. A statement published in England to the effect that "practical artillerists have not been using spherical steel shot" put this house of Vavasseur & Co. upon its defence, and as a proof that artillerists do use such implements of war, they say they "have reason to believe that the same shot made by us (Vavasseur & Co.) were used by the confederates in the first attack of the monitors upon Charleston, in which action the Keokuk was so severely handled." Vavasseur & Co., like good "neutral" Englishmen as they are, rather pride themselves on the efficient aid thus rendered to the rebels.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN sent a letter of thanks to the widow of the late Rev. Joseph Stockton, of Pittsburgh, Pa., a lady eighty years of age, for knitting a great number of stockings for the soldiers. To this favor of the President Mrs. Stockton has sent the following reply:

"To His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States:

"Your kind letter was duly received. My labors in behalf of our gallant soldiers, I fear, are somewhat exaggerated. I have endeavored to do what I could for those who battle to crush this wicked rebellion.

"Every grandson I have capable of bearing arms is now in the army—one acting as brigadier-general in Western Virginia; one as colonel, commanding under General McPherson; one as captain, One Hundred and Fortieth Pennsylvania volunteers; one as lieutenant, in the Fourteenth Pennsylvania cavalry; and another, who was disabled as a gunner in the Chicago Light Artillery, I have at home with me, and he is yet anxious to again join his command.

"At my time of life I cannot expect that many more years will be given to me; yet it is my sincere desire that ere I close my mortal life peace may be restored to our whole land.

"And now, my dear sir, in concluding this letter, (perhaps the last I shall ever write,) permit me to say that my earnest prayer for you is, that you may long be spared to enjoy the blessing of a grateful nation, when Freedom shall have enthroned herself truly over the entire land.

"Committing you to the care of our Heavenly Father, I remain your sincere friend,

"ESTHER STOCKTON."

ROSECRANS TO HALLECK.—The following letter explains itself:

"HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUM-
BERLAND, MURFREESBORO, TENN.,
March 6, 1863.

"Major-General H. W. Halleck, General-in-Chief
U. S. A., Washington, D. C.:

"GENERAL: Yours of the first instant, announcing the offer of a vacant Major-Generalship to the General in the field who first wins an important and decisive victory, is received.

"As an officer and a citizen, I feel degraded at such an auctioneering of honor. Have we a General who would fight for his own personal benefit, when he would not for honor and his country? He will come by his commission basely in that case, and deserves to be despised by men of honor. But are all the brave and honorable generals on an equality as to chances? If not, it is unjust to those who probably deserve most.

W. S. ROSECRANS,

"Major-General."

FORREST ON FORT PILLLOW.

MEMPHIS, MISS., May 18, 1865.

Before the large chimney-place of a small cabin-room, surrounded by a group of confederate officers and men, the room dimly lighted by a small tallow candle, I first saw Lieutenant-General N. B. Forrest, commanding a corps of cavalry in the rebel army. Forrest is a man of fine appearance, about six feet in height, having dark, piercing hazel eyes, carefully trimmed moustache, and chin-whiskers, dark as night, finely cut features, and iron-gray hair. His form is lithe, plainly indicating great physical power and activity. He was neatly dressed in citizen's clothes of some gray mixture, the only indication of military service being the usual number of small staff-buttons on his vest. I should have marked him as a prominent man had I seen him on Broadway; and when I was told that he was the "Forrest of Fort Pillow," I devoted my whole attention to him, and give you the result of our conversation. My first impression of the man was rather favorable than otherwise. Except a guard of some hundred Federal soldiers, more than half a mile away, I was, with the exception of another person, the only Yankee in the room, and, being

dressed in citizen's clothes, was never suspected, except by the landlord.

"General," said I, "I little expected to be seated by this fire with you."

"Why so?"

"Well, because your name has been in the mouth of nearly every person for a long time."

"Yes," said he, displaying the finest set of teeth that I think I have ever seen; "I have waked up the Yankees everywhere, lately."

"Now that you have time, General, do you think you will ever put upon paper the true account of the Fort Pillow affair?"

"Well," said he, "the Yankees ought to know; they sent down their best men to investigate the affair."

"But are we to believe their report, General?"

"Yes, if we are to believe any thing a nigger says. When I went into the war, I meant to fight. Fighting means killing. I have lost twenty-nine horses in the war, and have killed a man each time. The other day I was a horse ahead, but at Selma they surrounded me, and I killed two, jumped my horse over a one-horse wagon, and got away." I began to think I had some idea of the man at last. He continued: "My Provost-Marshal's book will show that I have taken thirty-one thousand prisoners during the war. At Fort Pillow I sent in a flag of truce, and demanded an unconditional surrender, or I would not answer for my men. This they refused. I sent them another note, giving them one hour to determine. This they refused. I could see on the river boats loaded with troops. They sent back, asking for an hour more. I gave them twenty minutes. I sat on my horse during the whole time."

"The fort was filled with niggers and deserters from our army; men who lived side by side with my men. I waited five minutes after the time, and then blew my bugle for the charge. In twenty minutes my men were over the works, and the firing had ceased. The citizens and Yankees had broken in the heads of whiskey and lager-beer barrels, and were all drunk. They kept up firing all the time, as they went down the hill. Hundreds of them rushed to the river, and tried to swim to the gunboats, and my men shot them down. The Mississippi river was red with their blood for three hundred yards. During all this, their flag was still flying, and I rushed over the works and cut the halyards, and let it down, and stopped the fight. Many of the Yankees were in tents in front, and they were in their way, as they concealed my men, and some of them set them on fire. If any were burned to death, it was in those tents."

"They have a living witness in Captain Young, their Quartermaster, who is still alive; and I will leave it to any prisoner I have ever taken if I have not treated them well." "You have made some rapid marches, General," said I. "Yes," said he, "I have five thousand men that can whip any ten thousand in the world. Sturgis came out to whip me once, and was ten thousand strong. I marched off as if I was going to Georgia, and fell upon the head of his column when he least expected me, and, with two thousand three hundred men, killed over three thousand, captured as many more, with all the trains and mules, and drove him back. I meant to kill every man in Federal uniform, unless he gave up." He spoke of capturing a fort from Colonel Crawford, in Athens, Alabama, garrisoned by one thousand five hundred men. Said he: "I took him out and showed him my forces—some brigades two or three times,

and one battery I kept marching around all the time. My men dismounted, leaving every fourth man to hold the horses, and formed the rest in front as infantry; and the darn fool gave up without firing a shot."

Speaking of Streight's capture, he said it was almost a shame. "His men rode among them and shot them down like cattle. They were mounted on sharp-edged saddles, and were worn out, and he killed several of them himself. Didn't hardly know what to do with them." But the heart sickens at the infamous conduct of this butcher. He is one of the few men that are general "blowers," and yet will fight. Forrest is a thorough bravo—a desperate man in every respect. He was a negro-trader before the war, and in "personal affairs," as he calls them, had killed several men.

He had a body-guard of one hundred and fifty picked men. These he placed in the rear, with orders to shoot any one that turned back. I have spoken to numbers of confederate officers, and they speak of him with disgust, though all admit his bravery and fitness for the cavalry service. He has two brothers living, one of whom is spoken of as being a greater butcher than the Lieutenant-General. He is a man without education or refinement, married, I believe, to a very pretty wife. Any one would call him handsome.

Any one hearing him talk, would call him a braggadocio. As for myself, I would believe one half he said, and only dispute with him with my finger upon the trigger of my pistol. When I told him I was a Yankee, and late upon a prominent General's staff, he looked about him, and among his staff, for corroborative proof. Volleys of this, ready prepared, poured forth upon his order. My not being a short-hand writer necessarily deprived me of the pleasure of a further contribution to this true story.

Two young Kentuckians were walking along the road when Forrest came up; he called them deserters, and deliberately shot them. It appears that these young men were upon legitimate duty, and one of them under military age. The fathers of these youths are upon Forrest's track, sworn to kill him. Poetic justice requires that he should meet with a violent death. Probably one hundred men have fallen by his hand. He says "the war is played;" that, where he lives, there are plenty of fish; and that he is going to take a tent along, and don't want to see any one for twelve months.

What a charming hero he would make for a sensational "King of the Cannibal Islands!"

BRYAN MCALISTER.

WAITING.

When he comes back, all glorious,
With the love-light in his eye,
From the battle-field victorious,
Who'll be happier than than I?
See, the big arm-chair is waiting,
Vacant still in its old place—
Time, press quickly on the hours
Till I see his pleasant face!

He was too young, they told me,
To march against the foe;
Yet when his country needed aid,
His mother bade him go!
'Twere meet slaves should tremble
Whom tyrants hold in thrall;
But my boy was a freeman born,
He went at freedom's call.

My small weak hand would waver
The shortest sword to bear ;
But he stands steady in the ranks,
And holds his musket there.
My faint heart would falter
The battle-ground to see ;
But his is strong in freedom's might,
He fights for her and me.

I am watching and waiting,
As mothers watch and wait,
Whose sons are in the army now,
And it is growing late.
My life's past its morning,
It's near sunset in the sky—
Oh ! I long once more to clasp him
In my arms before I die.

Yet farther off the army goes—
He will return no more,
Till our glorious flag is free again
To float o'er sea and shore.
Where'er it waved in days gone by,
Its folds again shall rest,
From the depths of the lowest valleys,
To the highest mountain crest.

And he, my boy, my darling,
The pride of my old heart !
Where'er his place may be, I know
He will fulfil his part.
Not until the war is over
Shall we meet in fond embrace.
Time, press swiftly on the hours,
Till I see his pleasant face !

REQUIEM.

BY GEORGE LUNT.

Breathe, trumpets ! breathe
Slow notes of saddest wailing ;
Sadly responsive peal,
Ye muffled drums !
Comrades, with downcast eyes
And muskets trailing !
Attend him home—
The youthful warrior comes.

Upon his shield,
Upon his shield returning,
Borne from the field of honor
Where he fell—
Glory and grief, together clasped
In mourning,
His fame, his fate,
With sobs exulting tell.

Wrap round his breast
The flag his breast defended—
His country's flag,
In battle's front unrolled ;
For it he died—
On earth for ever ended,
His brave young life
Lives in each sacred fold.

With proud, fond tears,
By tinge of shame untainted,
Bear him, and lay him
Gently in his grave :

Above the hero write,
The young, half-sainted :
His country asked his life,
His life he gave.

THE TRUE FLAG OF PEACE.

The battle is ended, the cannon is still,
The flag we defended waves out on the hill ;
Around us are lying the children of God—
The dead and the dying—their pillows the sod ;
But the flag on the hill, to us that remain,
Its glory shall thrill to fight for again ;
Then up from your trenches with sabre and gun,
The fire that quenches the rays of the sun
Streams out from the Blue of the flag on the hill,
And tempers the hue of the battle-red rill.

The smoke of the battle is yet in the sky,
The musketry rattle meets not with reply ;
Pale faces, and ghastly, upturned to the day—
Mark ye, how fastly the life ebbs away.
Our Father ! in pity, look out from above,
Look down from von City of Mercy and Love,
And deal with us kindly, pour oil on the flood,
Nor let us walk blindly in by-ways of blood ;
Our country, our duty, our banner unfurled,
The emblem of beauty, the pride of the world.

The battle is ended, but not the good fight ;
The flag we defended is yet in our sight ;
There are traitors behind us and traitors before us,
But the flag of mankind is with us and o'er us ;
None other we know, none other shall lead us.
Strike, freemen, the blow, that nations may heed us !
'Tis the flag of our heart, in steel let us wear it,
And hold it apart from hands that would tear it ;
There's love in its hue, and its stars shall increase—
The Red, White, and Blue is the true flag of peace.
B. S. W.

"RICHMUN ON THE JEEMS."

The following lines were picked up in the street. They appear to be an attempt at parody on that other attempt of "Bingen on the Rhine."

A soldier, filled with Bourbon, lay puling in the street,
From battle-field es-ca-ped, with swiftly running feet ;
He'd fallen from too much "strychnine," and drowned
all gallant schemes,
And got as far as possible from Richmun on the Jeems !

And one there lay beside him, his comrade in the
flight ;
They had been boon companions, and frequently got
tight ;
And side by side they lay there, indulging maudlin
dreams,
Far from the Libby prison and Richmond on the
Jeems !

One said : Old feller, tell me, what think you of this
war,
Made by the boastin' rebels, our prosp'rous peace to
mar ?
Are Lee and Stonewall Jackson such thunderation
teams,
As to keep us out of Richmun, ole Richmun on the
Jeems ?

Say, do you think that Hooker — they call him
 "Fighten Joe"—
 Who 'fore the War Committee run down McClellan
 so—
 Will he cross the Rappy-hannick, and carry out his
 schemes,
 And take us down to Richmun, upon the river
 Jeems?

Why, when I left old Kaintuck, just eighteen months
 ago,
 My mam and sister Ruby both said I shouldn't go;
 But, I ax'd 'em both, and Susan, to think of me in
 dreams,
 For, I'se bound to go to Richmun, old Richmun on
 the Jeems!

You know, through tribulation, we marched on, night
 and day,
 Through woods, and mud, and dusty roads, and fight-
 ing in the fray;
 By smoke-houses and chicken coops, and where the
 biler steams,
 Which cooked our hard-earned rations tow'rd Rich-
 mun on the Jeems.

And, now we're going homeward—me and the other
 scamp,
 Yet, far from old Kentucky, we are obleeged to
 tramp;
 And him who's out of postage stamps, there's nobody
 esteems,
 E'en though he's been in Richmun, and seed the river
 Jeems!

To hell with old Phiginny, and all her sacred sile!
 She's made a heap of trouble, and kept it up a while;
 And if she's helped herself right much, 'tis like to
 them sunbeams
 The niggers squeeze from cucumbers, in Richmun on
 the Jeems!

—And then his boon companion convulsively turned
 o'er,
 And, grunting an affirmative, straightway began to
 snore,
 Oblivious to war's alarms or love's delightful themes,
 Or to the fact that Richmond still stands on the Jeems.

Grow on, thou "sour apple-tree," where Jeffy is to
 hang!
 Rejoice, ye running contrabands, for this is your che-
 bang!
 No more you'll stem tobacco, thresh wheat, or drive
 the teams
 Of rebels round the city—old Richmond on the Jeems.

KENTUCKY! O KENTUCKY!

John Morgan's foot is on the shore,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!
 His hand is on thy stable-door,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!
 You'll see your good gray mare no more,
 He'll ride her till her back is sore,
 And leave her at some stranger's door,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!

For feeding John you're paying dear,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!

His very name now makes you fear,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!
 In every valley, far and near,
 He's gobbled every horse and steer;
 You'll rue his raids for many a year,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!

Yet you have many a traitorous fool,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!
 Who still will be the rebels' tool,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!
 They'll learn to yield to Abram's rule
 In none but Johnny's costly school,
 At cost of every animule,
 Kentucky! O Kentucky!

TO PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Proudest of all earth's thrones
 Is his who rules by a free people's choice;
 Who, 'midst fierce party strife and battle groans,
 Hears, ever rising in harmonious tones,
 A grateful people's voice.

Steadfast in thee we trust,
 Tried as no man was ever tried before;
 God made thee merciful—God keep thee just
 Be true!—and triumph over all thou must.
 God bless thee evermore!

GREAT CENTRAL FAIR, JUNE 16, 1864.

—Daily Fare, Philadelphia.

THE BAYONET CHARGE.

Hark to the batteries disputing in thunder—
 Shell over tree-top and shot rattling under,
 Noisily cover the path of the foe
 Down through the forest aisles, lofty and large.
 There's a look on the face of our leader I know,
 And I wait the dread order: "Fix bayonets—
 charge!"

Am I less brave for a moment's quick shiver?
 Hearts of oak yonder bear light leaves that quiver.
 I look down the line—there's a lip turning white,
 Set the firmer for that; there are fixed, gazing
 eyes
 Intent upon something, but not on the fight;
 There's a swift glance flung upward to pierce the
 blue skies.

While the thunder rolls nearer, distinct through
 it all
 I catch fragments of whispers; as, "Boys, if I fall,"
 Or thus, "Should the worst come, write home to
 my mother,"
 "Tell my sister, my wife, that I died like a man."
 "You'll find in my knapsack, friend," murmurs an-
 other,
 "A line that I scrawled when the battle began."

Our Colonel sits firm; with that look in his eye,
 Like a sword part unsheathed, he rides gallantly by.
 Should he fall, made a mark for the sharp-shooter's
 aim

By his gay epaulette with its golden encrust,
 There'll be trumpet-loud voices to herald his fame;
 But I am a private—the commonest dust!

For fame do I fight? Lord of hosts, does not he
 Who battles for right ever battle for Thee!
 There are graves trodden level that love seeks in
 vain,
 Held in honor by angels. Alike in thy sight
 The poorest who carves for the red stripes their
 stain,
 And the leader who falls in the van of the fight.
 They are coming—they come! Shifting sunbeams
 reveal
 Their way through the leaves by the glitter of steel;
 They swarm to the light, through the tree-boles
 they swarm
 Out from the forest aisles, lofty and large.
 Our Colonel turns pale, drops his beckoning arms,
 But hark, boys, the order: "Fix bayonets—
 charge!"

THE EAGLE OF THE EIGHTH WISCONSIN.

Poised in the azure depths of air,
 In his home so near the sun,
 Like one, just brought in being there,
 And whose flight had not begun—
 And he knew not whether his home to seek
 In that dazzling world of light,
 Or glide far down to some snowy peak
 Of bleak Novadian height—

An eagle's slowly moving wing
 Lingered between the sun
 And a boy, whose right arm clasped a maid,
 While his left one held his gun;
 And the proud bird's shadow nerved his heart,
 Though he knew not whence the power;
 But he felt there came the strength to part,
 And the courage for the hour.

The roll of the stirring drum came clear,
 The bugle's blast came shrill,
 The eagles shone on his dark blue coat,
 And the eagle shadowed him still;
 And proudly his bayonet flashed that day
 On the scenes of his early joys,
 As he grasped his gun and marched away
 With the Eighth Wisconsin boys.

And proudly the regiment trod the street,
 As it swept from town to town,
 And still on its waving standard sheet
 A shadow unnoticed came down;
 Now its ranks are filled, and it moves along
 On the swift and crowded train—
 Now pauses amid the hurrying throng,
 Or speeds o'er the sounding plain.

No longer the eagle in eyrie rests,
 But his straining flight doth keep,
 As he follows the train o'er the sounding plain,
 Or the keel through the foaming deep—
 Till when, 'mid the wilds of the rude frontier,
 The Eighth are guarding the line,
 They observe his wheeling circuits near
 The top of a distant pine.

"Come, now for a shot at him. Who's afraid
 To bring down the eagle?" said one.
 But the boy on whose right had leaned the maid
 While his left arm held his gun,
 Cried: "Hold! would'st thou fight in a holy war,
 And its creed hast thou not heard,

And would'st take the life we are fighting for,
 For the sake of a poor dead bird?"

The eagle's circuits, in slow descent,
 Came nearer, day by day,
 Till one morn he sat on the ridge of the tent,
 Where a wounded soldier lay—
 No more, whose right arm clasped a maid,
 No more, whose left a gun,
 And no more the eagle's shadow played
 Between him and the sun.

He folded his heavy wings, and slept
 On the ridge of the sick boy's tent,
 Or with flashing eye his vigils kept
 On all that came and went.
 Do you wonder that soon as the soldier stirred
 Forth for the air and the sun,
 On his shoulder perched the fierce, grim bird,
 Ere its strength could bear his gun?

And when, once more, he proudly marched
 To a soldier's pains and joys,
 The eagle sat on his shoulder perched,
 'Mid the Eighth Wisconsin boys;
 And now where the wave of battle flows,
 And its deathly flashes gleam,
 And on their ranks the foemen close,
 Till their blood and their banners stream

In mass confused and mingled flow,
 And shell or shrapnel sings
 Its terrible whistling song of woe,
 The eagle flaps his wings,*
 And the flash of his fierce, majestic eye
 Outshines the bayonet's gleam;
 And over the soldiers' battle-cry,
 And the hiss of the shells that scream,

And the roar of the fierce artillery,
 Rises the eagle's cry,
 As if the Genius of the Free
 Inspired his voice and eye.
 The brave Wisconsins hear that cry
 And answer with shout and cheer,
 "'Tis the voice of the Genius of Liberty,"
 And they fight on without fear.

Thus from the banks of far Osage,
 To Chickamauga's shore—
 'Mid Donelson's relentless rage,
 And Vicksburgh's thundering roar—
 On many a conquered battle-field,
 Unshadowed by defeat—
 As State by State the foemen yield,
 From field and fort retreat—

The Eighth Wisconsin marches on,
 By danger undeterred,

* A correspondent of the *Iroquois (Wla.) Times* gives the following, among other particulars, relative to the eagle of the Eighth Wisconsin regiment, which the soldiers have named "Old Abe:"

"When the regiment is engaged in battle, Old Abe manifests the fiercest delight. At such a time he will always be found in his appropriate place, at the head of company D. To be seen in all his glory, he should be seen when the regiment is enveloped in the smoke of battle. Then the eagle, with spread pinions, jumps up and down on his perch, uttering such wild, fearful screams as an eagle alone can utter. The fiercer, wilder, and louder the storm of battle, the fiercer, wilder, and louder the scream of the eagle. Twice Old Abe has been hit by secession bullets; one shot carried away a third part of his tail-feathers. He is a universal favorite, and has been carried with the regiment through seven States. Thousands flock to see him, and he is fast becoming famous."

And one of them bears on his right a gun,
On his left the noble bird.
And his dream by night is a vision sweet,
Of a far Wisconsin glade,
Where he meets with his first and last retreat,
Outflanked, right and left, by a maid.

THE BLUE COAT.

The following ballad is from the pen of Bishop Burgess, of Maine, and was contributed by him to the book published and sold at the Sanitary Fair in Baltimore, under the sanction of the State Fair Association of the women of Maryland:

THE BLUE COAT OF THE SOLDIER.

You asked me, little one, why I bowed,
Though never I passed the man before?
Because my heart was full and proud
When I saw the old blue coat he wore.
The blue great-coat, the sky-blue coat,
The old blue coat the soldier wore.

I knew not, I, what weapon he chose,
What chief he followed, what badge he wore;
Enough that in the front of foes
His country's blue great-coat he wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

Perhaps he was born in a forest hut,
Perhaps he had danced on a palace-floor;
To want or wealth my eyes were shut,
I only marked the coat he wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

It mattered not much if he drew his line
From Shem or Ham, in the days of yore;
For surely he was a brother of mine,
Who for my sake the war-coat wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

He might have no skill to read or write,
Or he might be rich in learned lore;
But I knew he could make his mark in fight,
And nobler gown no scholar wore
Than the blue great-coat, etc.

It may be he could plunder and prowl,
And perhaps in his mood he scoffed and swore;
But I would not guess a spot so foul
On the honored coat he bravely wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

He had worn it long, and borne it far;
And perhaps on the red Virginian shore,
From midnight chill till the morning-star,
That worn great-coat the sentry wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

When hardy Butler reined his steed
Through the streets of proud, proud Baltimore,
Perhaps behind him, at his need,
Marched he who yonder blue coat wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

Perhaps it was seen in Burnside's ranks,
When Rappahannock ran dark with gore;
Perhaps on the mountain-side with Banks,
In the burning sun no more he wore
The blue great-coat, etc.

Perhaps in the swamps was a bed for his form,
From the seven days' battling and marching sore,

Or with Kearny and Pope 'mid the steely storm,
As the night closed in, that coat he wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

Or when right over, as Jackson dashed,
That collar or cape some bullet tore;
Or when far ahead Antietam flashed,
He flung to the ground the coat that he wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

Or stood at Gettysburgh, where the graves
Rang deep to Howard's cannon roar;
Or saw with Grant the unchained waves
Where conquering hosts the blue coat wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

That garb of honor tells enough,
Though I its story guess no more;
The heart it covers is made of such stuff,
That coat is mail which that soldier wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

He may hang it up when the peace shall come,
And the moths may find it behind the door;
But his children will point, when they hear a drum,
To the proud old coat their father wore.
The blue great-coat, etc.

And so, my child, will you and I,
For whose fair home their blood they pour,
Still bow the head, as one goes by
Who wears the coat that soldier wore.
The blue great-coat, the sky-blue coat,
The old blue coat the soldier wore.

REBEL PRISONERS IN OHIO.—The following account of the treatment of rebel prisoners in the Ohio Penitentiary was given in the *Richmond Examiner* of March seventeenth, 1864:

The experiences of this war have afforded many examples of Yankee cruelty which have produced an impression more or less distinct upon the enlightened portions of the world. But the statement which we proceed to give, takes precedence of all that has ever yet been narrated of the atrocities of the enemy; and it is so remarkable, both on account of its matter and the credit that must naturally attach to its authorship, that we doubt whether the so-called civilized world of this generation has produced anywhere any well-authenticated story of equal horror.

The statement we give to our readers is that we have just taken from the lips of Captain Calvin C. Morgan, a brother of the famous General Morgan, who arrived in Richmond under the recent flag of truce, which covered the return of several hundred of our prisoners. Captain Morgan was among those of his brother's expedition who, in last July, were incarcerated in the Penitentiary of Ohio. On entering this infamous abode, Captain Morgan and his companions were stripped in a reception-room and their naked bodies examined there. They were again stripped in the interior of the prison, and washed in tubs by negro convicts; their hair cut close to the scalp, the brutal warden, who was standing by, exhorting the negro barber to "cut off every damned lock of their rebel hair." After these ceremonies, the officers were locked up in cells, the dimensions of which were thirty-eight inches in width, six and a half feet in length, and about the same in height. In these narrow abodes our brave soldiers were left to pine, branded as felons, goaded by "convict-drivers," and insulted

by speeches which constantly reminded them of the weak and cruel neglect of that government, on whose behalf, after imperilling their lives, they were now suffering a fate worse than death. But even these sufferings were nothing to what was reserved for them in another invention of cruelty without a parallel, unless in the secrets of the infernal.

It appears that after General Morgan's escape, suspicion alighted on the warden, a certain Captain Merion, who, it was thought, might have been corrupted. To alleviate the suspicion, (for which there were really no grounds whatever,) the brute commenced a system of devilish persecution of the unfortunate confederate prisoners who remained in his hands. One part of the system was solitary confinement in dungeons. These dungeons were close cells, a false door being drawn over the grating so as to exclude light and air. The food allowed the occupants of these dark and noisome places was three ounces of bread and half a pint of water per day. The four walls were bare of every thing but a water-bucket, for the necessities of nature, which was left for days to poison the air the prisoner breathed. He was denied a blanket; deprived of his overcoat, if he had one, and left standing or stretched with four dark, cold walls around him, with not room enough to walk in to keep up the circulation of his blood, stagnated with the cold, and the silent and unutterable horrors of his abode.

Confinement in these dungeons was the warden's sentence for the most trivial offences. On one occasion, one of our prisoners was thus immured because he refused to tell Merion which one of his companions had whistled, contrary to the prison rules. But the most terrible visitation of this demon's displeasure occurred not more than six weeks ago.

Some knives had been discovered in the prisoner's cells, and Merion accused the occupants of meditating their escape. Seven of them, all officers, and among them Captain Morgan, were taken to the west end of the building and put in the dark cells there. They were not allowed a blanket or overcoat, and the thermometer was below zero. There was no room to pace. Each prisoner had to struggle for life, as the cold benumbed him, by stamping his feet, beating the walls, now catching a few minutes of horrible sleep on the cold floor, and then starting up to continue, in the dark, his wrestle for life.

"I had been suffering from heart-disease," says Captain Morgan. "It was terribly aggravated by the cold and horror of the dungeon in which I was placed. I had a wet towel, one end of which I pressed to my side; the other would freeze, and I had to put its frozen folds on my naked skin. I stood this way all night, pressing the frozen towel to my side, and keeping my feet going up and down. I felt I was struggling for my life."

Captain Morgan endured this confinement for eighteen hours, and was taken out barely alive. The other prisoners endured it for sixteen days and nights. In this time they were visited at different periods by the physician of the penitentiary—Dr. Loring—who felt their pulses and examined their conditions, to ascertain how long life might hold out under the exacting torture. It was awful, this ceremony of torture, this medical examination of the victims. The tramp of the prisoners' feet up and down, (there was no room to walk,) as they thus worked for life, was incessantly going on. This black tread-mill of the dungeon could be heard all through the cold and dreary hours of the night. Dr. Loring, who was comparatively a humane person, besought Merion to release the unhappy men;

said they had already been taxed to the point of death. The wretch replied: "They did not talk right yet." He wished them to humble themselves to him. He went into the cell of one of them, Major Webber, to taunt him. "Sir," said the officer, "I defy you. You can kill me, but you can add nothing to the sufferings you have already inflicted. Proceed to kill me; it makes not the slightest difference."

At the expiration of sixteen days the men were released from the dungeons. Merion said "he would take them out this time alive, but the next time they offended they would be taken out feet foremost." Their appearance was frightful; they could no longer be recognized by their companions. With their bodies swollen and discolored, with their minds bordering on childishness, tottering, some of them talking foolishly, these wretched men seemed to agree but in one thing—a ravenous desire for food.

"I had known Captain Coles," says Captain Morgan, "as well as my brother. When he came out of his dungeon, I swear to you I did not know him. His face had swollen to two or three times its ordinary size, and he tottered so that I had to catch him from falling. Captain Barton was in an awful state. His face was swollen, and the blood was bursting from the skin. All of them had to be watched, so as to check them in eating, as they had been starved so long."

Captain Morgan was so fortunate as to obtain a transfer to Johnson's Island, whence, after being carried to Point Lookout, he was exchanged. He says that when "he got into Beast Butler's hands, he felt as if he had been translated to Paradise"—showing what comparative things misery and happiness are in this world. But he left in those black walls of captivity he had been released from, sixty-five brave men, who are wearing their lives away without even a small whisper of relief from that government for which they are martyrs.

Is there any authority in Richmond that will crook a thumb to save these men, who are not only flesh of our flesh, but the defenders of those in this capital, who, not exactly disowning them, undertake the base and cowardly pretence of ignoring their fate?

What is the confederate definition of "retaliation"? Captain Morgan says that on his way down the bay, to Fortress Monroe, he met Colonel Straight; that this famous "hostage" was fat and rubicund; that he spoke freely of his prison experience in Richmond, and complained only that he had to eat corn-bread. This appeared to be the extent of his sufferings, and the confederate limit of retaliation. Is it necessary to present the contrast further than we have already done, by a relation of facts at once more truthful and more terrible than any argument or declamation could possibly be?

COLONEL MOSBY OUTWITTED.

Colonel Mosby, the guerrilla chief, has become famous, and his dashing exploits are often recorded to our disadvantage; but even he meets with his match occasionally.

On Friday, March twenty-fifth, 1865, Captain E. B. Gere, of the Gri-wold Light Cavalry, was sent out with one hundred and twenty-five men to the neighborhoods of Berryville and Winchester on a scout, and encamped at Millwood, some six or eight miles from the former place.

After the men had got their fires built, Sergeant Weatherby, of company B, Corporal Simpson, of company H, and a private, went some two miles from

camp to get supper at a farm-house, and, waiting for the long delayed tea, were surprised to find several revolvers suddenly advance into the room, behind each pair of which was either Colonel Mosby, a rebel captain or a lieutenant, all rather determined men, with "shoot in their eyes," who demanded the immediate surrender of the aforesaid Yankees. The aim being wicked, the three Twenty-firsters saw they were "under a cloud," and so quietly gave up the contest.

Colonel Mosby was much elated by his good fortune, and required his prisoners to follow him supperless on his rounds to his headquarters at Paris; the private, however, while pretending to get his horse, hid himself in the hay and escaped, Mosby not daring to wait and hunt him up.

On the way to Paris, the Colonel amused himself by constantly taunting his prisoners with questions: "Were they with Major Cole when he thrashed him at Upperville?" "Were they with Major Sullivan, of the First veterans, when his men ran away and left him?" "How did they fancy his gray nag?—he took that from a Yankee lieutenant." "Didn't the Yanks dread him and his men more than they did the regular rebel cavalry?" "How did they (the prisoners) like his style of fighting?" and a hundred such remarks, that indicated the man as being more of a braggart than a hero.

He was, in the mean time, engaged in gathering his men with the avowed intention of attacking Captain Gere's force at daylight, and, if possible, of cutting it to pieces. His followers live in the farm-houses of Loudon, Clarke, and Jefferson counties, and are either rebel soldiers or Union citizens, as the case may require. He would ride up to a house, call Joe or Jake, and tell them that he wanted them at such an hour at the usual place; to go and tell Jim or Mose. Almost every farm turned out somebody in answer to his call, proving that these men, with the certified oath of allegiance in their pockets, and with passes allowing them to come in and go out of our lines at will, are not only in sympathy with the enemy, but are themselves perjured rebels.

When they arrived at Paris, Colonel Mosby dismounted and stepped into the house where he had his headquarters, leaving his pistols in the holsters. The Lieutenant, with drawn revolver, watched the prisoners while the Captain endeavored to find an orderly to take the horses. Corporal Simpson, who had been marking the road for future use, and had been long looking for it, saw his chance and pretended to tie his horse, but really putting his foot into the stirrup of Mosby's saddle and laying hold of one of the over-looked pistols. The Lieutenant detected the move and fired at him, when Simpson shot him through the heart with the weapon he had secured. The Captain turned round and fired, and Colonel Mosby came to the door to see "what all that row was about," just in time to hear a bullet whiz unpleasantly close to his head, that he fired at him "just for luck" as he and his comrade left, yelling back: "Colonel Mosby, how do you like our style of fighting? We belong to the Twenty-first New-York." And away they went, leaving Colonel Mosby dismounted, and outwitted of his best horse, saddle, overcoat, pistols, two Yankee prisoners, and at least one vacancy among his commissioned officers. Corporal Simpson rode twelve miles to the camp, closely followed by the Sergeant, and gave Captain Gere such notice of the enemy's intentions that they thought best not to pitch in at the appointed time.

The captured horse is a very fine one, and with the

arms, equipments, etc., is still in the possession of Simpson. We believe it is the intention of the regiment to buy them from the Government, and to present them to the "Yankee Corporal who beat Mosby out of his pet nag."

Captain Gere returned to camp at Halltown Saturday afternoon, having captured Lieutenant Wysong, of the Seventh Virginia, the successor of Captain Blackford, a noted guerrilla, who was killed by a sergeant of the First New-York.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN GENERAL BUTLER AND A FEMININE SECESSIONIST.

LOCESTVILLE, ACCOMAC CO., VA., March 10, 1864.

General B. F. Butler:

SIR: My school has been closed since Christmas, because, as I understood the oath required of us, I could not conscientiously take it. Having heard since then that one of your officers explains the oath as meaning simply that we consent to the acts of the United States Government, and pledge passive obedience to the same, I take the liberty of addressing this to you to ascertain if you so construe the oath. I cannot understand how a woman can "support, protect, and defend the Union," except by speaking or writing in favor of the present war, which I could never do, because my sympathies are with the South. If by those words you understand merely passive submission, I am ready to take the oath, and abide by it sacredly.

Very respectfully,

MARY S. GRAVER.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH-CAROLINA,
FORTRESS MONROE, March 14, 1864.

MY DEAR MADAM: I am truly sorry that any Union officer of mine has attempted to fritter away the effect of the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States, and to inform you that it means nothing more than passive obedience to the same.

That officer is equally mistaken. The oath of allegiance means fealty, pledge of faith to, love, affection, and reverence for the Government, all comprised in the word patriotism, in its highest and truest sense, which every true American feels for his or her Government.

You say: "I cannot understand how a woman can support, protect, and defend the Union, except by speaking or writing in favor of the present war, which I could never do, because my sympathies are with the South."

That last phrase, madam, shows why you cannot understand "how a woman can support, protect, and defend the Union."

Were you loyal at heart, you would at once understand. The Southern women who are rebels understand well "how to support, protect, and defend" the Confederacy, "without either speaking or writing." Some of them act as spies, some smuggle quinine in their underclothes, some smuggle information through the lines in their dresses, some tend sick soldiers for the Confederacy, some get up subscriptions for rebel gunboats.

Perhaps it may all be comprised in the phrase: "Where there is a will there is a way."

Now, then, you could "support, protect, and defend the Union" by teaching the scholars of your school to love and reverence the Government, to be proud of their country, to glory in its flag, and to be true to its Constitution. But, as you don't understand that yourself, you can't teach it to them, and, therefore, I am glad to learn from your letter that your school has

been closed since Christmas, and with my consent, until you change your sentiments, and are a loyal woman in heart, it never shall be opened.

I would advise you, madam, forthwith to go where your "sympathies" are. I am only doubtful whether it is not my duty to send you.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General Commanding.

To Mrs. MARY L. GRAVES,
Locustville, Accomac County, Virginia.

IN LIBBY PRISON—NEW-YEAR'S EVE, 1863-4.

'Tis twelve o'clock! Within my prison dreary—
My head upon my hand—sitting so weary,
Scanning the future, musing upon the past,
Pondering the fate that here my lot has cast;
The hoarse cry of the sentry, pacing his beat,
Wakens the echoes of the silent street:
"All is well!"

Ah! is it so? My fellow-captive, sleeping
Where the barred window strictest watch is keeping,
Dreaming of home and wife and prattling child—
Of the sequestered vale, the mountain wild—
Tell me, when cruel morn shall break again,
Wilt thou repeat the sentinel's refrain,
"All is well!"

And thou, my country! wounded, pale, and bleeding,
Thy children deaf to a fond mother's pleading—
Stabbing with cruel hate the nurturing breast,
To which their infancy in love was pressed—
Recount thy wrongs, thy many sorrows name;
Then to the nations—if thou canst—proclaim:
"All is well!"

But through the clouds the sun is slowly breaking—
Hope from her long, deep sleep is waking:
Speed the time, Father! when the bow of peace,
Spanning the gulf, shall bid the tempest cease—
When to men, clasping each other by the hand,
Shall shout together in a united land:
"All is well!"

F. A. BARTLESON,
Colonel One Hundredth Illinois Volunteers.

A CONTRABAND SONG.

The following lyric is the favorite freedom song of the Mississippi contrabands. Its character and enthusiasm are great, and it is a good specimen of contraband genius:

OLD SHADY.

Oh! ya, ya! darkies, laugh with me;
For de white folks say old Shady's free!
Don't you see dat de jubilee
Is comin', comin'! Hail, mighty day!

CHORUS.

Den away, den away, for I can't stay any longer;
Hurrah, hurrah! for I am going home. [*Repeat.*]

Massa got scared, and so did his lady!
Dis chile broke for ole Uncle Aby!
Open de gates out! here's ole Shady,
Comin', comin'! Hail, mighty day!
Den away, den away, etc.

Good-by, Massa Jeff! good-by, Misses Stevens!
Scuse dis nigger for taking his leavins;

'Spec, pretty soon, you'll see Uncle Abram's
Comin', comin'! Hail, mighty day!
Den away, den away, etc.

Good-by, hard work, and never any pay—
I'm goin' up North, where the white folks stay;
White wheat-bread and a dollar a day.
Comin', comin'! Hail, mighty day!
Den away, den away, etc.

I've got a wife, and she's got a baby,
Way up North in Lower Canady—
Won't dey shout when dey see ole Shady
Comin', comin'! Hail, mighty day!
Den away, den away, etc.

SUSPIRIA ENSIS.

Mourn no more for our dead,
Laid in their rest serene—
With the tears a land hath shed,
Their graves shall ever be green.

Ever their fair, true glory
Fondly shall fame rehearse—
Light of legend and story,
Flower of marble and verse!

(Wilt thou forget, O mother!
How thy darlings, day by day,
For thee, and with fearless faces,
Journeyed the darksome way—
Went down to death in the war-ship,
And on the bare hill-side lay?)

For the giver they gave their breath,
And 'tis now no time to mourn—
Lo, of their dear, brave death
A mighty Nation is born!

But a long lament for others,
Dying for darker powers!
Those that once were our brothers,
Whose children shall yet be ours.

That a people, haughty and brave,
(Warriors old and young!)
Should lie in a bloody grave,
And never a dirge be sung!

We may look with woe on the dead,
We may smooth their lids, 'tis true,
For the veins of a common red,
And the mother's milk we drew.

But alas! how vainly bleeds
The breast that is bared for crime!
Who shall dare hymn the deeds
That else had been all sublime?

Were it alien steel that clashed,
They had guarded each inch of sod—
But the angry valor dashed
On the awful shield of God!

(Ah! if for some great good—
On some giant evil hurled—
The thirty millions had stood
'Gainst the might of a banded world!)

But now, to the long, long night
They pass, as they ne'er had been—
A stranger and sadder sight
Than ever the sun hath seen.

For his waning beams illumine
 A vast and a sullen train
 Going down to the gloom—
 One wretched and drear refrain
 The only line on their tomb—
 "They died—and they died in vain!"

Gone—ah me!—to the grave,
 And never one note of song!
 The Muse would weep for the brave,
 But how shall she chant the wrong?

For a wayward wench is she—
 One that rather would wait
 With Old John Brown at the tree
 Than Stonewall dying in state.

When, for the wrongs that were,
 Hath she lilted a single stave?
 Know, proud hearts, that, with her,
 'Tis not enough to be brave

By the injured, with loving glance,
 Aye hath she lingered of old,
 And eyed the evil askance,
 Be it never so hanghty and bold.

With Homer, alms gift in hand,
 With Dante, exile and free,
 With Milton, blind in the Strand,
 With Hugo, lone by the sea!

In the attic, with Berangér,
 She could carol, how blithe and free!
 Of the old, worn frocks of blue,
 (All threadbare with victory!*)
 But never of purple and gold,
 Never of lily or bee!

And thus, though the traitor sword
 Were the bravest that battle wield—
 Though the fiery valor poured
 Its life on a thousand fields—

The sheen of its ill renown
 All tarnished with guilt and blame,
 No poet a deed may crown,
 No lay may laurel a name.

Yet never for thee, fair song!
 The fallen brave to condemn;
 They died for a mighty wrong—
 But their demon died with them.

(Died, by field and by city!)—
 Be thine on the day to dwell,
 When dews of peace and of pity
 Shall fall o'er the fading hell—

And the dead shall smile in heaven—
 And tears, that now may not rise,
 Of love and of all forgiveness,
 Shall stream from a million eyes.

U. S. N.

FLAG-SHIP HARTFORD, AT SEA, JANUARY, 1864.

* "Des habits bleus par la victoire usés."

A WAR STUDY.

"Sun and rain regardless falling
 On the just and the unjust."

Methinks, all idly and too well
 We love this Nature—little care
 (Whate'er her children brave and bear)
 Were hers, though any grief befell.

With gayer sunshine still she seeks
 To gild our trouble, so 'twould seem;
 Through all this long, tremendous dream,
 A tear hath never wet her cheeks.

And such a scene I call to mind:
 The third day's thunder (fort and fleet,
 And the great guns beneath our feet)
 Was dying, and a warm Gulf wind

Made monotone 'mid stays and shrouds;
 O'er books and men in quiet chat,
 With the Great Admiral I sat,
 Watching the lovely cannon-clouds.

For still, from mortar and from gun,
 Or shot-fused shell that burst aloft,
 Out-sprung a rose-wreath, bright and soft,
 Tinged with the redly setting sun.

And I their beauty praised: but he,
 The grand old Senior, strong and mild,
 (Of head a sage, in heart a child,)
 Sighed for the wreck that still must be.

U. S. N.

TO ARMS AND FIGHT.

BY J. WATTS DE PEYSER.

Pine-clad Katahdin's peal is blending
 With call from Santa Rosa's bight—
 Pacific cheering answer sending
 To lone Mount Desert's sea-girt light—
 From East to West one voice ascending,
 From every clime the arch subtending—
 To Arms and Fight!
 The Rocky Mountains echo's lending,
 Along the Lakes that echo's wending,
 God save the right!

Flag of the Free, humiliated
 By treason's crime and rebel guile,
 By freemen's efforts reinstated,
 Will float victorious o'er the pile
 Of States redeemed and recreated—
 Vast Freedom's temple, in whose aisle—
 Our Flags in fight,
 Witness of efforts never mated,
 Shall wave for ever, permeated
 With glory's fight.

When since the world had faithful story,
 Have triumphs like our army's shone?
 Not Egypt's sculptured tablets hoary,
 Not pillars ten of Marathon,
 Not Rome's tall column's circling glory,
 Record such fields as they have won
 In fiercest fight.
 Earth with no honors transitory,
 Such self-devotion, fierce and gory,
 Can e'er requite.

No despot ever saw such forces,
 High-souled, free-willed, together come;
 No empire witnessed such resources
 Evoked by the recruiting drum.
 Resistless as our rivers' courses,
 Enough to strike the Old World dumb!
 Heroes in fight.
 Their gathering cry a thunder hum.
 Would banded Europe's legions come
 To dare their might?

To foreign tyrants fearful warning,
 This strife 'twixt Freedom's children stands,
 Once more united, meet we'd scorning
 The leagued wrath of king-ruled lands;
 With Freedom's flag our hosts adorning,
 Upheld and fenced by Freemen's hands.
 Urge on the fight!
 True to ourselves, a brighter morning,
 Without a cloud, is swiftly dawning
 Upon our night.

Then, brothers, fearful though the toil be,
 Strain every nerve to bear the weight;
 Think what reward will a free soil be,
 Beyond the battle's lurid strait;
 Though unexampled, long, the toil be,
 Joys just as vast your labors wait:
 To arms and fight!
 Though fierce and strong the war-whirl's boil be,
 True to the end there can no foil be:
 We war for right.

DON'T MEDDLER WITH THE YANKEES, JOHN BULL.

BY JAMES S. WATKINS.

Written while the fever ran high on recognition by England and France, during the first year of the unnatural war, and inscribed to the English secessionists of to-day.

Don't meddle with the Yankees, John Bull,
 They'll "teach you a thing, now, or two;"
 Don't meddle with the Yankees, John Bull,
 Don't meddle, whatever you do!
 They are ten times as strong, Johnny Bull,
 And a hundred more daring to kill,
 Than, when in their weakness, John Bull,
 Your "hirelings" besieged Bunker Hill.

Don't meddle with the Yankees, John Bull,
 They've Freedom and Liberty's might;
 Don't meddle with the Yankees, John Bull,
 Or else you may force them to fight.
 And then, when in their strength, John Bull,
 They cross the St. Lawrence, "mi boy,"
 Look out to be served, Johnny Bull,
 As you treated the captured Sepoy.

The Yankees don't boast, Johnny Bull,
 They but speak out their mind as it is;
 Then I pray you don't meddle, John Bull,
 For "the Yankees are awful when rized!"
 They had hoped to be friendly, John Bull,
 At least to have lived that profession;
 But if meddled with, mark it, John Bull,
 They'll serve you, as of old, with the "Hessian."

We've "a 'ost hov your 'eroes," John Bull,
 Growing fat from the wealth of our land,
 Who profess to be loyal, John Bull,
 When, in fact, they're a treacherous band:

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They despise our Republic, John Bull,
 And curse the whole "Yankeeedom race;"
 But we hold, with your subjects, John Bull,
 To quarrel, were a double disgrace.

Therefore, don't you meddle, John Bull,
 Don't meddle with the Yankees, I pray;
 Or else "they may lam you," John Bull,
 And that, at no far distant day.
 They're "a nation all mighty," John Bull,
 Teaching right to the whimsical South:
 Therefore, I would pray you, John Bull,
 Put a stop to your meddling mouth.

BALTIMORE, Md., 1862.

THE VIRGINIA MOTHER.

BY EDNA DEAN PROCTOR.

My home is drear and still to-night,
 Where Shenandoah murmuring flows;
 The Blue Ridge towers in the pale moonlight,
 And balmily the south wind blows;
 But my fire burns dim, while athwart the wall
 Black as the pines the shadows fall;
 And the only friend within my door
 Is the sleeping hound on the moonlit floor.

Roll back, O weary years! and bring
 Again the gay and cloudless morn,
 When every bird was on the wing,
 And my blithe summer boys were born!
 My Courtney fair, my Philip bold,
 With his laughing eyes and his locks of gold!
 No nested bird in the valley wide
 Sang as my heart that eventide.

Our laurels blush when May winds call,
 Our pines shoot high through mellow showers;
 So rosy flushed, so slender tall,
 My boys grew up from childhood's hours.

Glad in the breeze, the sun, the rain,
 They climbed the heights or they roamed the plain;
 And found where the fox lay hid at noon,
 And the sly fawn drank by the rising moon.

O Storm! look up; you ne'er may hear,
 When all the dewy glades are still,
 In silver windings, fine and clear,
 Their whistle stealing o'er the hill;
 And fly to the shade where the wild deer rest
 Ere morn has reddened the mountain's crest;
 Nor sit at their feet, when the chase is o'er,
 And the antlers hang by the sunset door.

What drew our hunters from the hills?
 They heard the stormy trumpets blow;
 And leapt adown like April rills
 When Shenandoah roars below.
 One to the field where the old flag shines;
 And one, alas! to the traitor lines!
 My tears—their fond arms round me thrown—
 And the house was hushed and the hill-side lone.

But oh! to feel my boys were foes
 Was more than loss or battle's steel!
 In every shifting cloud that rose
 I saw their hostile squadrons wheel;
 And heard in the waves as they hurried by,
 Their hasty tread when the fight was nigh,
 And, deep in the wail which the night-winds bore,
 Their dying moan when the fight was o'er.

So time went on. The skies were blue;
 Our wheat-fields yellow in the sun;
 When down the vale a rider flew:
 "Ho! neighbors, Gettysburgh is won!
 Horse and foot, at the cannon's mouth
 We hurled them back to the hungry South;
 The North is safe, and the vile marauder
 Curses the hour he crossed the border."

My boys were there! I nearer pressed—
 "And Philip, Courtney, what of them?"
 His voice dropped low: "O madam! rest;
 Falls sweet when battle's tide we stem:
 Your Philip was first of the brave that day
 With his colors grasped as in death he lay:
 And Courtney—well, I only knew
 Not a man was left of his rebel crew!"

My home is drear and still to-night,
 Where Shenandoah murmuring flows;
 The Blue Ridge towers in the pale moonlight,
 And balmily the south wind blows;
 But my fire burns dim, while athwart the wall
 Black as the pines the shadows fall;
 And the only friend within my door
 Is the sleeping hound on the moonlit floor.

Yet still in dreams my boys I own:
 They chase the deer o'er dewy hills,
 Their hair by mountain winds is blown,
 Their shout the echoing valley fills,
 Wafts from the woo-land spring sunshine
 Comes as they open this door of mine;
 And I hear them sing by the evening blaze
 The songs they sang in the vanished days.

I cannot part their lives and say,
 "This was the traitor, this the true;"
 God only knows why one should stray,
 And one go pure death's portals through.
 They have passed from their mother's clasp and care;
 But my heart ascends in the yearning prayer
 That His large love will the two enfold—
 My Courtney fair and my Philip bold!

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

BY ALFRED B. STREET.

For months that followed the triumph the rebels had
 boasted they wrought,
 But which lost to them Chattanooga, thus bringing
 their triumph to naught;
 The mountain-walled citadel city, with its outposts in
 billowy crowds,
 Grand soarers among the lightnings, stern conquerors
 of the clouds!
 For months, I say, had the rebels, with the eyes of
 their cannon, looked down
 From the high-crested forehead of Lookout, the Mis-
 sion's long sinuous crown;
 Till Grant, our invincible hero, the winner of every
 fight!
 Who joys in the strife, like the eagle that drinks from
 the storm delight!
 Marshalled his war-worn legions, and, pointing to them
 the foe,
 Kindled their hearts with the tidings that now should
 be stricken the blow,

The rebel to sweep from old Lookout, that cloud-post
 dizzily high,
 Whence the taunt of his cannon and banner had af-
 fronted so long the sky.

Brave Thomas the foeman had brushed from his sum-
 mit the nearest, and now
 The balm of the midnight's quiet soothed Nature's ago-
 nized brow;
 A midnight of murkiest darkness, and Lookout's un-
 defined mass
 Heaved grandly a frown on the welkin, a barricade
 nothing might pass.
 Its breast was sprinkled with sparkles, its crest was
 dotted with gold,
 Telling the camps of the rebels secure as they deemed
 in their hold.
 Where glimmered the creek of the Lookout, it seemed
 the black dome of the night
 Had dropped all its stars in the valley, it glittered so
 over with light:
 There were voices and clashings of weapons, and
 drum-beat and bugle and tramp,
 Quick flittings athwart the broad watchfires that paint-
 ed red rings through the camp:
 There were figures dark edging the watchfires, and
 groups at the front of each tent,
 And a tone like the murmur of waters all round from
 the valley upsent.

"D'ye see, lad, that black-looking peak?" said a ser-
 geant, scarred over and gray,
 To a boy, both in glow of a camp-fire, whence wavered
 their shadows away;
 "Strap tightly your drum, or you'll lose it when climb-
 ing yon hill; for the word
 Is to take that pricked ear of old Lookout, where
 Bragg's shots so often we've heard;
 Our noble commander has said it, and we all should
 be minding our prayers,
 By dawn we must plant the old flag where the rebels
 now shame us with theirs;
 Hurrah for bold General Hooker, the leader that
 never knew fear,
 He's to lead us! now, comrades, be ready and give
 at the rolls a good cheer!
 I look for the time at each moment!"—just then the
 long-rolls swelled about,
 There were tramlings of steeds and of men, there
 was jingle and rattle and shout;
 Dark columns would glimmer and vanish, a rider flit
 by like a ghost—
 There was movement all over the valley, the move-
 ment and din of a host.

'Twas the legion so famed of the White Star, and
 led on by Geary the brave,
 That was chosen to gather the laurel or find on the
 mountain a grave.
 They crossed the dim creek of the Lookout, and toiled
 up the sable ascent,
 Till the atoms black crawling and struggling in dense
 upper darkness were blent.
 Mists, fitful in rain, came at daydawn, they spread in
 one mantle the skies,
 And we that were posted below stood and watched
 with our hearts in our eyes;
 We watched as the mists broke and joined, the quick
 flits and the blanks of the fray;
 There was thunder, but not of the clouds; there was
 lightning, but redder in ray;

Oh! warm rose our hopes to the White Star, oh! wild
 went our pleadings to heaven;
 We knew, and we shuddered to know it, how fierce
 oft the rebels had striven;
 We saw, and we shuddered to see it, the rebel flag
 still in the air;
 Shall our boys be hurled back? God of battles! oh!
 bring not such bitter despair!

But the battle is rolling still up, it has plunged in the
 mantle o'erhead,
 We hear the low hum of the volley, we see the fierce
 bomb-burst of red;
 Still the rock in the forehead of Lookout through the
 rents of the windy mist shows
 The horrible flag of the Cross-bar, the counterfeit rag
 of our foes:
 Portentous it looks through the vapor, then melts to
 the eye, but it tells
 That the rebels still cling to their stronghold, and hope
 for the moment dispels.
 But the roll of the thunder seems louder, flame
 angrier smites on the eye,
 The scene from the fog is laid open—a battle-field
 fought in the sky!
 Eye to eye, hand to hand, all are struggling—ha!
 traitors, ha! rebels, ye know
 Now the might in the arm of our heroes! dare ye bide
 their roused terrible blow?
 They drive them, our braves drive the rebels! they
 flee, and our heroes pursue!
 We scale rock and trunk—from their breastworks they
 run! oh! the joy of the view!

Hurrah! how they drive them! hurrah! how they
 drive the fierce rebels along!
 One more cheer—still another! each lip seems as ready
 to burst into song.
 On, on, ye bold blue-coated heroes! thrust, strike,
 pour your shots in amain!
 Banners fly, columns rush, seen and lost in the quick,
 fitful gauzes of rain.
 O boys! how your young blood is streaming! but
 falter not, drive them to rout!
 From barricade, breastwork, and rifle-pit, how the
 scourged rebels pour out!
 We see the swift plunge of the caisson within the dim
 background of haze,
 With the shreds of platoons inward scudding, and
 fainter their batteries blaze;
 As the mist-curtain falls all is blank; as it lifts, a wild
 picture out glares,
 A wild shifting picture of battle, and dread our warm
 hopefulness shares;
 But never the braves of the White Star have sullied
 their fame in defeat,
 And they will not to-day see the triumph pass by them
 the foeman to greet!

No, no, for the battle is ending; the ranks on the
 slope of the crest
 Are the true Union blue, and our banners alone catch
 the gleams of the west;
 Though the Cross-bar still flies from the summit, we
 roll out our cheering of pride!
 Not in vain, O ye heroes of Lookout! O brave Union
 boys! have ye died!
 One brief struggle more sees the banner, that blot on
 the sky, brushed away,
 When the broad moon now basking upon us shall
 yield her rich lustre to-day:

She brings out the black hulk of Lookout, its outlines
 traced sharp in the skies,
 All alive with the canvas of our braves glancing down
 with their numberless eyes.
 Ha! the darkness is roofed like an arbor with streak-
 ings of shrapnel and shell
 Till it seems like the vestibule lurid that leads to the
 chambers of hell;
 It is cleft with the fierce shooting cannon-flame,
 sprinkled with red dots of spray;
 It is havoc's wild carnival revel bequeathed to the
 night by the day.

Dawn breaks, the sky clears—ha! the shape upon
 Lookout's tall crest that we see,
 Is the bright beaming flag of the White Star, the
 beautiful flag of the Free!
 How it waves its rich folds in the zenith, and looks in
 the dawn's open eye,
 With its starred breast of pearl and of crimson, as if
 with heaven's colors to vie!
 Hurrah! rolls from Moccasin Point, and Hurrah! from
 bold Cameron's Hill!
 Hurrah! peals from glad Chattanooga! bliss seems
 every bosom to fill!
 Thanks, thanks, O ye heroes of Lookout! O brave
 Union boys! during time
 Shall stand this your column of glory, shall shine this
 your triumph sublime!
 To the deep mountain den of the panther the hunter
 climbed, drove him to bay,
 Then fought the fierce foe till he turned and fled,
 bleeding and gnashing away!
 Fled away from the scene where so late broke his
 growls and he shot down his glare,
 As he paced to and fro, for the hunter his wild craggy
 cavern to dare!

Thanks, thanks, O ye heroes of Lookout! ye girded
 your souls to the fight,
 Drew the sword, dropped the scabbard, and went in the
 full conscious strength of your might!
 Now climbing o'er rock and o'er tree-mound, up, up,
 by the hemlock ye swung!
 Now plunging through thicket and swamp, on the edge
 of the hollow ye hung!
 One hand grasped the musket, the other clutched
 ladder of root and of bough:
 The trunk the tornado had shivered, the landmark
 pale glimmering now,
 And now the mad torrent's white lightning; no drum
 tapped, no bugle was blown—
 To the words that encouraged each other, and quick
 breaths, ye toiled up alone!
 Oh! long as the mountains shall rise o'er the waters of
 bright Tennessee,
 Shall be told the proud deeds of the White Star, the
 cloup-treading host of the free!
 The camp-fire shall blaze to the chorus, the picket-
 post peal it on high,
 How was fought the fierce battle of Lookout—how
 won the GRAND FIGHT OF THE SKY!

THE CHILDREN'S TABLE.

M. J. M. SWEAT.

While the wise men are all seeking
 How to save our native land;
 And the brave men are all fighting,
 Heart to heart and hand to hand:

While the grown-up women labor
For the soldiers night and day ;
Would you have us children idle,
Minding nothing but our play ?

Little hands we have, but willing ;
Little hearts, but loving well
Those who languish sorely wounded,
Those who fill the prisoner's cell ;
And we know the names of heroes
Who have fallen on the field
Gleam with never-dying brightness,
Blazoned on our country's shield.

We have toiled with busy fingers
Many days, to gather here
Little treasures that may tempt you
With full purses to draw near.
For they tell us that with money
Many great things may be done ;
Never found it nobler uses
Since this big world was begun !

Let the great and glorious impulse
Now astir throughout the land,
Make us welcome as we greet you,
Coming with this new demand.
Give us then, O generous people !
Ready purchase of our wares,
And we'll give you children's blessings
Won from heaven by children's prayers !

Metropolitan Fair, New-York, April, 1864.

"ONLY A PRIVATE KILLED."

BY H. L. GORDON.

"We've had a fight," a captain said,
"Much rebel blood we've spilled ;
We've put the saucy foe to flight,
Our loss—but a private killed !"
"Ah ! yes," said a sergeant on the spot,
As he drew a long, deep breath,
"Poor fellow, he was badly shot,
Then bayoneted to death !"

When again was hushed the martial din,
And back the foe had fled,
They brought the private's body in ;
I went to see the dead.
For I could not think the rebel foe,
Though under curse and ban,
So vaunting of their chivalry,
Could kill a wounded man.

A Minie ball had broke his thigh,
A frightful, crushing wound,
And then with savage bayonets
They pinned him to the ground.
One stab was through the abdomen,
Another through the head ;
The last was through his pulseless breast,
Done after he was dead.

His hair was matted with his gore,
His hands were clenched with might,
As though he still his musket bore
So firmly in the fight :
He had grasped the foeman's bayonet,
His bosom to defend.
They raised the coat-cape from his face—
My God ! it was my friend !

Think what a shudder thrilled my heart !

"Twas but the day before
We laughed together merrily,
As we talked of days of yore.
"How happy we shall be," he said,
"When the war is o'er, and when,
The rebels all subdued or fled,
We all go home again."

Ah ! little he thought, that soldier brave,
So near his journey's goal,
That God had sent a messenger
To claim his Christian soul.
But he fell like a hero, fighting,
And hearts with grief are filled,
And honor is his, though our chief shall say :
"Only a private killed !"

I knew him well, he was my friend ;
He loved our land and laws ;
And he fell a blessed martyr
To our country's holy cause.
And, soldiers, the time will come, perhaps,
When our blood will thus be spilled,
And then of us our chief will say :
"Only a private killed !"

But we fight our country's battles,
And our hopes are not forlorn,
And our death shall be a blessing
To millions yet unborn.
To our children and their children !
Then as each grave is filled,
What care we if our chief shall say :
"Only a private killed !"

BATTLE-WORN BANNERS.

(January 26, 1864.)

BY PARK BENJAMIN.

I saw the soldiers come to-day
From battle fields afar ;
No conqueror rode before their way
On his triumphal car ;
But captains, like themselves, on foot,
And banners sadly torn,
All grandly eloquent though mute,
In pride and glory borne.

Those banners soiled with dust and smoke,
And rent by shot and shell,
That through the serried phalanx broke,
What terrors could they tell !
What tales of sudden pain and death
In every cannon's boom,
When even the bravest held his breath
And waited for his doom.

By hands of steel those flags were waved
Above the carnage dire,
Almost destroyed yet always saved,
'Mid battle-clouds and fire.
Though down at times, still up they rose
And kissed the breeze again,
Dread tokens to the rebel foes
Of true and loyal men.

And here the true and loyal still
Those famous banners bear ;
The bugles wind, the fifes blow shrill,
And clash the cymbals where,

With decimated ranks, they come,
And through the crowded street
March to the beating of the drum
With firm though weary feet.

God bless the soldiers ! cry the folk,
Whose cheers of welcome swell ;
God bless the banners, black with smoke,
And torn by shot and shell !
They should be hung on sacred shrines,
Baptized with grateful tears,
And live embalmed in poets' lines
Through all succeeding years.

No grander trophies could be brought
By patriot sire to son,
Of glorious battles nobly fought,
Brave deeds sublimely done.
And so, to-day, I chanced with pride
And solemn joy to see
Those remnants from the bloody tide
Of victory !

OUR HERO-DEAD.

BY CHARLES BOYNTON HOWELL.

From their labors nobly done,
From their battles bravely won,
'Neath the earth's cold sod they lie
Resting calmly, silently.
Sleep their sacred patriot forms,
Where war's tempests and alarms
Cannot reach them—cannot smite
Them to earth in camp or fight.

Some passed from the realms of life
In the battle's sanguine strife,
Smitten down, in carnage, low
By the hand of dastard foe ;
Who would pluck the beaming stars
From our flag, invoking Mars
To look on their deeds of blood
With the mien of gratitude.

Mourners, in whose every heart
There has entered sorrow's dart,
Sorrow for the loved ones gone
To the confines of the tomb—
Seek the graves of warriors slain
On the battle's gory plain,
Or sent to the realms of death
By disease's fatal breath.

Sacrificing self they fought
That the land, with treason fraught,
Might rise, phoenix-like, again
From her agonizing pain ;
That the traitorous hordes that aim
At their country's name and fame,
Might be conquered in the fray,
And insure us triumph's day.

Alexander, brave and bold,
In the chivalrous days of old,
Did not nobler deeds perform
In the stirring battle-storm,
On Europe's bloody soil,
Than our hardy sons of toil,
Have, when so intrepidly
Battling for our liberty.

Nor did brave Leonidas—
When was stormed the bloody pass
At old-time Thermopylae—
Strike with nobler gallantry
With his dauntless Spartan band,
Fighting for their native land,
Than Columbia's sons of Mars,
Warring for the Stripes and Stars.

Honor to the hero-slain !
They who for their country's gain,
In the nation's gloomy night,
Left their homes and firesides bright,
So that this, our favored land,
May again take up her stand
In the van of nations, where
She e'er stood through peace and war.

When war's clarion blast shall cease
And the swift-winged bird of peace,
Soaring over hill and glen,
Bears the olive-branch again—
Will these slumbering warriors be,
In their country's memory,
Patriots true and heroes tried,
Who for freedom nobly died !

ANN ARBOR, January, 1864.

A SOLDIER'S LETTER.

BY MARY C. HOVEY.

Dear madam, I'm a soldier, and my speech is rough
and plain ;
I'm not much used to writing, and I hate to give you
pain ;
But I promised that I'd do it—he thought it might be
so,
If it came from one who loved him, perhaps 'twould
ease the blow—
By this time you must surely guess the truth I fain
would hide,
And you'll pardon a rough soldier's words, while I tell
you how he died.

'Twas the night before the battle, and in our crowded
tent
More than one brave boy was sobbing, and many a
knee was bent ;
For we knew not, when the morrow, with its bloody
work, was done,
How many that were seated there, should see its set-
ting sun.
'Twas not so much for self they cared, as for the loved
at home ;
And it's always worse to *think* of than to *hear* the
cannon boom.

'Twas then we left the crowded tent, your soldier-boy
and I,
And we both breathed freer, standing underneath the
clear blue sky.
I was more than ten years older, but he seemed to
take to me,
And oftener than the younger ones, he sought my
company.
He seemed to want to talk of home and those he held
most dear ;
And though I'd none to talk of, yet I always loved to
hear.

So then he told me, on that night, of the time he came away,
And how you sorely grieved for him, but would not let him stay;
And how his one fond hope had been, that when this war was through,
He might go back with honor to his friends at home and you.
He named his sisters one by one, and then a deep flush came,
While he told me of another, but did not speak her name.

And then he said: "Dear Robert, it may be that I shall fall,
And will you write to them at home how I loved and spoke of all?"
So I promised, but I did not think the time would come so soon.
The fight was just three days ago—he died to-day at noon.
It seems so sad that one so loved should reach the fatal bourn,
While I should still be living here, who had no friends to mourn.

It was in the morrow's battle. Fast rained the shot and shell;
He was fighting close beside me, and I saw him when he fell.
So then I took him in my arms, and laid him on the grass—
'Twas going against orders, but I think they'll let it pass.
'Twas a Minie ball that struck him; it entered at the side,
And they did not think it fatal till the morning that he died.

So when he found that he must go, he called me to his bed,
And said: "You'll not forget to write when you hear that I am dead?"
And you'll tell them how I loved them and bid them all good-by?
Say I tried to do the best I could, and did not fear to die;
And underneath my pillow there's a curl of golden hair;
There's a name upon the paper; send it to my mother's care.

"Last night I wanted so to live; I seemed so young to go;
Last week I passed my birthday—I was but nineteen, you know—
When I thought of all I'd planned to do, it seemed so hard to die;
But then I prayed to God for grace, and my cares are all gone by."
And here his voice grew weaker, and he partly raised his head,
And whispered, "Good-by, mother!" and so your boy was dead!

I wrapped his cloak around him, and we bore him out to-night,
And laid him by a clump of trees, where the moon was shining bright,
And we carved him out a headboard as skilful as we could;
If you should wish to find it, I can tell you where it stood.

I send you back his hymn-book, and the cap he used to wear,
And a lock, I cut the night before, of his bright, curling hair.

I send you back his Bible. The night before he died,
We turned its leaves together, as I read it by his side.
I've kept the belt he always wore; he told me so to do:
It has a hole upon the side—'tis where the ball went through.
So now I've done his bidding; there's nothing more to tell;
But I shall always mourn with you the boy we loved so well.
—*Evangelist.*

STRIKE!

BY EDWARD S. ELLIS.

From New-England's granite mountains,
From the North's resounding woods,
From the far West's flashing fountains,
Pour the living human floods.

Onward sweeps the aroused nation,
From the lakes and streams and sea;
Onward for their home's salvation,
And the fight for liberty.

Deeds, not words, make men immortal
In this grand, heroic age;
He who wills can ope the portal
To a name on history's page.

Know ye not that revolutions
Are the throes of struggling Right?
In these national ablutions
It must triumph over Might.

What though but a child in learning,
When the war-note onward rolls,
While our country's fate is turning,
'Tis not heads we need—but souls.

Some must make their names historic;
Who, the future soon will tell;
Some must perform deeds heroic
And the roll of glory swell.

Strike then for the truth eternal;
Strike then, for the cause is just;
Strike then at the wrong infernal,
Till it bites again the dust.

THE BATTLE.

Give them a shell boys! give them a shell!
They are coming over the hill;
You can see their widening columns swell;
You can hear their bugles trill.
Give them a shell, boys! Aim her straight!
Ready! Pull lanyard! Off she goes!
Hear her skurry and scream in hate.
Pouff! She's done for a dozen foes!

Give them grape, boys! give them grape!
They are coming a little too near.
Each dusky bulk is gaining a shape,
And their tramp is loud and clear.

Give them grape, boys! Steady! Fire!
 Now, boys, go to work with a will!
 Sight that gun a little bit higher.
 Right!—a gap that twenty can fill!

Give them lead, boys! give them lead!
 Up with the infantry! Load, boys, load!
 Where's Joe Lane? Poor fellow! he's dead;
 Many of us must travel his road!
 Give them lead, boys! On they come,
 With columns massed in a fierce attack.
 Think of your dear ones safe at home!
 Stand by your guns, boys! Drive them back!

Give them steel, boys! give them steel!
 They fight like devils! At them again!
 Their charge is broken! they pause, they reel!
 After them, boys, with might and main!
 Give them steel, boys! See how they run!
 I'm hit—just here—but never mind me.
 Lay me down by the side of that gun,
 And after the rest with a three times three!

Give them a cheer, boys! give them a cheer!
 Let them know we have won the fight!
 I'm dying now; you can bury me here.
 Dig deep, boys, and do it to-night.
 There's *one* at home—you can give her my sword,
 (You know whom I mean,) and say that I
 Have always been true to my plighted word—
 For my country and her I am glad to die.

A. A. A.

"FORWARD, MARCH."

BY MRS. C. J. MOORE.

On Newbern's bloody battle-ground,
 Bold as a crusade knight,
 Our young Lieutenant led us on,
 All eager for the fight.

"Forward, my men, my comrades brave!"
 His voice rang loud and clear;
 And charging with our bayonets,
 We followed in the rear.

And, ever foremost, on he pressed;
 Our ranks held firm and true,
 Though volley after volley poured
 And thinned us through and through.

Well done, my boys, the day is ours!
 Like veterans you've fought!"
 Another crash of musketry;
 The day was dearly bought:

For there, upon the accursed soil,
 Our young Lieutenant lay;
 Too brave for even one low moan,
 His life-blood ebbed away.

Loud rang his voice, as clarion clear
 As when he onward led;
 "Forward, my boys, the day is ours!"
 Then fell back with the dead.

And "forward!" is our battle-cry,
 Which through the land shall ring,
 Until the Union is restored,
 And Liberty is king!

WHAT THE BIRDS SAID.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The birds, against the April wind,
 Flew Northward, singing as they flew;
 They sang: "The land we leave behind
 Has swords for corn-blades, blood for dew."

"O wild-birds! flying from the South,
 What saw and heard ye, gazing down?"
 "We saw the mortar's upturned mouth,
 The sickened camp, the blazing town

"Beneath the bivouac's starry lamps,
 We saw your march-worn children die;
 In shrouds of moss, in cypress swamps,
 We saw your dead uncoffined lie.

"We heard the starving prisoner's sighs;
 And saw, from line and trench, your sons
 Follow our flight with home-sick eyes
 Beyond the battery's smoking guns."

"And heard and saw ye only wrong
 And pain," I cried, "O wing-worn flocks?"
 "We heard," they sang, "the freedman's song,
 The crash of slavery's broken locks!

"We saw from new, uprising States
 The treason-nursing mischief spurned,
 As, crowding freedom's ample gates,
 The long-estranged and lost returned.

"O'er dusky faces, seamed and old,
 And hands horn-hard with unpaid toil,
 With hope in every rustling fold,
 We saw your star-dropt flag uncoil.

"And, struggling up through sounds accursed,
 A grateful murmur clomb the air,
 A whisper scarcely heard at first,
 It filled the listening heavens with prayer.

"And sweet and far, as from a star,
 Replied a voice which shall not cease,
 Till, drowning all the noise of war,
 It sings the blessed songs of peace!"

So to me, in a doubtful day
 Of chill and slowly-greening spring,
 Low stooping from the cloudy gray,
 The wild-birds sang or seemed to sing.

They vanished in the misty air,
 The song went with them in their flight;
 But lo! they left the sunset fair,
 And in the evening there was light.

DOWN BY THE RAPIDAN.

How, like a dream of childhood, the sweet May-day
 goes by!
 A golden brightness gilds the air, a rose-flush paints
 the sky;
 And the southern winds come bearing in their freights
 of rare perfume
 From the far-off country valleys, where the spring
 flowers are in bloom.

We sit beneath the windows and watch the evening
sun,
And count the silver rain-drops, descending one by
one.
The very town seems silenced in a soft, delicious calm.
How different is the scene to-night down by the Rapi-
dan !

Down by the rushing Rapidan, hark ! how the muskets
crack !
The battle-smoke rolls up so thick, the very heavens
are black.
No blossom-scented winds are there, no drops of sil-
ver rain ;
The air is thick with sulphurous heat, and filled with
moans of pain.

Oh ! let us not forget them—our brave, unselfish boys—
Who have given up their loved ones, their happy
household joys,
And stand to-night in rank and file, determined to a
man,
To triumph over treason, down by the Rapidan !

And let our hearts be hopeful ; our faith, unwavering,
strong ;
Right must be all-victorious when battling with the
Wrong.
Let us bear up our heroes' hands ! Pray, every soul
that can,
" God bless our boys who fight to-night down by the
Rapidan ! "

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D. stands for *Diary of Events*; Doc. for *Documents*; and P. for *Poetry, Rumors and Incidents*.

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